



# Havering

L O N D O N   B O R O U G H

**CABINET MEETING**  
**19<sup>th</sup> JULY 2017**

**HAVERING LOCAL PLAN**  
**SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL 2017**



# Sustainability Appraisal for the Havering Local Plan

SA Report to accompany the  
*Havering Local Plan – Proposed Submission* document

Project Number: 60494252

June 2017

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Revision	Revision date	Details	Authorized	Name	Position
V4	25 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	Draft for client comment	25 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	Steve Smith	Technical Director

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# Introduction

# 1. Introduction

## 1.1 Background

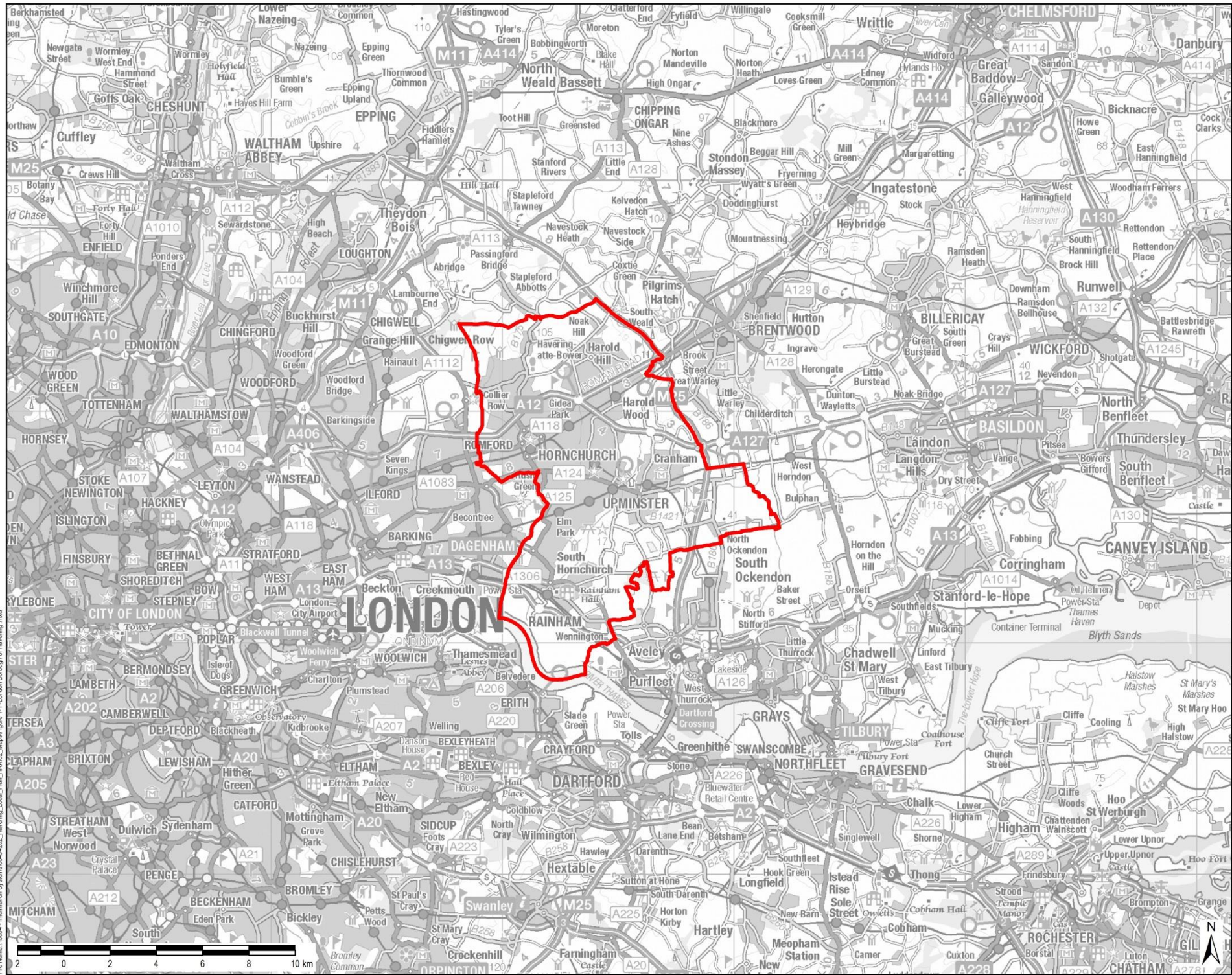
AECOM has been commissioned to undertake an independent sustainability appraisal (SA) in support of the London Borough of Havering's emerging Local Plan.

The London Borough of Havering is currently preparing a new Local Plan to replace the existing planning policies in the Havering Local Development Framework. The new Local Plan, which will cover the period to 2031, will be the key planning policy document for the borough and will guide decisions on the use and development of land. It is currently anticipated that the Local Plan will be submitted to the Secretary of State and then undergo an independent Examination in Public later in 2017.

Key information relating to the Local Plan is presented in Table 1.1.

**Table 1.1: Key facts relating to the Havering Local Plan**

<b>Name of Responsible Authority</b>	The London Borough of Havering
<b>Title of Plan</b>	Havering Local Plan
<b>Subject</b>	Spatial plan
<b>Purpose</b>	<p>The Local Plan will guide future development and land use within the London Borough of Havering over the next 15 years up to 2031.</p> <p>Replacing the Havering Local Development Framework, the Local Plan together with the London Plan will comprise the Development Plan for the borough and will be the primary basis against which planning applications are assessed.</p>
<b>Timescale</b>	To 2031
<b>Area covered by the plan</b>	London Borough of Havering (see map below)
<b>Summary of content</b>	<p>The Local Plan will set out the vision, strategy and policies to manage growth and development in Havering in the period to 2031.</p> <p>It will indicate the broad locations in the borough for future housing, employment, retail, leisure, transport, community services and other types of development.</p> <p>The Local Plan will subsequently be supported by a separate Detailed Sites Local Plan. This will identify individual sites for specific uses that are intended to assist in delivering the priorities, objectives and strategy set out in the Local Plan.</p>
<b>Plan contact point</b>	<p>Lukas van der Steen, Senior Planner, London Borough of Havering, Town Hall, Main Road, Romford, RM1 3BD</p> <p>Email address: <a href="mailto:lukasvandersteen@haverling.gov.uk">lukasvandersteen@haverling.gov.uk</a></p> <p>Telephone number: 01708 432 522</p>



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## 1.2 Current stage of plan making

This SA Report accompanies the current consultation on the Local Plan (*Havering Local Plan – Proposed Submission*). The Proposed Submission Local Plan is being consulted on under Regulation 19 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations.

The current consultation follows previous Regulation 18 consultation undertaken on the Local Plan in February - March 2015.<sup>1</sup> This initial Local Plan consultation document identified a number of strategic priorities for the Local Plan to address, and invited respondents to comment on these together with a series of issues for the borough.

## 1.3 What is the plan seeking to achieve?

The vision and objectives for the Local Plan were developed during the initial stages of plan making.

In this context, the Local Plan's vision is framed by four cross-cutting aims:

**Communities** - *We want to help our residents to make positive lifestyle choices and ensure a good start for every child to reach their full potential. We will support families and communities to look after themselves and each other, with a particular emphasis on our most vulnerable residents.*

**Places** - *We will work to achieve a clean, safe environment for all. This will be secured through working with residents to improve our award-winning parks and continuing to invest in our housing stock, ensuring decent, safe and high standard properties. Our residents will have access to vibrant culture and leisure facilities, as well as thriving town centres.*

**Opportunities** - *We will provide first-class business opportunities by supporting the commercial development of companies within the borough as well as being a hub for start-ups and expanding businesses. We will ensure sustainable economic growth that generates local wealth and opportunities, as well as securing investment in high-quality skills and careers.*

**Connections** - *We want to capitalise on our location with fast and accessible transport links both within the borough and to central London, as well as making the most of national and international connections. Likewise, we will continue to make Havering a digitally-enabled borough that is connected to residents and businesses. Enhancing our connections will strengthen the borough's offer as a Greater London hub for business.*

To achieve this vision, the following strategic objectives have been identified for the Local Plan:

- i. Create high quality, safe neighbourhoods with cohesive and inclusive communities, where Havering residents want to live and settle;
- ii. Increase the supply of high quality housing in Havering by a minimum of 17,550 dwellings over the Plan period;
- iii. Ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes and tenures to meet the needs of Havering's increasingly diverse population;
- iv. Deliver sustainable new communities in Rainham and Beam Park and Romford;
- v. Enable healthier lifestyles to improve the health and well-being of Havering's population and reduce health inequalities;
- vi. Enhance the vitality and viability of Havering's town centres and the diversity and quality of uses within them, enabling them to meet the needs of local communities;
- vii. Improve the cultural provision in Havering and protect and enhance existing cultural assets;
- viii. Ensure that the essential physical and social infrastructure is provided and existing infrastructure is enhanced to support the planned growth in Havering;

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<sup>1</sup> London Borough of Havering (February 2015) A New Local Plan for Havering  
<https://www3.havering.gov.uk/Documents/Planning/local-plan-questionnaire.pdf>

- ix. Support Havering's economic growth and the supply of high quality modern and flexible business premises within the borough's town centres and designated industrial areas;
- x. Increase the quantity and variety of employment, training and learning opportunities for Havering residents;
- xi. Improve accessibility, connectivity and ease of movement to, from and within Havering;
- xii. Support sustainable transport options and make Havering a better place to cycle and walk around;
- xiii. Create, protect and enhance distinctive places, spaces and buildings in Havering that are of high architectural quality, are safe, well designed and respect the character of the local area;
- xiv. Proactively conserve, enhance, and ensure greater understanding of Havering's heritage assets, their settings and wider historic environment.
- xv. Increase the quality and accessibility of Havering's public open spaces and maintain and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity;
- xvi. Protect and enhance Havering's green belt;
- xvii. Facilitate the reuse, recycling and landfill diversion of waste in Havering;
- xviii. Improve and manage air quality, noise, land and light pollution throughout the borough, protecting and enhancing the levels of amenity that Havering residents currently experience
- xix. Ensure that development in Havering minimises its energy use and is designed to adapt to, and reduce the effects of, climate change;
- xx. Improve water quality and protect water resources in Havering;
- xxi. Avoid, reduce and manage all forms of flood risk in Havering, and support the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS);
- xxii. Promote the re-use of minerals and minimise adverse environmental impacts from extraction in Havering;

In the context of the above aims and objectives, the current version of the Local Plan sets out the following:

- A 'Boroughwide Strategy for Growth' for Havering, incorporating a proposed spatial strategy and key diagram.
- Policies for two key Strategic Development Areas in Romford and Rainham / Beam Park.
- A series of planning policies to guide development in the borough to 2031.

## 1.4 Sustainability appraisal explained

SA considers and communicates the likely significant effects of an emerging plan, and the *reasonable alternatives* considered during the plan making process, in terms of key sustainability issues. The aim of SA is to inform and influence the plan-making process with a view to avoiding or mitigating negative effects and maximising positive effects. Through this approach, the SA seeks to maximise the emerging Local Plan's contribution to sustainable development.

An SA is undertaken in line with the procedures prescribed by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the SEA Regulations) which transpose into national law European Union Directive 2001/42/EC 'on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment'. SA widens the scope of the assessment to explicitly include social and economic issues.

The SEA Regulations require that an environmental report is published for consultation alongside the draft plan that '*identifies, describes and evaluates*' the likely significant effects of implementing 'the

*plan, and reasonable alternatives*'. The environmental report must then be taken into account, alongside consultation responses, when finalising the plan. This SA Report serves that purpose.

The 'likely significant effects on the environment' include those indicated in Annex I of the SEA Directive as '*including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors*'. Reasonable alternatives to the plan need to take into consideration the objectives of the plan and its geographic scope. The choice of reasonable alternatives is determined on the basis of a case-by-case assessment.<sup>2</sup>

In line with the SEA Regulations, this SA Report must answer the three questions:

- **What has plan-making / SA involved up to this point?**
  - Including with regards to the consideration of 'reasonable alternatives'.
- **What are the appraisal findings at this current stage?**
  - i.e. in relation to the policies currently proposed for the Local Plan, as presented in the current *Havering Local Plan – Proposed Submission* document.
- **What happens next?**
  - What are the next steps for plan making?

These questions are derived from Schedule 2 of the SEA Regulations, which set out 'the information to be provided within the [environmental] report'.

## 1.5 This SA Report

At the current stage of plan-making, the London Borough of Havering is consulting on the Local Plan (*Havering Local Plan – Proposed Submission*). This SA Report is produced with the intention of informing the consultation.

This SA Report has been structured in three parts according to the three questions listed above.

## 1.6 SA scoping

The SEA Regulations require that: '*When deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information that must be included in the report, the responsible authority shall consult the consultation bodies*'. In England, the consultation bodies are the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England.<sup>3</sup> These authorities were consulted on the scope of the Local Plan SA in February 2015.

The consultation responses received on the Scoping Report, and the way in which these comments were addressed, are presented in **Appendix A**.

The Scoping Report presented the following elements:

### Context review and baseline data

An important step when seeking to establish the appropriate scope of an SA involves reviewing the sustainability context from key policies, plans and programmes. From the SEA Regulations it is understood that there is a need to identify key international, regional and local objectives and issues.

The Scoping Report also included a detailed baseline review which aids understanding of the current and likely future situation in the plan area and therefore the identification and evaluation of 'likely significant effects' associated with the emerging plan and reasonable alternatives.

<sup>2</sup> Commission of the European Communities (2009) Report from the Commission to the Council, The European Parliament, The European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the application and effectiveness of the Directive on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Directive 2001/42/EC). (COMM 2009 469 final).

<sup>3</sup> In line with Article 6(3) of the SEA Directive, these consultation bodies were selected because '*by reason of their specific environmental responsibilities, [they] are likely to be concerned by the environmental effects of implementing plans and programme*'.

The context review and baseline information initially included in the SA Scoping Report (February 2015) was updated following the receipt of consultation responses and provides a key part of the information base for the appraisal. **Appendix B** presents a summary of the updated context review and the baseline data, as well as key sustainability issues for the borough.

### SA Framework

Drawing on the review of the sustainability context and baseline, the SA Scoping Report identified a range of sustainability problems / issues that should be a particular focus of SA, ensuring that it deals with the most important sustainability issues. These issues were then translated into an SA 'framework' of objectives and appraisal questions.

The SA Framework provides a benchmark or yardstick against which the sustainability effects of the Local Plan and alternatives can be identified and evaluated based on a structured and consistent basis. In this context, the objectives and appraisal questions which comprise the SA Framework provide a methodological framework for the appraisal of likely significant effects on the baseline.

The SA Framework and the appraisal findings in this SA Report have been presented under nine 'SA themes', reflecting the range of information being considered through the SA process. These are:

- Biodiversity
- Climate Change
- Land, Soil and Water Resources
- Environmental Quality
- Historic Environment, Landscape and Townscape
- Population and Community
- Health and Wellbeing
- Transportation
- Economic Vitality, Employment and Skills

**Table 1.2: SA Framework for the Havering Local Plan**

SA theme	SA objectives	Appraisal questions. Will the option/proposal help to...
<b>Biodiversity</b>	Maintain and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity.	Support continued improvements to the status of the nationally designated sites of significance within and in the vicinity of the borough?
		Protect and enhance priority habitats, and the habitat of priority species?
		Support enhancements to local and sub-regional ecological networks, including through Green Infrastructure improvements?
		Achieve a net gain in biodiversity?
		Increase the resilience of biodiversity in the borough to the effects of climate change?
		Support access to, interpretation and understanding of biodiversity and geodiversity?
<b>Climate Change</b>	Reduce contributions to climate change and enhance the capability of the borough to adapt to climate change while promoting systems efficiency (water, energy, recycling, sustainable drainage systems, green infrastructure) and local renewable energy production.	Limit the increase in the carbon footprint of Havering from population growth?
		Promote the use of sustainable modes of transport, including walking, cycling and public transport and reduce the need to travel?
		Increase the number of new developments meeting sustainable design criteria?
		Generate energy from low or zero carbon sources?
		Reduce energy consumption from non-renewable resources?
	Avoid, reduce and manage all forms of flood risk, and encourage the use of SuDS.	Ensure that no development takes place in areas at higher risk of flooding, taking into the likely effects of climate change into account?
		Improve and extend green infrastructure networks in the borough to support adaptation to the potential effects of climate change?
		Sustainably manage water run-off, reducing surface water runoff (either within the borough or downstream)?
<b>Land, Soil and Water Resources</b>	Minimise the production of waste and maximise the reuse, recycling and landfill diversion of waste.	Ensure the potential risks associated with climate change are considered through new development in the borough?
		Reduce the amount of waste produced?
		Support the minimisation, reuse and recycling of waste?
		Maximise opportunities for local management of waste in order to minimise export of waste to areas outside?
		Encourage recycling of materials and minimise consumption of resources during construction?

SA theme	SA objectives	Appraisal questions. Will the option/proposal help to...
	Ensure appropriate levels of aggregate extraction, whilst minimising adverse environment impacts.	Facilitate appropriate levels of aggregate extraction?
		Minimise the adverse environmental effects of aggregate extraction?
<b>Environmental Quality</b>	Protect water resources, while contributing to the objectives of water management plans.	Minimise water consumption?
	Manage air quality, noise, land, water and light pollution throughout the borough.	Maintain or improve local air quality?
		Maintain or improve local noise quality?
		Support enhancements to water quality?
		Protect groundwater resources?
		Minimise light pollution?
	Reduce the adverse effect of traffic on the environment.	Reduce the adverse effect of traffic on the environment?
<b>Historic Environment, Landscape and Townscape</b>	Support land remediation that can improve the ecology of the area and mitigate flood risk.	Help remediate contaminated land?
	Conserve and enhance the historic environment, heritage assets and their settings where appropriate.	Conserve and enhance buildings and structures of architectural or historic interest?
		Support the integrity of the historic setting of key buildings of cultural heritage interest?
		Conserve and enhance the integrity of conservation areas present in the borough?
		Support access to, interpretation and understanding of the historic environment?
	Conserve and enhance cultural assets.	Conserve and enhance features and areas of cultural value for the local community?
	Create, protect and enhance places, spaces and buildings that are of high quality, well designed and respect the character of the local area.	Conserve and enhance local diversity and distinctiveness?
<b>Population and Community</b>	Provide the opportunity for all residents to live in an affordable,	Support the provision of a range of house types and sizes?
		Support enhancements to the current housing stock?

SA theme	SA objectives	Appraisal questions. Will the option/proposal help to...
	decent home.	Meet the needs of all sectors of the community?
		Provide quality and flexible homes that meet people's needs?
		Promote the use of sustainable building techniques, including use of sustainable building materials in construction?
	Improve accessibility to essential services, facilities and the workplace.	Improve the availability and accessibility of key local facilities and amenities, including specialist services for disadvantaged groups?
	Reduce poverty, inequality and social exclusion.	Promote the development of a range of high quality, accessible community facilities?
	Reduce crime, the fear of crime and increase community safety.	Facilitate design and layout which promotes community safety and helps reduce the fear of crime?
	Foster community identity and participation.	Promote social inclusion and community ownership?
<b>Health and wellbeing</b>	Improve the health and wellbeing of the population.	Promote accessibility to a range of leisure, health and community facilities, for all age groups?
		Provide and enhance the provision of community access to green infrastructure, in accordance with Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards?
		Encourage the use of healthier modes of travel?
		Reduce the impact on residents from the road network?
		Improve road safety?
<b>Transportation</b>	Reduce the need to travel particularly via environmentally harmful means by ensuring facilities and services are in sustainable locations and supporting flexible working conditions.	Reduce the need to travel through sustainable patterns of land use and development?
		Encourage modal shift to more sustainable forms of travel?
		Enable sustainable transport infrastructure enhancements?
		Facilitate working from home and remote working?
<b>Economic Vitality, Employment and Skills</b>	Improve opportunities for economic growth.	Promote the economic vitality of the key town and local centres of the borough?

SA theme	SA objectives	Appraisal questions. Will the option/proposal help to...
	Facilitate indigenous, inward and regional investment.	Provide for the needs of businesses (range of premises, services, infrastructure, skilled workforce)?
		Enable larger businesses to locate in the area?
	Offer all residents the opportunity for rewarding, well-located and satisfying employment.	Support local communities through employment provision?
		Provide live / work units?
	Improve life-long learning, skills and education.	Promote skills development and participation in further education?

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**Part 1:**  
**What has plan making / SA  
involved up to this point?**

## 2. Introduction to Part 1

Preparation of the Havering Local Plan began in 2015. As highlighted above, two statutory consultations have been undertaken to date, including the initial Regulation 18 consultation for the Local Plan and the consultation on the SA Scoping Report.

The aim of Part 1 of this SA Report is not to recount the entire plan-making process to date but, rather, to explain how work was undertaken to develop and then appraise reasonable alternatives in late 2016 and early 2017. It also seeks to explain how the Council has taken into account the findings of the appraisal of reasonable alternatives when finalising the *Havering Local Plan – Proposed Submission* document. Presenting this information is important given regulatory requirements.<sup>4</sup>

## 3. Reasonable alternatives in SA/SEA

A key element of the SA process is the appraisal of ‘reasonable alternatives’ for the Local Plan. The SEA Regulations<sup>5</sup> are not prescriptive as to what constitutes a reasonable alternative, stating only that the SA Report should present an appraisal of the ‘*plan and reasonable alternatives taking into account the objectives and geographical scope of the plan*’.

The following chapters therefore describe how the SA process to date has informed the preferred spatial strategy for the borough and potential locations for proposed development. Specifically, this chapter explains how the Local Plan’s spatial strategy has been developed in terms of housing numbers and distribution.

More specifically, this part of the report presents information regarding the consideration of reasonable alternative approaches to housing growth, or ‘**spatial strategy alternatives**’. Given that presenting a spatial strategy for housing is at the heart of the plan objectives (see section 1.3), it is reasonable that alternatives appraisal should focus on this matter.<sup>6</sup>

In light of this, this part of the report is structured as follows:

- Chapter 4 explains the process of establishing the reasonable alternatives considered through the SA process;
- Chapter 5 presents the appraisal findings; and
- Chapter 6 explains reasons for establishing the preferred option for the Local Plan, in light of the appraisal of the options considered as reasonable alternatives.

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<sup>4</sup> There is a requirement for the SA Report to present an appraisal of ‘reasonable alternatives’ and ‘an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with’.

<sup>5</sup> Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004

<sup>6</sup> Recent case-law (most notably *Friends of the Earth vs. Welsh Ministers*, 2015) has established that planning authorities may apply discretion and planning judgement when determining what should reasonably be the focus of alternatives appraisal.

## 4. Options considered as reasonable alternatives through the SA process

### 4.1 Housing numbers

In November 2016, a revised estimate of objectively assessed housing need (OAHN) for Havering Borough was published through an update to the Outer North East London Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA).<sup>7</sup>

The November 2016 OAHN, which had regard to relevant underlying trends (including the latest available demographic projections, anticipated economic growth and market signals), has established a need of 1,366 dwellings per annum to be delivered in the borough over the period 2011-2033. This was an increase from a previous figure of 1,145 dwellings per annum.

The established OAHN for Havering exceeds the target put forward through the Further Alterations to the London Plan (FALP). The FALP sets out a target of 11,701 dwellings to be delivered in Havering in the period 2015-2025, or 1,170 dwellings per annum to 2025. This figure is considered by the Greater London Authority to be a minimum; the FALP clearly states that Havering Council should seek to 'achieve and exceed' this target.

The London Plan is currently under review. As part of this process, housing targets for each London Borough will be updated. This will, however, be beyond the timeframe for the Havering Local Plan, and it is currently anticipated that the updated London Plan will undergo Examination in Public in summer 2018.

### 4.2 Spatial strategy options considered

The need to develop a broad growth strategy for the borough was identified early on in the development of the Local Plan. As such, it was recognised that this issue should be addressed via appraisal of reasonable alternatives through the SA process.

In light of the OAHN established for Havering and the FALP target for the borough, five spatial strategy options have been developed and appraised through the SA process. These reflect uplifts to the FALP target and OAHN figure, and range from the delivery of 1,253 dwellings per annum (dpa) in the borough in the first ten years of the plan to 1,549 dpa.

The spatial strategy options, and the rationale for each one, are presented in Table 4.1.

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<sup>7</sup> Opinion Research Services (November 2016). Outer North East London Strategic Housing Market Assessment: Update for Havering, Report of Findings  
<https://www.newham.gov.uk/Documents/Environment%20and%20planning/NewhamStrategicHousingMarketAssessment%5B1%5D.pdf>

**Table 4.1: Spatial strategy options considered as reasonable alternatives, and rationale**

Spatial distribution option	Rationale
<b>Option 1 – meeting the London Plan target (1,170 dwellings pa to 2025) and reflecting current densities</b>	This option seeks to deliver in the region of <b>12,180</b> dwellings in the first ten years of the Local Plan period. It is based on a distribution reflecting the provisions of the current Local Plan (including an existing focus on Romford and the key district centres of Hornchurch and Upminster), coupled with a further focus on Rainham / Beam Park as a Strategic Development Area (SDA).
<b>Option 2 – greater density in the two Strategic Development Areas</b>	This option seeks to deliver in the region of <b>13,412</b> dwellings in the first ten years of the Local Plan Period. This is through a variance of Option 1 which increases densities in the SDAs of Romford SDA and Rainham / Beam Park, including in the respective Housing Zones in these locations.  These densities would be over and above the current indicative densities recommended through the London Plan Housing Supplementary Planning Guidance (SPG) document (March 2016). <sup>8</sup>
<b>Option 3 – greater density the two SDAs and further development in Hornchurch and Upminster, coupled with greater densities delivered through the Council's estate renewal programme</b>	This option seeks to deliver in the region of <b>13,650</b> dwellings in the first ten years of the Local Plan through increasing densities at Romford, Hornchurch and Upminster and delivering increased densities in the areas covered by Havering Council's estate renewal programme. The densities will be over and above those proposed through the London Plan Housing Supplementary Planning Guidance for different categories of locations.
<b>Option 4 – lower density to accommodate more family/older people's housing with corresponding limited Green Belt development in recognition of the trade-offs involved</b>	Delivering in the region of <b>12,180</b> dwellings in the first ten years of the Local Plan, this option responds to existing demographic trends in the borough which, as highlighted by the SHMA, indicate increased demand for family housing and older people's housing. Given land supply constraints, this option would require a degree of development within the Green Belt.
<b>Option 5 – exceeding OAHN by facilitating greater density in the two SDAs, further development in Hornchurch and Upminster, and limited Green Belt release</b>	This option seeks to deliver <b>15,010</b> dwellings in the first ten years of the Local Plan, which is significantly above the established OAHN for the borough. It will facilitate development within the Green Belt to help contribute to maintaining a five-year land supply.

These options reflect existing and likely land availability in the borough, as reflected by the outcomes of ongoing evidence base studies being undertaken to inform the Local Plan.

A more detailed breakdown of the spatial distribution of housing represented by each option, including in relation to key locations in the borough, is presented in Table 4.2. These figures relate to the first ten years of the plan period as the Local Plan focuses on growth within the first ten years.

<sup>8</sup> GLA (March 2016) Housing Supplementary Planning Document  
[https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/the\\_london\\_plan\\_2016\\_jan\\_2017\\_fix.pdf](https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/the_london_plan_2016_jan_2017_fix.pdf)

**Table 4.2: Spatial strategy options: breakdown of housing numbers**

	Option 1: Meeting the London Plan target and reflecting current densities	Option 2: Greater density in the two SDAs	Option 3: Greater density the two SDAs and further development in Hornchurch and Upminster, coupled with greater densities delivered through the Council's estate renewal programme	Option 4: Lower density to accommodate more family/older people's housing with corresponding limited Green Belt development in recognition of the trade-offs involved	Option 5: Exceeding OAHN by facilitating greater density in the two SDAs, further development in Hornchurch and Upminster, and limited Green Belt release
<b>Permissions<sup>9</sup></b>	2,804	2,804	2,804	2,804	2,804
<b>Awaiting decision</b>	216	216	216	216	216
<b>Vacant returning to use</b>	260	260	260	260	260
<b>Windfall allowance</b>	1,860	1,860	1,860	1,860	1,860
<b>Romford SDA</b>	4,049	4,859	4,859	3,239	4,859
<b>Rainham and Beam Park SDA</b>	2,112	2,534	2,534	1,690	2,534
<b>District centres</b>	365	365	548	292	548
<b>Council estate regeneration excluding within SDAs and District Centres</b>	276	276	331	221	331
<b>Elsewhere in the borough</b>	238	238	238	238	238
<b>Green Belt release</b>	0	0	0	1,360	1,360
<b>Total housing (10 year period)</b>	<b>12,180</b>	<b>13,412</b>	<b>13,650</b>	<b>12,180</b>	<b>15,010</b>

<sup>9</sup> Including completions and housing already approved through planning permissions since the beginning of the plan period. These figures relate to the situation as at April 2017, and as such are the same for each option.

## 5. Appraisal of the spatial strategy options

The spatial strategy options presented in Table 4.1 and 4.2 above have been appraised against the SA Framework developed during the scoping stage of the SA and presented under the SA themes (Section 1.6).

In undertaking the appraisal, the proposed options were reviewed to determine the likelihood of positive or negative effects under each SA theme.

Where a causal link between the options and SA themes was established, impacts were identified on the basis of professional judgment with reference to the evidence base. The appraisal was undertaken with reference to the criteria in Schedule 1 of the SEA Regulations, that is:

- the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects;
- the cumulative nature of the effects;
- the transboundary nature of the effects;
- the risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents);
- the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected);
- the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to-
  - special natural characteristics or cultural heritage;
  - exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; or
  - intensive land-use; and
- the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, community or international protection status.

Every effort was made to predict effects accurately; however, this is inherently challenging given the strategic nature of the options considered. Because of the uncertainties involved, there was a need to exercise caution when identifying and evaluating significant effects and ensure that assumptions were explained in full. In many instances it was not possible to predict significant effects, but it was possible to comment on the merits (or otherwise) of the options in more general terms.

The appraisal findings are summarised below. These have been presented in a series of tables which present the findings of the assessment by SA theme.

**Table 5.1: Biodiversity****Spatial strategy options**


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Option 1: Meeting the London Plan target and reflecting current densities- 12,180 dwellings over ten years

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Option 2: Greater density in the two SDAs- 13,412 dwellings over ten years

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Option 3: Greater density the two SDAs and further development in Hornchurch and Upminster- 13,650 dwellings over ten years

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Option 4: Lower density to accommodate more family/older people's housing with corresponding limited Green Belt development in recognition of the trade-offs involved- 12,180 dwellings over ten years

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Option 5: Exceeding OAHN by facilitating greater density the two SDAs, further development in Hornchurch and Upminster, and limited Green Belt release- 15,010 dwellings over ten years

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Whilst the significance of the effects from each option on features and areas of biodiversity interest largely depends on the detailed location, scale and nature of development and the incorporation of biodiversity enhancement measures, it can be considered that a higher level of housing development in a settlement increases the likelihood (and potential magnitude) of negative effects on the designated sites and habitats and species present in their vicinity. This is linked to an increased likelihood of direct effects, such as from land take, disturbance or the loss of key features of ecological value, and an increased likelihood of indirect effects, such as from a reduction of ecological connectivity, and changes in land use patterns.

In relation to nationally designated nature conservation sites, three SSSIs are present in Havering. The two key sites in the south of the borough are: the Ingrebourne Marshes SSSI, which comprises part of the Ingrebourne Valley and supports the largest and one of the most diverse coherent areas of freshwater marshland in Greater London; and the Inner Thames Marshes SSSI, which forms the largest remaining expanse of wetland bordering the upper reaches of the Thames Estuary, and is of particular note for its diverse ornithological interest, including the variety of breeding birds and the numbers of wintering wildfowl, waders, finches and birds of prey. SSSI Impact Risk Zones (IRZs) are a GIS tool/dataset which maps zones around SSSIs according to the particular sensitivities of the features for which they are notified. They specify the types of development that have the potential to have adverse impacts at a given location. Natural England is a statutory consultee on development proposals that might impact on SSSIs. In this context, IRZs relating to the Ingrebourne Marshes SSSI and the Inner Thames Marshes SSSI for 'residential development of 100 units or more' covers the whole of Rainham. As such, Option 2, 3 and 5, which puts forward 2,534 dwellings in the Rainham and Beam Park SDA has the most potential to have effects on the two SSSIs. The option with the least potential to impact on the two sites is Option 4, which promotes fewer dwellings, at 1,771 dwellings. Other proposed locations for development are not within the IRZs for these two SSSIs.

The Hornchurch Cutting SSSI has been designated for its geodiversity interest and is located on the Hornchurch to Romford railway line north east of Hornchurch town centre. Given its designation for geological exposures, the extent of the site's IRZ is limited to within 50m of the site. As such, it is unlikely that the options being considered would result in significant effects on the integrity of the site, or that any one of options would have an increased likelihood of effects on this nationally designated site.

Two SSSIs are located in close proximity to the north of the borough, Hainault Forest SSSI and Curtismill Green SSSI. IRZs for these SSSIs relating to residential development do not extend to the settlements closest to the sites in the north of the borough, including Collier Row and Harold Hill. As such, Option 3 and 5, which propose a similar limited level of housing in these locations, would not be likely to lead to effects on the integrity of these sites. However, IRZs relating to the SSSIs extend into the undeveloped Green Belt on the northern edge of the borough. As such Options 4 and 5 have the potential to lead to effects on the SSSIs if development were to be proposed in the Green Belt in these locations.

Whilst the Green Belt has been designated to prevent urban sprawl, and not for biodiversity reasons, and parts of the Metropolitan Green Belt in general have low biodiversity value, the options which facilitate development within the Green Belt have the potential to lead to increased impacts on biodiversity assets. This is reflected by the increased concentration of BAP Priority Habitats in the areas of Havering within the Green Belt, in comparison with the concentration of BAP Priority Habitats in the built up parts of the borough. As such, Options 4 and 5 have increased potential to have impacts on key habitats of ecological importance through proposing new development within the Green Belt.

Option 4 also has the potential to lead to the less efficient use of land, with increased scope for direct impacts from new development on existing biodiversity assets. However it should be recognised that lower density development can support the biodiversity value of some locations through open space and garden provision. This, however, depends on the design and layout of new development and implementation of high quality multifunctional green infrastructure networks.

The facilitation of increased densities in the two SDAs through Option 2, 3 and 5, and increased densities in district centres and the estate renewal programme through Option 3 and 5 will reduce the need for new development areas in other areas of the borough. This would likely help reduce impacts on habitats, species and ecological networks in these locations. The facilitation of an increased level of development in key centres in the borough will however increase pressures on existing urban habitats and species in these centres,

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including brownfield biodiversity.

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**Table 5.2: Climate Change**

**Spatial strategy options**

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Option 1: Meeting the London Plan target and reflecting current densities- 12,180 dwellings over ten years

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Option 2: Greater density in the two SDAs- 13,412 dwellings over ten years

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Option 3: Greater density the two SDAs and further development in Hornchurch and Upminster- 13,650 dwellings over ten years

---

Option 4: Lower density to accommodate more family/older people's housing with corresponding limited Green Belt development in recognition of the trade-offs involved- 12,180 dwellings over ten years

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Option 5: Exceeding OAHN by facilitating greater density the two SDAs, further development in Hornchurch and Upminster, and limited Green Belt release- 15,010 dwellings over ten years

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**Climate change mitigation**

Road transport is an increasingly significant contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in Havering. The options which direct an increased level of housing provision to the key town and district centres will promote accessibility through directing housing to the settlements with the broadest range of services and facilities. This will help limit the need to travel to services and facilities, therefore helping to limit emissions from transport. In this context, Option 2, 3 and 5 promotes the largest level of housing in Romford, which designated as a Metropolitan Centre through the London Plan, is the settlement with the widest range of services and amenities in the borough. Similarly Option 3 directs the highest level of housing growth to the district centres (notably, given capacity, Hornchurch and Upminster) which, after Romford are the settlements best served by services and facilities. On this basis, this option has the most potential to support the use of sustainable modes of transport and minimise the need to travel. Overall, in terms of housing delivery, Option 3 and 5 promotes the highest level of housing in Romford, Upminster and Hornchurch, followed by Option 2. Option 4 promotes a significantly lower proportion of houses in these three key settlements, doing less to support a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from transport for the reasons stated.

The Rainham and Beam Park SDA comprises part of the London Riverside development. Given that the proposed housing growth in this area is part of the larger London Riverside Opportunity Area, it is considered that new housing will be delivered alongside a significant improvement of services, facilities and amenities in the area and enhancements to employment opportunities, including at the Rainham Employment Area. Proposals will also be supported by enhancements to sustainable transport networks, utilising Rainham's location on the Essex Thameside line and a new station at Beam Park. The current proposals for the London Riverside Opportunity Area also seeks to promote lower carbon lifestyles, including through decentralised energy provision and realising low to zero-carbon energy potential opportunities. As such development in this location has the potential to help limit the carbon footprint of new housing growth. In the context of the above, Options 2, 3 and 5 which seek to deliver an increased level of housing at the Rainham and Beam Park SDA, have the potential to support lower carbon lifestyles.

Option 4, through spreading growth around the borough is likely to be less sustainable than focusing development within the key settlements because the more suburban locations will have fewer services and amenities readily available and encourage more travel. This is a factor that developers cannot easily mitigate. Dispersed growth is also more difficult to serve by public transport and may not achieve the 'critical mass' necessary to deliver new/improved public transport services to the nearest centres. As a result more trips are likely to be made by private car, with implications for greenhouse gas emissions. Similarly, Option 5, through facilitating development within the Green Belt away from existing centres, has the potential to have a similar effect in relation to emissions.

In terms of the other aspects relating to greenhouse gas emissions, the sustainability performance of development depends on elements such as the integration of energy efficient design within new development and the provision of renewable energy generation. This however can only be assessed on a site by site basis once the details of potential development become clearer (e.g. when 'pre-app' discussions take place between developers and the Council or a planning application is submitted). It should be noted though that the higher quantum of development proposed through Options 5 (and to a lesser extent) Option 3 will do more to increase the built footprint of the borough, with associated potential overall increases in greenhouse gas emissions.

In terms of carbon sequestration, this depends on elements such as the integration of green infrastructure enhancements within new development areas, incorporating the on and off-site provision of carbon sinks.

**Climate change adaptation**

In relation to fluvial and tidal flood risk, this largely relates to the presence of the River Thames and the Rivers Beam, Rom and Ingrebourne (and their tributaries). In relation to the River Thames, the parts of the borough to the south of Rainham are at risk from both fluvial and tidal flood risk. With regards to the River Beam, flood risk areas extend through the west of Hornchurch, and flood risk associated with the River Rom is present in

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Romford, Rise Green and Rush Park. In relation to the River Ingrebourne, flood risk extends into parts of Harold Wood, western Upminster and Rainham.

Whilst all options have the potential to lead to development in these flood zones, or elevated levels of flood risk, it is considered that the provisions of the NPPF and national policy in relation to flooding will help guide development away from flood risk areas and ensure that appropriate mitigation measures are implemented. For example, the NPPF does not permit development within flood risk areas or where the effect would be to increase flood risk elsewhere without appropriate mitigation measures. Likewise, adherence to the recommendations and guidance presented in the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) undertaken to inform the Local Plan will help limit effects.

In relation to surface water flooding, given the urbanised nature of much of the borough, this is a key risk in many parts of Havering. A particular area of risk is Romford town centre. However, the effect of each option on flood risk from surface water runoff is difficult to establish given uncertainties regarding the nature of development and the incorporation of mitigation measures such as sustainable urban drainage systems (SuDS).

In relation to the other climate change adaptation issues, including increasing the resilience of Havering to extreme weather events, the urban heat island effect and other elements associated with the potential effects of climate change in the borough, it is not possible to evaluate the extent to which the options will support adaptation. This will depend on the extent to which new development facilitated through the options promotes, for example, the provision of high quality green infrastructure networks.

With regards to the cumulative impacts of development, there is potential for negative effects on flood risk if unmitigated. In respect to the four areas where most development is allocated through the options, the cumulative effect of housing delivery could be a significant change in the provision of hard standing which may lead to an increase in flooding either locally or elsewhere, if unmitigated. In addition, there is the potential for cumulative effects to occur where development in a number of settlements along the same watercourse will lead to changes to watercourse flow rates and an increased risk of flooding. For example, Harold Wood, Upminster and Rainham are all located along the River Ingrebourne. However, it is considered that potential cumulative effects with respect to this issue will be limited due to the provisions of the NPPF and national policy in relation to flooding.

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**Table 5.3: Land, Soil and Water Resources****Spatial strategy options**


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Option 1: Meeting the London Plan target and reflecting current densities- 12,180 dwellings over ten years

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Option 2: Greater density in the two SDAs- 13,412 dwellings over ten years

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Option 3: Greater density the two SDAs and further development in Hornchurch and Upminster- 13,650 dwellings over ten years

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Option 4: Lower density to accommodate more family/older people's housing with corresponding limited Green Belt development in recognition of the trade-offs involved- 12,180 dwellings over ten years

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Option 5: Exceeding OAHN by facilitating greater density the two SDAs, further development in Hornchurch and Upminster, and limited Green Belt release- 15,010 dwellings over ten years

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**Land and soil resources**

All of the five options are likely to promote the use of previously developed land for new housing. However Option 3 which delivers a higher level of housing through facilitating increased densities in the two SDAs (Romford and Rainham / Beam Park), further development in Hornchurch and Upminster and delivering increased densities through the Council's estate renewal programme, have the most potential among the options to deliver the efficient use of land. In contrast, Option 4, which promotes lower densities and facilitates an element of Green Belt development, and Option 5, which delivers some Green Belt development, will do the least amongst the options to promote the efficient use of land. These two options also have the most potential to lead to the loss of greenfield land in the borough.

In relation to agricultural land quality, recent (post 1988) detailed agricultural land classification has not been undertaken in most of the borough. However, the earlier classification indicated that there are significant areas of Grade 1 agricultural land present to the south east of Upminster. In the non-built up parts of the north of the borough, the earlier classification also classified land as Grade 3 agricultural land. It is uncertain whether this comprises Grade 3a land (i.e. land classified as the best and most versatile agricultural land) or Grade 3b land (i.e. land not classified as such).

Whilst Option 3 and 5 promotes a larger housing delivery in Upminster (and, as such, in a part of the borough with higher agricultural quality land present), development under this option would be focussed on Upminster town centre. As such, there is less likely to be landtake on the best and most versatile agricultural land in this location. However, Options 4 and 5, through facilitating development in the Green Belt have increased potential to lead to the loss of higher quality agricultural land in this area, as well as in northern parts of the borough.

**Water resources**

In relation to water supply, the NPPF states that local plans should plan positively to ensure the provision of infrastructure for water supply, including an assessment of its quality and capacity (paragraphs 156, 157 and 162). In the context of the current assessment, it is anticipated that the Water Resources Management Plans prepared by water supply companies will be expected to address long-term water supply issues associated with growth.

**Waste**

The generation of waste is an inevitable consequence of development, including both waste generated by construction, as well as waste subsequently generated by households etc.. In a simplified scenario, the more housing that is delivered, the more waste that will be generated. In this context, Options 3 and 5 have the most potential to increase waste arisings though delivering more housing, with Option 1 and 4 having the most potential to limit waste arisings.

The management of waste, including the minimisation of waste and the encouragement of the re- use, recycling and recovery of waste materials would be undertaken on a site by site basis. All development would be required though to meet the relevant legislative requirements with regard to waste. Given the legislative and regulatory requirements regarding waste it is considered that development is unlikely to have a significant negative impact on waste management.

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**Table 5.4: Environmental Quality****Spatial strategy options**


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Option 1: Meeting the London Plan target and reflecting current densities- 12,180 dwellings over ten years

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Option 2: Greater density in the two SDAs- 13,412 dwellings over ten years

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Option 3: Greater density the two SDAs and further development in Hornchurch and Upminster- 13,650 dwellings over ten years

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Option 4: Lower density to accommodate more family/older people's housing with corresponding limited Green Belt development in recognition of the trade-offs involved- 12,180 dwellings over ten years

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Option 5: Exceeding OAHN by facilitating greater density the two SDAs, further development in Hornchurch and Upminster, and limited Green Belt release- 15,010 dwellings over ten years

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**Air quality**

Air quality is a key issue for Havering. The whole of the borough was designated as an Air Quality Management Area in 2006 due to levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>). The main source of air pollution is road traffic vehicle emissions. Significant amounts also come from residential and commercial gas use, industry, construction sites and emissions from outside London.

Given that the options currently being considered are housing focused, this assessment focuses on emissions from transport related to housing growth.

The options which direct an increased level of housing provision to the key town and district centres will promote accessibility through directing housing to the settlements with the broadest range of services and facilities. This will help limit the need to travel to services and facilities, therefore helping to limit emissions from transport. In this context, Options 2, 3 and 5 promote the highest level of housing growth in Romford, which, designated as a Metropolitan Centre through the London Plan, is the settlement with the widest range of services and amenities in the borough. Similarly Options 3 and 5 direct the highest level of housing delivery to the larger district centres of Hornchurch and Upminster, which, after Romford are the two settlements best served by services and facilities, and the other district centres. On this basis, these options have the most potential to support the use of sustainable modes of transport (including walking and cycling) and minimising the need to travel.

Overall, in terms of housing delivery, Option 3 and 5 promote the highest level of housing in Romford, Upminster and Hornchurch. Option 4 promotes a lower proportion of housing growth in these three key settlements, doing less to reduce the need to travel for services and facilities and limit emissions.

The Rainham and Beam Park SDA is part of the London Riverside development. Given that proposed housing growth in this area is part of the larger London Riverside Opportunity Area, it is considered that new housing at this location will be delivered alongside a significant improvement of services, facilities and amenities in the area and enhancements to employment opportunities, including at the Rainham Employment Area. Proposals will also be supported by enhancements to sustainable transport networks, utilising Rainham's location on the Essex Thameside line and a proposed new station at Beam Park. As such, development in this location has the potential to help limit emissions from transport resulting from growth. In this context, Option 2, 3 and 5, which seek to deliver an increased level of housing at the Rainham and Beam Park SDA, have the potential to limit emissions for these reasons.

Option 4, through spreading growth around the borough, including within the Green Belt, has the potential to increase emissions through encouraging car use. This is due to the option being likely to deliver housing at locations with fewer services and amenities readily available. This is a factor that developers cannot easily mitigate. Dispersed growth is also more difficult to serve by public transport and may not achieve the 'critical mass' necessary to deliver new/improved public transport services and walking and cycling networks to the nearest centres. As a result, more trips are likely to be made by private car, with implications for emissions from transport. Similarly, Option 5, through facilitating development within the Green Belt away from existing centres, has the potential to have a similar effect in relation to emissions.

**Soil quality**

All five options have the potential to support the widespread remediation of contaminated land in the borough through promoting the use of previously developed land. However, Options 3 and 5, which deliver a higher level of housing through facilitating increased densities in the SDAs (Romford and Rainham / Beam Park), increasing delivery in Hornchurch and Upminster, as well as delivering increased densities through the Council's estate renewal programme, have the most potential among the options to deliver the remediation of brownfield sites. In contrast, Option 4, which promotes lower densities and facilitates an element of Green Belt development, and will do less to facilitate the remediation of areas of land contamination by reducing an impetus on previously developed land.

**Water quality**

Whilst the significance of the effects from each option on water quality largely depends on the location, scale and nature of development and the incorporation of mitigation measures (e.g. SuDS, it can be considered that a higher level of housing development within a settlement increases the likelihood (and potential magnitude) of

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negative effects on both surface water and groundwater resources. This is linked to increased levels of surface water runoff, increased suspended sediment loading and discharge of polluted runoff.

The chemical and biological water quality of watercourses in Havering has historically been poor, with particular issues relating to the water quality of the River Ingrebourne and the River Rom/Beam. The latest Water Framework Directive assessment identifies some improvements, with sections of Havering's waterways achieving moderate quality classification. Under the provisions of the Water Framework Directive, the Beam and Ingrebourne need to achieve good status by 2027.

In relation to the water quality of these watercourses, the River Rom and the River Beam have the potential to be affected by new development areas in Romford, Hornchurch, Rainham/Beam Park and Collier Row. In this respect, Options 3 and 5, followed by Option 2, have the most potential to lead to cumulative impacts on water quality in these two watercourses. The water quality of the River Ingrebourne has the potential to be affected by new development areas in Upminster, Harold Wood and Rainham. As such, Option 3 and 5 have the most potential to lead to cumulative impacts on water quality on the River Ingrebourne. It should be noted though that the development of previously developed land has the potential to support the remediation of contaminated land which may support longer term enhancements to water quality.

In relation to groundwater quality, part of Rainham and South Hornchurch are underlain by Zone 1 and 2 groundwater Source Protection Zones. In this respect, Options 2, 3 and 5 have the most potential to lead to effects on groundwater quality through facilitating an increased level of housing development in these locations.

## Table 5.5: Historic Environment, Landscape and Townscape

### Spatial strategy options

Option 1: Meeting the London Plan target and reflecting current densities- 12,180 dwellings over ten years

Option 2: Greater density in the two SDAs- 13,412 dwellings over ten years

Option 3: Greater density the two SDAs and further development in Hornchurch and Upminster- 13,650 dwellings over ten years

Option 4: Lower density to accommodate more family/older people's housing with corresponding limited Green Belt development in recognition of the trade-offs involved- 12,180 dwellings over ten years

Option 5: Exceeding OAHN by facilitating greater density the two SDAs, further development in Hornchurch and Upminster, and limited Green Belt release- 15,010 dwellings over ten years

The Rainham and Beam Park SDA covers the part of Rainham town centre designated through the Rainham Conservation Area. In this context, Options 2, 3 and 5, and to a lesser extent Option 1, have the most potential among the options to have impacts on the fabric and setting of the conservation area through facilitating an increased level of housing delivery in its vicinity. Whilst development, if poorly designed, can have negative impacts on the setting and fabric of the historic environment, high quality and sensitive design and layout can bring positive effects. In this context, as part of the wider London Riverside Opportunity Area, there is significant potential for new development in the area to enhance the setting of the historic environment through public realm improvements, enhancements to green infrastructure provision and investment in features and areas of cultural heritage interest. As such, an increased level of housing delivery in this area has the potential to offer additional opportunities for enhancing the setting and fabric of features and areas of cultural heritage interest, including the Rainham Conservation Area, depending on design, layout, materials used and the provision of green infrastructure enhancements.

In relation to Romford, historic environment constraints are limited to the Romford Conservation Area (covering the Market Place, High Street, North Street and South Street in the town centre) and approximately twelve listed buildings. The Romford Housing Zone, which comprises part of the SDA and will be a focus of development in the area, covers three locations in Romford town centre. The smallest of these, located to the north of the High Street, is located adjacent to Romford Conservation Area. Whilst increased housing delivery at this location through Option 2, 3 and 5, if poorly designed, could have negative impacts on the setting and fabric of the conservation area, high quality and sensitive design and layout could bring positive effects. As such, high quality design and layout could offer significant enhancements to the setting of the historic environment in this location. This is significant given Romford Conservation Area is deemed to be 'at risk' and in a 'very bad' condition by Historic England, resulting in the inclusion of the conservation area on Historic England's Heritage at Risk Register<sup>10</sup>. Similarly, one of the larger areas of the Housing Zone covers an area to the west of the town centre, a location with two listed buildings present, the Salem Chapel and Church of St Andrew, which are both Grade II listed. Given the current opportunities to enhance the poor public realm in this area, an increased focus on the Housing Zone through Options 2, 3 and 5 has significant opportunities to enhance the setting of these two key features of cultural heritage interest.

Parts of Upminster and Hornchurch are of historic environment interest. Two conservation areas cover various

<sup>10</sup> Historic England, Heritage at Risk Register 2016 <https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/heritage-at-risk/search-register/list-entry/1659362> (accessed 15th February 2017).

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parts of Hornchurch town centre, namely the Langtons Conservation Area and the St Andrews Conservation Area (the nearby St Leonards Conservation Area and the RAF Hornchurch Conservation Areas are outside of the town centre) and a range of listed buildings are present in the town. In relation to Upminster, a number of listed buildings are present in the town and the town has a distinctive character. In this respect, Option 3 and 5, which direct an increased level of housing growth to Hornchurch and Upminster have increased potential to effect on these areas of historic environment interest within the towns. Given greater capacity for growth in Hornchurch when compared to Upminster, there is a greater likelihood of effects on the historic environment in Hornchurch than Upminster resulting from these options. However, as highlighted above, these effects need not be negative; an increased level of housing delivery has the potential to offer additional opportunities for enhancing the setting and fabric of features and areas of cultural heritage interest, depending on design, layout, materials used and the provision of green infrastructure enhancements.

In relation to Collier Row and Harold Hill, no statutory historic environment designations are present in these settlements. However, Option 3 and 5, which promotes an increased level of development across all of the district centres, have increased potential for effects on the historic environment or townscape character in these locations.

54% of Havering is covered by the Metropolitan Green Belt. Whilst the Green Belt is designated to prevent urban growth into countryside, and as such not directly designated for landscape quality purposes, development within the Green Belt is nonetheless likely to have adverse impacts on landscape character and local distinctiveness through facilitating growth in the open countryside. This includes in locations such as Havering-atté-Bower, or Noak Hill, which have a rich historic environment resource. As such, Options 4 and 5, which facilitate a level of housing growth within the Green Belt, have more potential than Options 1-3 (which seek to focus development within the existing built-up areas of Havering) to lead to impacts on landscape character and local distinctiveness.

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**Table 5.6: Population and Community****Spatial strategy options**


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Option 1: Meeting the London Plan target and reflecting current densities- 12,180 dwellings over ten years

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Option 2: Greater density in the two SDAs- 13,412 dwellings over ten years

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Option 3: Greater density the two SDAs and further development in Hornchurch and Upminster- 13,650 dwellings over ten years

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Option 4: Lower density to accommodate more family/older people's housing with corresponding limited Green Belt development in recognition of the trade-offs involved- 12,180 dwellings over ten years

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Option 5: Exceeding OAHN by facilitating greater density the two SDAs, further development in Hornchurch and Upminster, and limited Green Belt release- 15,010 dwellings over ten years

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In relation to housing delivery, of the five options Option 2, 3 and 5 will meet (and exceed) the established Objectively Assessment Housing Need for Havering. However all five options deliver the Further Alterations to the London Plan target for the borough.

Overall, through delivering a larger number of dwellings, Options 5 and 3 have most potential to deliver a broader range of housing types and tenures in the borough. Option 4 however focuses on the key housing needs in the borough of family housing and older peoples housing. In this context the option will do more to deliver these types of housing.

Accessibility to services and facilities is a key influence on the quality of life of residents and community cohesion. In this regard, development in the larger centres (Romford, Hornchurch and Upminster) will enhance accessibility through directing housing to the settlements with the broadest range of services and facilities. This will support accessibility to the wider range of amenities located in these settlements. Locating more housing in closer proximity to the services and facilities available in the key centres of the borough will also likely support quality of life and wellbeing through promoting walking and cycling and active lifestyles.

In this context, Option 2, 3 and 5 promote the highest level of housing growth in Romford, which, designated as a Metropolitan Centre through the London Plan, is the settlement with the widest range of services and amenities in the borough. Similarly Options 3 and 5 promote the highest level of housing delivery to the larger district centres of Hornchurch and Upminster, which, after Romford, are the two settlements best served by services and facilities in the borough, as well as the remaining district centres. On this basis, these options has the most potential to support accessibility to existing community facilities and promote more active lifestyles.

The Rainham and Beam Park SDA is part of the London Riverside development. Given that proposed housing growth in this area will take place as part of the larger London Riverside Opportunity Area, it is considered that new housing at this location will be delivered alongside a significant improvement of services, facilities and amenities in the area. Proposals will also be supported by enhancements to sustainable transport networks, utilising Rainham's location on the Essex Thameside line and a proposed new station at Beam Park, and significant green infrastructure enhancements. As such, development in this location has the potential to support the quality of life of residents by promoting accessibility to services and facilities, facilitating access to green infrastructure networks, and encouraging sustainable transport use. In this context, Options 2, 3 and 5 which seek to deliver an increased level of housing at the Rainham and Beam Park SDA have the potential to promote these benefits.

Option 4, through spreading growth around the borough, including within the Green Belt, has an increased likelihood of delivering housing at locations with fewer services and amenities readily available. Dispersed growth is also more difficult to serve by public transport and may not achieve the 'critical mass' necessary to deliver new/improved public transport services and walking and cycling networks to the nearest centres. As a result, development is less likely to take place in accessible locations through Option 4. Option 5, through facilitating development within the Green Belt away from existing service centres, also partly has the potential to have a similar effect.

Whilst Havering has relatively low levels of overall deprivation, a number of pockets of deprivation are present in the borough, with areas of South Hornchurch and the Harold Hill area (Gooshays and Heaton wards) being within the 10% most deprived Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) nationally, and the wider areas of Harold Hill and Romford being in the 20% most deprived nationally (ONS 2010).

In this context, the provision of increased levels of development in South Hornchurch through the Rainham and Beam Park SDA via Options 2, 3 and 5 may help support the regeneration of the area, helping to promote a reduction of deprivation levels locally. Similarly, increased levels of housing delivery in Romford through the same options may support combating deprivation in more deprived areas of the town. This, however, depends on new development areas being well planned, supported by appropriate infrastructure and service provision, and being of appropriate design which supports a high quality public realm.

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**Table 5.7: Health and Wellbeing****Spatial strategy options**


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Option 1: Meeting the London Plan target and reflecting current densities- 12,180 dwellings over ten years

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Option 2: Greater density in the two SDAs- 13,412 dwellings over ten years

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Option 3: Greater density the two SDAs and further development in Hornchurch and Upminster- 13,650 dwellings over ten years

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Option 4: Lower density to accommodate more family/older people's housing with corresponding limited Green Belt development in recognition of the trade-offs involved- 12,180 dwellings over ten years

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Option 5: Exceeding OAHN by facilitating greater density the two SDAs, further development in Hornchurch and Upminster, and limited Green Belt release- 15,010 dwellings over ten years

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The general health profile of Havering's residents has changed. In 2011, 81.6% of residents reported that they were in good health and 5.2% in bad health, compared to 69.7% in good health and 8.2% in bad health in 2001 (Census 2011). Accessibility to community services and health and recreational facilities are a key influence on health and wellbeing. In this respect, development in the larger centres (Romford, Hornchurch and Upminster) will enhance accessibility through directing housing to the settlements with the broadest range of services and facilities; this will support accessibility to the wider range of amenities located in these settlements, with benefits for the health and wellbeing of residents. In addition, the key centres in the borough have a wider range of health services, including primary health care services, and sports and recreational facilities, so better supporting residents' health and wellbeing. Furthermore, locating more housing in closer proximity to the facilities available in the key centres will also encourage healthier modes of travel including walking and cycling.

In this context, Option 2, 3 and 5 promote the highest level of housing growth in Romford, which, designated as a Metropolitan Centre through the London Plan, is the settlement with the widest range of services and amenities in the borough. Similarly, Options 3 and 5 promote the highest level of housing delivery to the larger district centres of Hornchurch and Upminster, which, after Romford are the two settlements best served by facilities. On this basis, this option has the most potential to support accessibility to community facilities (including health services and recreational amenities) and promote healthier modes of travel (including walking and cycling).

Overall, in terms of housing delivery, Options 3 and 5 promotes the highest level of housing in Romford, Upminster and Hornchurch. Option 4 promotes a lower proportion of housing growth in these three key settlements, doing less to support accessibility to services and facilities and support active modes of travel.

The Rainham and Beam Park SDA is part of the London Riverside development. Given that proposed housing growth in this area is part of the larger London Riverside Opportunity Area, it is considered that new housing at this location will be delivered alongside a significant improvement of services, facilities and amenities in the area. Proposals will also be supported by enhancements to sustainable transport networks, utilising Rainham's location on the Essex Thameside line and a proposed new station at Beam Park, and significant green infrastructure enhancements. As such, development in this location has the potential to support health and wellbeing by promoting accessibility to services and facilities, facilitating access to green infrastructure networks, and encouraging active modes of travel. In this context, Options 2, 3 and 5 which seek to deliver an increased level of housing at the Rainham and Beam Park SDA, have the potential to support health and wellbeing for these reasons.

Option 4, through spreading growth around the borough, including within the Green Belt, has the potential to encourage car use. This is due to the option being likely to deliver housing at locations with fewer services and amenities readily available. This is a factor that developers cannot easily mitigate. Dispersed growth is also more difficult to serve by public transport and may not achieve the 'critical mass' necessary to deliver new/improved public transport services and walking and cycling networks to the nearest centres. As a result more trips are likely to be made by private car, with implications for health and wellbeing. Similarly, Option 5, through facilitating development within the Green Belt away from existing centres, has the potential to have a similar effect.

The delivery of higher levels of housing growth across the borough has the potential to lead to effects on health and wellbeing through increasing road safety issues and impacts on air and noise from increased traffic flows at certain locations. This may have impacts on the health and wellbeing of residents. In this context, Options 3 and Option 5 have increased potential to lead to increases in traffic flows through delivering a higher quantum of development in Havering. Effects however depend on the detailed location of new development areas and the integration of elements such as sustainable transport and green infrastructure provision.

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**Table 5.8: Transportation****Spatial strategy options**


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Option 1: Meeting the London Plan target and reflecting current densities- 12,180 dwellings over ten years

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Option 2: Greater density in the two SDAs- 13,412 dwellings over ten years

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Option 3: Greater density the two SDAs and further development in Hornchurch and Upminster- 13,650 dwellings over ten years

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Option 4: Lower density to accommodate more family/older people's housing with corresponding limited Green Belt development in recognition of the trade-offs involved- 12,180 dwellings over ten years

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Option 5: Exceeding OAHN by facilitating greater density the two SDAs, further development in Hornchurch and Upminster, and limited Green Belt release- 15,010 dwellings over ten years

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The options which direct an increased level of housing provision to the key town and district centres in Havering will promote accessibility through directing housing to the settlements with the broadest range of services and facilities. This will help limit the need to travel by car to amenities. Settlements will be developed which are accessible by foot or by bike providing residents with alternative options to travel other than the car.

Options 2, 3 and 5 promote the highest level of housing delivery in Romford, which, designated as a Metropolitan Centre through the London Plan, is the settlement with the widest range of services and amenities in the borough with a PTAL rating of 6a/b. Similarly Options 3 and 5 direct the highest level of housing growth to the larger district centres of Hornchurch and Upminster, which, after Romford are the two settlements in the borough best served by services and facilities. Apart from Romford, these district centres have the highest PTAL ratings within the borough (Hornchurch is serviced by the London Underground District Line, whilst Upminster is serviced by both the District Line and Essex Thameside line and both centres have reliable, frequent bus connections). On this basis, this option has the most potential to support the use of sustainable modes of transport and minimise the need to travel. Overall, in terms of housing delivery, Options 3 and 5 promote the highest level of housing in Romford, Upminster and Hornchurch. Option 4 promotes a significantly fewer number of houses in these three locations, doing less to support sustainable transport use.

The Rainham and Beam Park SDA is part of the London Riverside development. Given the proposed housing growth in this area is part of the larger London Riverside Opportunity Area, it is considered that new housing will be delivered alongside a significant improvement of services, facilities and amenities in the area. Proposals will also be supported by enhancements to sustainable transport networks, utilising Rainham's location on the Essex Thameside line and a proposed new station at Beam Park due to be in operation in 2020 (Havering Council continues to lobby Network Rail and the Train Operating Company C2C for increased capacity on the Essex Thameside line to support growth in the Rainham and Beam Park area including longer trains and a higher frequency of services. Havering is currently developing proposals to radically change the A1306 New Road to support development of the Rainham and Beam Park Housing Zone and provide people with the options to travel more sustainably). As such, development in this location has the potential to support sustainable transport use. In the context of the above, Option 2, 3 and 5 which seeks to deliver an increased level of housing at the Rainham and Beam Park SDA, have increased potential to support these elements.

Option 4, through spreading growth around the borough is likely to be less sustainable than focusing development within the key settlements because the more suburban locations will have fewer services and amenities readily available and encourage more travel. This is a factor that developers cannot easily mitigate. Dispersed growth is also more difficult to serve by public transport and may not achieve the 'critical mass' necessary to deliver new/improved public transport services to the nearest centres. As a result more trips are likely to be made by private car. Similarly, Option 5, through facilitating development within the Green Belt away from existing centres where public transport provision is limited, is likely to result in a greater number of trips being made by car. In the context of the options considered, well located and coordinated development with nearby key amenities and community facilities reduces the need to travel. This provides opportunities for the development of sustainable movement corridors which utilises growth to support public transport and walking and cycling. As such, the options considered all have the potential to support development at existing and future public transport nodes, including Crossrail and the new station planned for Beam Park. The level of growth considered through the options also offer opportunities for contributing or realising the need for new infrastructure to accompany new development.

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**Table 5.9: Economic Vitality, Employment and Skills**

**Spatial strategy options**

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Option 1: Meeting the London Plan target and reflecting current densities- 12,180 dwellings over ten years

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Option 2: Greater density in the two SDAs- 13,412 dwellings over ten years

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Option 3: Greater density in the two SDAs and further development in Hornchurch and Upminster- 13,650 dwellings over ten years

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Option 4: Lower density to accommodate more family/older people's housing with corresponding limited Green Belt development in recognition of the trade-offs involved- 12,180 dwellings over ten years

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Option 5: Exceeding OAHN by facilitating greater density the two SDAs, further development in Hornchurch and Upminster, and limited Green Belt release- 15,010 dwellings over ten years

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Overall, through delivering a larger number of dwellings in Havering, Options 3 and 5 have the potential to deliver increased levels of housing provision, with additional potential to support the economic vitality of the borough. All of the options are, however, likely to have a long-term positive effect on the economy through the delivery of housing, and if matched with housing provision, employment and associated improvements to services/facilities.

Options 2, 3 and 5 will do more to support the economic vitality of Romford through allocating a larger proportion of development in the vicinity of the town. This will help rejuvenate the town centre and support Romford's status as a Metropolitan Centre. Options 3 and 5 will also do most to support the economic vitality of the key district centres of Hornchurch and Upminster through facilitating larger allocations in the towns. These options will also do more to support accessibility to employment and learning opportunities (including outside of the borough) through promoting development at locations with good access to key centres and transport nodes.

In contrast Option 4, which directs an increased proportion of development to the Green Belt, will do less to promote the economic vitality of existing centres in the borough.

Option 2, 3 and 5 through facilitating an increased level of housing delivery at the Rainham and Beam Park SDA will do more to support the overall economic regeneration of Rainham and South Hornchurch. Given that proposed housing growth in this area is part of the larger London Riverside Opportunity Area, it is considered that new housing at this location will be delivered alongside enhancements to employment opportunities, including at the Rainham Employment Area. Proposals will also be supported by enhancements to sustainable transport networks, utilising Rainham's location on the Essex Thameside line and a proposed new station at Beam Park. As such, additional housing growth in this location has the potential to support economic regeneration proposals for the immediate and wider area, with Options 2, 3 and 5 doing more to facilitate this.

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## 6. Overview of the reasons for choosing the preferred spatial strategy for the Local Plan

The following overview sets out the London Borough of Havering's reasons for selecting the preferred spatial strategy approach for the Local Plan in light of the appraisal findings presented above.

The Council's preferred strategy is Option 1, which the appraisal finds to perform relatively well as it delivers an appropriate level of growth which is delivered on previously developed land, in accessible locations and supported by services and facilities.

Whilst the preferred strategy does not perform negatively against any of the objectives, the appraisal highlights that other options could provide additional sustainability benefits in relation to certain themes. On balance, however, the Council considers the preferred strategy to be the most sustainable. The reasons are set out below.

**Biodiversity** – The appraisal finds that increased housing growth delivered through Options 2, 3 and 5 increases the likelihood of negative effects on the designated sites and habitats and species present in the borough. The preferred strategy proposes a lower amount of homes, limiting Impacts on biodiversity. As the preferred strategy does not release any Green Belt, the potential impacts on key habitats of ecological importance in the Green Belt are avoided, in contrast to Options 4 and 5. The Council therefore considers the preferred strategy the most sustainable from a biodiversity perspective.

**Climate change** – It is considered that Options 2, 3 and 5 have the greatest potential to support the use of sustainable transport modes and minimise the need to travel due to the increased number of homes being delivered in accessible areas. Increased development in the Rainham and Beam Park area specifically provides the opportunity to promote low carbon lifestyles. However, these benefits will also be achieved through the preferred strategy when a lower number of homes are directed towards these areas. Options 4 and 5 are deemed as less sustainable as development in the Green Belt would increase car trips with implications for greenhouse gas emissions. For the reasons above the preferred strategy is seen to make positive contributions in relation to the climate change theme.

**Land soil and water resources** – Only Options 4 and 5 would facilitate Green Belt release. This has the potential to lead to the loss of greenfield land as well as the loss of higher quality agricultural land. It is not possible to differentiate between options on the subject of water resources. The preferred strategy has together with Option 4 the most potential to limit waste arisings, due to a lower number of homes being delivered. The Council considers that for the reasons above, of all of the options, the preferred strategy will do most to limit impacts on land soil and water resources.

**Environmental quality** – Increased development in accessible locations through Options 2, 3 and 5 has the potential to promote the use of sustainable transport modes and minimise the need to travel, therefore helping to limit emissions from transport. These options also have the most potential for the remediation of brownfield site through increased housing delivery. However, Options 2, 3 and 5 also have the most potential to lead to cumulative impacts on air, water and groundwater quality through facilitating a higher level of growth. The preferred strategy will help limit emissions, whilst also promoting the remediation of brownfield land, and (to a lesser extent) limiting impacts on water and groundwater quality. As such, the Council considers that the preferred strategy appropriately balances the various elements effecting environmental quality.

**Historic Environment, Landscape and Townscape** – Option 4, through promoting lower levels of growth in Romford, Rainham and Beam Park, Hornchurch and Upminster could be seen to have more limited effects on Conservation Areas and heritage assets in these areas. However, the appraisal also suggests that, if sensitively designed, increased development in these areas through Options 2, 3 and 5 could result in significant opportunities to enhance the fabric and setting of heritage assets. The Council considers that the level of growth proposed in the preferred strategy optimally balances the need to create opportunities for enhancing the fabric and setting of heritage assets and townscape character, while not proposing a level of growth which would lead to wider scale impacts on the historic environment and townscape/landscape quality.

**Population and Community** – Whilst the preferred strategy exceeds the minimum housing target set out in Further Alterations to the London Plan, Options 2, 3 and 5 meet (and exceed) the established

**Objectively Assessed Need for Havering.** It is recognised that increased delivery in accessible locations through these options could have potential to support accessibility to existing community facilities, promote more active lifestyles and facilitate access to green infrastructure networks.

However, an increased level of growth in comparison to the preferred strategy also has the potential to overburden existing facilities and put pressures on existing infrastructure. The Council considers that the preferred strategy supports a balance between an appropriate level of growth whilst supporting the provision of facilities and infrastructure to support this. Unmet housing need is dealt with on a London-wide basis.

**Health and Wellbeing** – It is recognised that increased growth in accessible locations through Options 2, 3 and 5 has the potential to support accessibility to community facilities and promote active travel. The drawback of additional growth is that increased road safety issues and impacts on air and noise as a result of an increased level of development could adversely impact on the health and wellbeing of residents. As stated above, an increased level of growth compared to the preferred strategy also has the potential to overburden existing facilities and put pressure on existing green infrastructure networks. The Council considers that the preferred strategy provides an optimal balance between an appropriate level of growth and the ability to deliver the provision of facilities and infrastructure to support this.

**Transportation** – The appraisal finds that the options which promote a higher number of homes in accessible locations, Options 2, 3 and 5, have the most potential to support the use of sustainable modes of transport and minimise the need to travel. However, the appraisal also recognises that all options have the potential to support development at existing and future public transport nodes and offer opportunities for contributing or realising the need for new infrastructure to accompany new development. Therefore, the Council deems the preferred strategy to sufficiently promote sustainable travel by focusing development in accessible locations.

**Economic Vitality Employment and Skills** – Whilst the delivery of a larger number of dwellings through Options 2, 3 and 5 has the potential to support the economic viability and vitality of the borough, the appraisal recognised that all of the options are likely to have a long-term positive effect on the economy. The Council believes that the preferred strategy is therefore justified in the light of finding an optimal balance between facilitating and promoting economic growth whilst supporting the provisions of the remaining sustainability objectives.

The options and particularly the preferred strategy have been informed by the development capacity of the borough and the context provided by the NPPF and London Plan:

- Romford is identified as a Metropolitan Centre in the London Plan and is the largest town centre in the borough. Romford has scope for development across a number of well located and well connected sites. From 2018, it will benefit from improved rail services as a result of the arrival of Crossrail. Its potential has been recognised by its designation as a Mayoral Housing Zone. The next London Plan will re-affirm the role of Romford by designating it as an Opportunity Area in recognition of its potential to address an important part of Havering's growth potential.
- Rainham and Beam Park is already identified within the London Riverside Opportunity Area which includes land in both Havering and adjoining Barking and Dagenham. The scope for this is as a result of the provision of a new station at Beam Park and the opportunity to provide space for essential local services. Rainham and Beam Park was granted Housing Zone status in 2015 which will help accelerate residential development in the area.
- The London Plan identifies the six District Centres of Hornchurch, Upminster, Collier Row, Harold Hill, Rainham and Elm Park in the borough, which should be the main foci for development and intensification. Hornchurch and Upminster are the largest district centres with the highest PTAL rating.
- Both the NPPG and the London Plan express a support for protecting the Green Belt from inappropriate development, except in very special circumstances.

## 7. Development of the planning policies for the Havering Local Plan

The planning policies for the Local Plan have been developed in response to government guidance (e.g. the National Planning Practice Guidance), evidence base studies, the appraisal of reasonable alternatives undertaken through the SA process and to reflect consultation responses on plan-making to date, including the initial Regulation 18 consultation undertaken for the Local Plan.

Following the preparation of an initial version of the draft Local Plan in early 2017, the draft policies presented in the plan underwent an initial assessment through the SA process. At this stage, a number of recommendations were made with the aim of enhancing the sustainability performance of the plan,

These were as follows:

- The Nature Conservation policy seeks to ensure development protects and enhances designated nature conservation sites present in the borough 'when development is on or adjacent to such a site'. Given that development which takes place further away from a designated site may still have impacts on site integrity (as reflected by the extent of Impact Risk Zones for SSSIs; which often extend a number of kilometres from a site), it is recommended that the policy is updated. In this context an appropriate update to the policy would be to refer to development which has the potential to impact on an SSSI, Local Nature Reserve or SINC rather than only development which is located 'on or adjacent' to a site.
- Given the proximity of the Rainham and Beam Park Strategic Development Area to the Ingrebourne Marshes SSSI and the Inner Thames Marshes SSSI, and its presence within the Impact Risk Zone for the SSSIs, there is further scope for the policy for the Strategic Development Area to acknowledge the need for adverse effects on the integrity of these key nationally designated sites to be avoided, and enhancements achieved.
- Whilst the Heritage Assets policy sets out a number of provisions for conservation areas in the borough, there is further potential for the policy to more explicitly seek to ensure that all development in conservation areas takes into account the relevant Conservation Area Appraisal or Management Plan. This would provide a robust focus for the protection and enhancement of local distinctiveness in conservation areas, and help ensure that development within conservation areas in the borough provides an appropriate degree of protection for conservation areas' integrity.

The draft Local Plan was then updated to reflect these recommendations.

The 39 policies presented in the *Havering Local Plan – Proposed Submission* document are as follows:

Policy 1	Romford Strategic Development Area
Policy 2	Rainham and Beam Park Strategic Development Area
Policy 3	Housing Supply
Policy 4	Affordable Housing
Policy 5	Housing Mix
Policy 6	Specialist Accommodation
Policy 7	Residential Design and Amenity
Policy 8	Houses in Multiple Occupation
Policy 9	Conversions and Subdivisions
Policy 10	Garden and Backland Development
Policy 11	Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation
Policy 12	Healthy Communities
Policy 13	Town Centre Development

Policy 14	Eating and Drinking
Policy 15	Culture and Creativity
Policy 16	Social Infrastructure
Policy 17	Education
Policy 18	Open Space, Sports and Recreation
Policy 19	Business Growth
Policy 20	Loss of Industrial Land
Policy 21	Affordable Workspace
Policy 22	Skills and Training
Policy 23	Transport Connections
Policy 24	Parking Provision and Design
Policy 25	Digital Connections
Policy 26	Urban Design
Policy 27	Landscaping
Policy 28	Heritage Assets
Policy 29	Green Infrastructure
Policy 30	Nature Conservation
Policy 31	Rivers and River Corridors
Policy 32	Flood Management
Policy 33	Air Quality
Policy 34	Managing pollution
Policy 35	On-site waste management
Policy 36	Low Carbon Design, Decentralised Energy and Renewable Energy
Policy 37	Mineral Reserves
Policy 38	Mineral Extraction
Policy 39	Secondary Aggregates

The latest version of the planning policies presented in the current *Havering Local Plan – Proposed Submission* document as presented to Cabinet and Full Council in July 2017 has been appraised in Part 2 of this SA Report.

The background of the slide features three thin, dark grey lines that intersect to form a large, irregular triangle. One line runs from the top left towards the middle right. Another line runs from the top center towards the bottom left. The third line runs from the middle right towards the bottom left. These lines create a sense of depth and structure.

**Part 2:**  
**What are the SA findings  
at this stage?**

## 8. Appraisal of policy approaches presented in the latest version of the Havering Local Plan

### 8.1 Purpose of this chapter

This chapter presents appraisal findings in relation to the current *Havering Local Plan – Proposed Submission* document.

### 8.2 Approach to the appraisal

The appraisal of the policies in the *Proposed Submission* document has been presented under the nine SA Themes. In undertaking the appraisal, the proposed policies were reviewed to determine which are likely to have a positive or negative environmental effect under each SA Theme. For example, Policy 22 (Skills and Training) is unlikely to have any effect on biodiversity in the borough and therefore has not been considered under this theme.

Where a causal link between policies and SA Themes is established, significant effects are identified through the judgement of the consultants with reference to the evidence base (i.e. the scoping and other relevant information). The appraisal uses the criteria in Schedule 1 of the SEA Regulations, that is:

- the probability, duration, frequency and reversibility of the effects;
- the cumulative nature of the effects;
- the transboundary nature of the effects;
- the risks to human health or the environment (for example, due to accidents);
- the magnitude and spatial extent of the effects (geographical area and size of the population likely to be affected);
- the value and vulnerability of the area likely to be affected due to-
  - special natural characteristics or cultural heritage;
  - exceeded environmental quality standards or limit values; or
  - intensive land-use; and
- the effects on areas or landscapes which have a recognised national, community or international protection status.

Where likely significant effects have been identified, these are described in summary tables for each SA Theme.

Every effort is made to predict effects accurately; however, this is inherently challenging given the strategic nature of the *Proposed Submission* document. The ability to predict effects accurately is also affected by the limitations of the baseline data. Because of the uncertainties involved, there is a need to exercise caution when identifying and evaluating significant effects and ensure assumptions are explained in full.<sup>11</sup> In many instances it is not possible to predict significant effects, but it is possible to comment on merits (or otherwise) of policies in more general terms.

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<sup>11</sup> As stated by Government Guidance (The Plan Making Manual, see <http://www.pas.gov.uk/pas/core/page.do?pagelid=156210>): "Ultimately, the significance of an effect is a matter of judgment and should require no more than a clear and reasonable justification."

## 8.3 Biodiversity

### 8.3.1 Commentary on proposed Local Plan spatial strategy

The two key nature conservation sites in the south of the borough are: the Ingrebourne Marshes SSSI, which comprises part of the Ingrebourne Valley and supports the largest and one of the most diverse coherent areas of freshwater marshland in Greater London; and the Inner Thames Marshes SSSI, which forms the largest remaining expanse of wetland bordering the upper reaches of the Thames Estuary, and is of particular note for its diverse ornithological interest, including the variety of breeding birds and the numbers of wintering wildfowl, waders, finches and birds of prey. SSSI Impact Risk Zones (IRZs) are a GIS tool/dataset which maps zones around SSSIs according to the particular sensitivities of the features for which they are notified. They specify the types of development that have the potential to have adverse impacts at a given location. Natural England is a statutory consultee on development proposals that might impact on SSSIs. In this context, IRZs relating to the Ingrebourne Marshes SSSI and the Inner Thames Marshes SSSI for 'residential development of 100 units or more' cover the whole of Rainham. As such, the spatial strategy for the Local Plan, which puts forward 4,000 dwellings in the Rainham and Beam Park Strategic Development area, has the potential to have effects on the two SSSIs. Effects will depend on the implementation of the biodiversity policies of the Local Plan, which have been discussed below.

The Hornchurch Cutting SSSI has been designated for its geodiversity interest and is located on the Hornchurch to Romford railway line north east of Hornchurch town centre. Given its designation for geological exposures, the extent of the site's IRZ is limited to within 50m of the site. As such, it is unlikely that the spatial strategy, which supports an intensification of some uses in the district centres (including Hornchurch), would lead to significant effects on the integrity of the site.

Two SSSIs are located in close proximity to the north of the borough, Hainault Forest SSSI and Curtismill Green SSSI. IRZs for these SSSIs relating to residential development do not extend to the settlements closest to the sites in the north of the borough, including Collier Row and Harold Hill. As such, the preferred spatial strategy for the Local Plan, which focuses a larger level of development at the Romford and Rainham and Beam Park Strategic Development Areas and the district centres and precludes most development within the Green Belt, proposes a minimal level of housing delivery within the IRZs for these SSSIs and, as such, would not be likely to lead to effects on the integrity of these sites.

The facilitation of increased densities in the two Strategic Development Areas and some district centres, and the intensification of uses enabled by the estate renewal programme facilitated through the preferred spatial strategy will reduce the need for new development areas in other parts of the borough. This is likely help reduce impacts on habitats, species and ecological networks in these locations. Whilst parts of the Metropolitan Green Belt have low biodiversity value, the increased concentration of BAP Priority Habitats in the parts of Havering within the Green Belt, in comparison with the concentration of BAP Priority Habitats in the built up parts of the borough, highlights that the preferred approach will help protect a number of key areas of biodiversity importance. The facilitation of an increased level of development in key centres in the borough will however increase pressures on existing urban habitats and species in these centres, including brownfield biodiversity.

In terms of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation, the current version of the Local Plan seeks to formalise seven existing private sites and retain and protect the existing Travelling Showpeople plot at Fair Oaks, St Marys Lane. Given this comprises an intensification of uses at the sites rather than the allocation of new sites, and the application of the other policies of the Local Plan will help limit effects, significant effects on biodiversity are not anticipated.

### 8.3.2 Commentary on *Proposed Submission* document as a whole

Whilst no significant effects on biodiversity assets from the spatial strategy can be readily identified, there will be a need for potential effects on biodiversity linked to the allocations associated with the spatial strategy to be avoided and mitigated. In this context, the current version of the Local Plan sets out a range of provisions which will 1) help limit potential effects from new development on features and areas of biodiversity interest in the borough and 2) support enhancements to biodiversity.

Policy 30 (Nature Conservation) seeks to protect and enhance the designated nature conservation sites in the borough, including nationally designated SSSIs and locally designated Local Nature Reserves and Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation '*when development is on or adjacent to such a site*'. However, there is further scope for this to be extended. For example Impact Risk Zones for SSSIs can extend many kilometres from an SSSI, and effects on SSSIs do not necessarily only result from development on or adjacent a site (e.g. growing populations can increase recreational pressure on valuable sites). Biodiversity in the borough will also be supported through the policy's aim to protect veteran trees and ancient woodland and protect priority habitats and species, its aim to provide appropriate new on-site biodiversity features and to protect and enhance biodiversity corridors.

Ecological networks in the borough will also be supported by the policies which promote open space and green infrastructure enhancements. In this context, Policy 29 (Green Infrastructure) seeks to ensure that green infrastructure provision is provided on-site, that there is compensation for the loss of green infrastructure where this takes place as a result of development and also provides for the active management of green infrastructure. The policy also identifies the organisations that developers should work with to support and enhance green infrastructure provision. Policy 27 (Landscaping) also supports landscape schemes which retain existing trees, planting and landscape features, maximise opportunities for 'greening' and protect and enhance biodiversity. This will be further supported by Policy 12 (Healthy Communities), which seeks environmental improvements and supports the provision of multifunctional green infrastructure providing and protecting open space. In relation to rivers' contribution to high quality biodiversity linkages, Policy 31 (Rivers and River Corridors) recognises the key role of river corridors in the borough for ecological networks through seeking to enhance the biodiversity value of river corridors and through securing '*opportunities to restore and enhance rivers*'. These policies will therefore support borough-wide and sub-regional ecological networks.

In relation to other policies which seek to protect and enhance biodiversity in the borough, Policy 36 (Low Carbon Design, Decentralised Energy and Renewable Energy) seeks to reduce the impact of renewable energy provision on biodiversity, and Policy 37 (Mineral Reserves) and Policy 38 (Mineral Extraction) seek to reduce the impact of minerals activities on biodiversity and secure enhancements.

Potential effects of the Local Plan on European designated nature conservation sites have been considered through the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) undertaken for the Local Plan. This has highlighted that the proposed spatial strategy and policies of the Local Plan are unlikely to have effects on the key site on which effects have the potential to arise, Epping Forest SAC.

In this context the HRA concluded that the two main development pressures on Epping Forest SAC are recreational pressure and atmospheric pollution. However, due to the distance between Epping Forest SAC and the nearest settlement within the borough, it is considered that the increase in population in Havering is unlikely to significantly increase recreational pressure upon the SAC as the borough lies outside the core catchment of that SAC and has ample alternative semi-natural publicly accessible woodlands. In addition policies in the Havering Local Plan promote the provision of local green infrastructure and open spaces, providing local people with much closer recreational alternatives to Epping Forest SAC.

The distance between Epping Forest SAC and developed land within the London Borough of Havering, coupled with policies to tackle air pollution and reduce the level of cross-borough commuting also leads to a conclusion that the contribution of growth in Havering to vehicle flows (and thus air quality) through Epping Forest SAC will be negligible compared to other closer authority areas, and thus would not contribute materially to any effect in-combination.

**Table 8.1 Likely significant effects and recommendations: Biodiversity**

<b>Likely significant effect</b>	<b>Effect dimensions</b>
Improved borough-wide ecological connections	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive.
Improved ecological resilience	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive.
'Wider' ecological benefits	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive.
Increased habitat and greenspace through green infrastructure enhancements	Direct and indirect, long-term, permanent and positive.

## 8.4 Climate Change

### 8.4.1 Commentary on proposed Local Plan spatial strategy

#### Climate change mitigation

Overall, the delivery of 17,550 new homes and the intensification of employment uses across the borough has the potential to increase the built footprint of Havering, with associated increases in greenhouse gas emissions. However the extent to which this takes place depends on the implementation of policies designed to limit emissions.

In this context road transport is an increasingly significant contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in Havering. The spatial strategy taken forward through the Local Plan seeks to direct an increased level of housing provision to the larger settlements in the borough, including Romford and the district centres. This has the potential to encourage the use of lower carbon modes of transport, including walking and cycling and public transport through directing housing to the settlements with the broadest range of services and facilities and promoting accessibility and thereby reducing the need to travel by car.

The preferred spatial strategy promotes 6,500 dwellings in Romford, which designated as a Metropolitan Centre through the London Plan, is the settlement with the widest range of services and amenities in the borough. Similarly the preferred strategy directs development to the district centres, which, after Romford, are the settlements best served by services and facilities. On this basis, the preferred spatial strategy has the potential to support the use of sustainable modes of transport and minimise the need to travel. This will support a limitation of greenhouse gas emissions from transport.

The Rainham and Beam Park Housing Zone is part of the London Riverside development. Given that the proposed housing growth in this area is part of the larger London Riverside Opportunity Area, it is considered that new housing will be delivered alongside a significant improvement of services, facilities and amenities in the area and enhancements to employment opportunities, including at the Rainham Employment Area. Proposals will also be supported by enhancements to sustainable transport networks, utilising Rainham's location on the Essex Thameside line and a new station at Beam Park. The current proposals for the London Riverside Opportunity Area also seeks to promote lower carbon lifestyles, including through decentralised energy provision and realising low to zero-carbon energy potential opportunities. As such development in this location has the potential to help limit the carbon footprint of new housing growth. In the context of the above, the preferred spatial strategy, which seeks to deliver 4,000 new homes around a new railway station at Rainham and Beam Park has the potential to support lower carbon lifestyles.

In terms of the other aspects relating to climate change mitigation, the sustainability performance of the options depends on elements such as the integration of energy efficient design within new development and the provision of renewable energy. This has been considered below.

## Climate change adaptation

In relation to fluvial and tidal flood risk, this largely relates to the presence of the River Thames and the Rivers Beam, Rom and Ingrebourne (and their tributaries). In relation to the River Thames, the parts of the borough to the south of Rainham are at risk from both fluvial and tidal flood risk. With regards to the River Beam, flood risk areas extend through the west of Hornchurch, and flood risk associated with the River Rom is present in Romford, Rise Green and Rush Park. In relation to the River Ingrebourne, flood risk extends into parts of Harold Wood, western Upminster and Rainham.

Whilst the locations for development potentially taken forward through the preferred spatial strategy may be within these flood risk areas, it is considered that the provisions of the NPPF and national policy in relation to flooding will help guide development away from flood risk areas and ensure that appropriate mitigation measures are implemented. For example, the NPPF does not permit development within flood risk areas or where the effect would be to increase flood risk elsewhere without appropriate mitigation measures. Likewise, adherence to the recommendations and guidance presented in the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) undertaken to inform the Local Plan will help limit effects. The policy approaches proposed by the Local Plan relating to flood risk have been discussed below.

### 8.4.2 Commentary on *Proposed Submission* document as a whole

#### Climate change mitigation

A key SA objective is to address the causes of climate change through reducing emissions of greenhouse gases.

In terms of the provision of low carbon energy, Policy 36 (Low Carbon Design, Decentralised Energy and Renewable Energy) seeks to support the generation of energy from renewable or low carbon sources and *'require[s] major development to prioritise connection to any existing or planned decentralised energy networks and, where feasible, integrate combined heat and power systems on site.'* It also seeks to support wind turbines where they meet a series of criteria set out in the policy.

In relation to energy efficiency, Policy 36 (Low Carbon Design, Decentralised Energy and Renewable Energy) seeks to *'optimise the energy efficiency of buildings'*. It also requires major development to include a detailed energy assessment to demonstrate how the targets for carbon dioxide emissions reduction outlined in the London Plan are to be met. It also sets out that the London Borough of Havering will *'...require a cash in lieu contribution to the Council's Carbon Reduction Fund on any shortfall to secure the delivery of carbon dioxide savings elsewhere.'* With regard to residential developments, the scope to set standards for residential building performance has been radically curtailed by the Government's Housing Standards Review. The Ministerial Statement published in March 2015 outlined the Government's national planning policy on the setting of technical standards for new dwellings and local plan making. The Code for Sustainable Homes has been formally withdrawn so targets against this should no longer be set in policy. Energy performance standards that exceed the energy requirements of Building Regulations can still be set in local plans until commencement of amendments to the Planning and Energy Act 2008 in the Deregulation Bill 2015. However, given that the energy performance requirements in Building Regulations will be set at a level equivalent to the (outgoing) Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4, the Ministerial Statement advises that *'we would expect local planning authorities to take this statement of the government's intention into account in applying existing policies and not set conditions with requirements above a Code level 4 equivalent.'* As such it is recognised that the scope for the Havering Local Plan to include energy efficiency and sustainability standards is limited.

The policies relating to sustainable transport and green infrastructure, e.g. Policy 18 (Open Space, Sports and Recreation), Policy 23 (Transport Connections), Policy 24 (Parking Provision and Design), Policy 29 (Green Infrastructure), supported by Policy 12 (Healthy Communities), Policy 25 (Digital Connections) and Policy 33 (Air Quality) will help to reduce the growth in emissions relating to car use through supporting modal shift from the private car. This will be supported by Policy 1 (Romford Strategic Development Area), Policy 2 (Rainham and Beam Park Strategic Development Area), which will enhance accessibility by sustainable transport modes and reduce the need to travel by focusing services, facilities and amenities in the key centres of the borough.

## Climate change adaptation

The borough's geography and its environmental sensitivities highlight the requirement for it to adapt to a changing climate over the next 50-100 years, including extreme weather events.

The Natural Environment White Paper recognises that green infrastructure is '*one of the most effective tools available*' to manage '*environmental risks such as flooding and heat waves*.' In this context Policy 29 (Green Infrastructure) seeks to ensure that green infrastructure provision is provided on-site; that compensation is provided for the loss of green infrastructure where this takes place as a result of development; and provides for the 'active management' of green infrastructure. The policy also identifies the organisations that developers should work with to support and enhance green infrastructure provision in the borough. Policy 18 (Open Space, Sports and Recreation) seeks to ensure that the loss of open space is resisted in the borough, new open space is provided through development, and the multifunctionality of open space is enhanced. Policy 27 (Landscaping) also supports landscape schemes which retain existing trees, planting and landscape features, and maximise opportunities for 'greening'. This will be further supported by Policy 12 (Healthy Communities), which seeks environmental improvements and supports the provision of multifunctional green infrastructure. In addition to helping enhance the resilience of the borough to the effects of climate change, such as more extreme weather events, drought and increases in flood risk, enhancements to green infrastructure supported by these policies will also support the resilience of ecological networks to the effects of climate change.

Policy 32 (Flood Management) sets out the Local Plan's approach to flood risk. In relation to fluvial flooding this seeks to limit flood risk through requiring flood risk assessments for all development on sites where drainage problems have been identified, and sites deemed necessary by the Council (as a Lead Local Flood Authority). It also recognises the role of the Washlands Flood Storage Area through ensuring that flood risk assessments are undertaken for development areas within this location. In relation to surface water flooding, the policy promotes the use of SuDS and includes provisions for the maintenance of such systems. It also states that the Council will '*...seek financial contributions towards the anticipated costs of flood risk management infrastructure required to protect the proposed development over its lifetime*.'

Policy 32 is supported by Policy 32 (River and River Corridors) which sets out a range of provisions for supporting enhancements to fluvial flood management in the borough. This includes through securing '*opportunities to restore and enhance rivers*' whilst incorporating flood defences within new development. Flood risk management will also be supported by the policy's provision that development will be set back by eight metres from main rivers, ordinary watercourses and other flood assets, and 16 meters from tidal rivers or defence structures.

As such the Local Plan adds value to the provisions of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) with regards to fluvial and surface water flood risk in the borough.

**Table 8.2 Likely significant effects and recommendations: Climate change**

<i>Likely significant effect</i>	<i>Effect dimensions</i>
Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions through reducing need to travel and modal shift.	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive.
Reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from development of low carbon and renewable energy installations and the promotion of energy efficient development.	Direct and indirect, long-term, permanent and positive.
Enhancements to the resilience of the borough to the effects of climate change.	Direct and indirect, short, medium and long-term, permanent and positive.

## 8.5 Land, Soil and Water Resources

### 8.5.1 Commentary on proposed Local Plan spatial strategy

The spatial strategy put forward by the Local Plan has a strong focus on the use of previously developed land and an intensification of uses. Through focusing development within the key centres of the borough, accompanied by the Rainham and Beam Park Strategic Development Area and the intensification and renewal of existing council housing estates, the spatial strategy will promote the

efficient use of land. The plan's focus on protecting the Green Belt will also help protect the borough's soils resources and limit the loss of productive agricultural land.

### 8.5.2 Commentary on *Proposed Submission* document as a whole

Three policies set out the Local Plan's approach to minerals, aggregates and secondary materials. Policy 38 (Minerals Reserves) seeks to safeguard minerals resources from other forms of development that would sterilise the resource and or/prejudice future mineral extraction. It also sets out the instances when development would be allowed with a Minerals Safeguarding Area. This is reinforced by Policy 38 (Minerals Extraction) which supports minerals extraction in the borough if a range of conditions are met. In this regard the Local Plan takes a positive approach to minerals resources, recognising the value of the sand and gravel extraction which takes place in the south of the borough, and its contribution to the provision of aggregates in the wider area.

Resource efficiency in relation to building materials will be supported by Policy 39 (Secondary Aggregates). This policy sets out provisions for maximising possible rates of recovery from construction, demolition and excavation and supporting applications for temporary aggregate recycling facilities at development sites and quarries. This will support the minimisation of the quantity of primary aggregates and resources used in the borough.

With regards to sustainable waste management, Policy 35 (On-site Waste Management) sets out a range of provisions promoting the use of the waste hierarchy, seeking to ensure the provision of appropriate on-site waste management facilities to accompany new development, promoting appropriate storage and collection facilities, and for minimising the impact of waste management facilities on the public realm. It also seeks to ensure that all large developments have a waste management plan and proposals adhere to the Mayor of London's Business Waste Strategy '*Making Business Sense of Waste*'. It also facilitates the installation of small-scale on-site combined head and power (CHP) systems fuelled by waste for new large developments. In this context the policy will promote the prevention, minimisation, reuse, recycling and recovery of waste.

In relation to water resources it is recognised that the Mayor's SPG on Sustainable Design and Construction<sup>12</sup> sets out provisions relating to water efficiency. In relation to water supply, it is anticipated that the Water Resources Management Plans prepared by water supply companies will address long-term water supply issues associated with growth.

**Table 8.3 Likely significant effects and recommendations: Land, Soil and Water Resources**

<b>Likely significant effect</b>	<b>Effect dimensions</b>
Efficient use of land through an intensification of uses and a focus on the use of previously developed land.	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive.
Protection of agricultural land.	Direct and indirect, long-term, permanent and positive.

## 8.6 Environmental Quality

### 8.6.1 Commentary on proposed Local Plan spatial strategy

Air quality is a key issue for Havering. The whole of the borough was designated as an Air Quality Management Area in 2006 due to levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) and particulate matter (PM<sub>10</sub>). The main source of air pollution is road traffic vehicle emissions. Significant amounts also come from residential and commercial gas use, industry, construction sites and emissions from outside London.

The preferred spatial strategy for the Local Plan directs an increased level of housing provision to the key town and district centres of the borough. This will help limit the need to travel to services and facilities, therefore helping to limit emissions from transport. In this context the spatial strategy directs 6,500 houses to Romford, which, designated as a Metropolitan Centre through the London Plan, is the settlement with the widest range of services and amenities in the borough. It also directs

<sup>12</sup> Mayor of London (April 2014) Sustainable Design and Construction SPG

development to the district centres (including Hornchurch and Upminster), which, after Romford are the settlements best served by services and facilities in the borough.

The Rainham and Beam Park Housing Zone is part of the London Riverside development. Given that proposed housing growth in this area is part of the larger London Riverside Opportunity Area, it is considered that new housing at this location will be delivered alongside a significant improvement of services, facilities and amenities in the area and enhancements to employment opportunities, including at the Rainham Employment Area. Proposals will also be supported by enhancements to sustainable transport networks, utilising Rainham's location on the Essex Thameside line and a proposed new station at Beam Park. In this context, the preferred spatial strategy, which seeks to deliver in the region of 4,000 new homes at the Rainham and Beam Park Strategic Development Area, has the potential to limit emissions from transport resulting from growth.

In terms of water quality, the effect of new development on water quality in the borough will depend on the implementation of measures to protect and enhance water quality and sustainable water management. This is not directly related to the proposed spatial strategy for the Local Plan.

In terms of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation, the current version of the Local Plan seeks to formalise seven existing private sites and retain and protect the existing Travelling Showpeople plot at Fair Oaks, St Marys Lane. Given this comprises an intensification of uses at the sites rather than the allocation of new sites, and the application of the other policies of the Local Plan will help limit effects, significant effects on environmental quality are not anticipated.

### 8.6.2 Commentary on *Proposed Submission* document as a whole

As highlighted above, road transport is a key influence on air quality issues in the borough. In this context a number of the policies support sustainable transport use and a minimisation of the need to travel. In this context Policy 3 (Housing Supply) supports the preferred spatial strategy (discussed in the previous section) through supporting the density matrix set out through the London Plan and promoting an intensification of uses. This will be further supported by Policy 1 (Romford Strategic Development Area) and Policy 2 (Rainham and Beam Park Strategic Development Area) which will enhance accessibility by sustainable transport modes and reduce the need to travel by focusing services, facilities and amenities in the key centres of the borough.

Policy 23 (Transport Connections) sets out a range of provisions designed to support sustainable transport use in the borough. This includes: supporting enhancements to rail services; new north-south networks in the borough; improvements to bus services; enhancing access to employment areas; requiring new development to maximise access to public transport networks and cycle and pedestrian networks; promoting active school travel; facilitating improvements to walking and cycling networks; and maximising the opportunities afforded by Crossrail. The policy also seeks to limit congestion, a key contributor to air quality issues in the borough.

Sustainable transport use will also be supported by Policy 6 (Specialist Accommodation) and Policy 8 (Houses in Multiple Occupation) which seeks to ensure that these types of housing provision are accessible to facilities and amenities and public transport networks. Policy 12 (Healthy Communities) seeks to direct development to '*well connected locations*' and to support measures to promote walking and cycling. Policy 16 (Social Infrastructure) seeks to locate community facilities in locations close to residents and minimise the need to travel to such facilities, and ensure they are accessible by public transport and walking and cycling routes. Policy 24 (Parking Provision and Design) promotes car club membership and enhanced provision for cycle parking and electric vehicles, and promotes a demand management approach to car parking. Sustainable transport use will also be supported by Policy 26 (Urban Design), which facilitates design and layout which encourage walking and cycling and support permeability by active travel. Policy 29 (Green Infrastructure) and Policy 31 (Rivers and River Corridors) also support enhancements to walking and cycling routes in the borough.

In this context, the close focus of the Local Plan on sustainable transport use will help facilitate enhancements to air quality in the borough, and help limit the effect of the provision of in the region of 17,550 homes and an intensification of employment uses with respect to the borough's existing air quality issues.

The policies which promote enhancements to green infrastructure, including specifically Policy 29 (Green Infrastructure), Policy 12 (Healthy Communities), Policy 18 (Open Space, Sports and

Recreation) and Policy 27 (Landscaping) will support better air quality through facilitating increased absorption and dissipation of nitrogen dioxide and other pollutants, improve noise quality through increasing absorption of noise and promoting enhancements to water quality through managing pollutants in water run-off. Enhancements to green infrastructure will also promote modal shift (and, as such, help limit the effects of traffic growth on environmental quality in the borough) through improving opportunities for walking and cycling and enhancing sustainable transport networks.

Policy 33 (Air Quality) specifically seeks to address air quality issues through only supporting development which is '*...at least air quality neutral*', It also seeks to optimise green infrastructure provision, support active travel, and minimise emissions from construction. This will be supported by Policy 12 (Healthy Communities), which seeks to facilitate '*...environmental improvements, minimising exposure to pollutants and improving air quality*'.

In relation to water quality, Policy 32 (Flood Management) will help limit impacts on water quality from surface water runoff and fluvial flooding, and Policy 34 (Managing Pollution) seeks to ensure that new development '*...does not pose an unacceptable risk to the quality of the water catchment, groundwater or surface water*'.

Policy 35 further supports environmental quality through seeking to ensure that new development proposals '*Do not unduly impact upon, amenity, human health and safety, and the natural environment by noise, dust, odour and light pollution and land contamination*' and '*optimise the design, layout and orientation of buildings and the use of green infrastructure to minimise exposure to the above pollutants.*'

**Table 8.4 Likely significant effects and recommendations: Environmental Quality**

<b>Likely significant effect</b>	<b>Effect dimensions</b>
Limitation of the effects of housing and employment growth on existing air quality issues in the borough	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive.
Limitation of the effects of housing and employment growth on noise quality in the borough	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive.
Limitation of the effects of housing and employment growth on water quality in the borough	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive.

## 8.7 Historic Environment, Landscape and Townscape

### 8.7.1 Commentary on proposed Local Plan spatial strategy

The delivery of over 6,500 new homes predominately in high density, mixed use development in the Romford Strategic Development Area has the potential to have impacts on features and areas of historic environment interest in Romford. In this context, the main historic environment constraints in the town are limited to the Romford Conservation Area (covering the Market Place, High Street, North Street and South Street in the town centre) and approximately twelve listed buildings.

The Romford Housing Zone, which will be a focus of renewal, covers three locations in Romford town centre. The smallest of these, located to the north of the High Street, is located adjacent to Romford Conservation Area. Whilst increased housing delivery at this location, if poorly designed, could have negative impacts on the setting and fabric of the conservation area, high quality and sensitive design and layout could bring positive effects. As such, high quality design and layout could offer significant enhancements to the setting of the historic environment in this location. This is significant given Romford Conservation Area is deemed to be 'at risk' and in a 'very bad' condition by Historic England, resulting in the inclusion of the conservation area on Historic England's Heritage at Risk Register<sup>13</sup>. Similarly, one of the larger areas of the Housing Zone covers an area to the west of the town centre, a location with two listed buildings present, the Salem Chapel and Church of St Andrew, which are both Grade II listed. Given the current opportunities to enhance the poor public realm in this area, an increased focus on the Housing Zone through the preferred spatial strategy has significant opportunities to enhance the setting of these two key features of cultural heritage interest.

The Rainham and Beam Park Housing Zone covers the part of Rainham town centre designated through the Rainham Conservation Area. In this context, the proposed spatial strategy which proposes the delivering of 4,000 new homes in the area has the potential to have impacts on the fabric and setting of the conservation area through facilitating an increased level of housing delivery in its vicinity. Whilst development, if poorly designed, can have negative impacts on the setting and fabric of the historic environment, high quality and sensitive design and layout can bring positive effects. In this context, as part of the wider London Riverside Opportunity Area, there is significant potential for new development in the area to enhance the setting of the historic environment through public realm improvements, enhancements to green infrastructure provision and investment in features and areas of cultural heritage interest. As such, an increased level of housing delivery in this area has the potential to offer additional opportunities for enhancing the setting and fabric of features and areas of cultural heritage interest, including the Rainham Conservation Area, depending on design, layout, materials used and the provision of green infrastructure enhancements.

Parts of Upminster and Hornchurch are of historic environment interest. Two conservation areas cover various parts of Hornchurch town centre, namely the Langtons Conservation Area and the St Andrews Conservation Area (the nearby St Leonards Conservation Area and the RAF Hornchurch Conservation Areas are outside of the town centre) and a range of listed buildings are present in the town. In relation to Upminster, a number of listed buildings are present in the town and the town has a distinctive character. No statutory historic environment designations are present Collier Row and

<sup>13</sup> Historic England, Heritage at Risk Register 2016 <https://historicengland.org.uk/advice/heritage-at-risk/search-register/list-entry/1659362> (accessed 15th February 2017).

Harold Hill. In this respect the preferred spatial strategy for the borough, which directs development to district centres, has the potential to affect areas of historic environment interest within these locations. However, as highlighted above, these effects need not be negative; an increased level of housing delivery has the potential to offer additional opportunities for enhancing the setting and fabric of features and areas of cultural heritage interest, depending on design, layout, materials used and the provision of green infrastructure enhancements.

54% of Havering is covered by the Metropolitan Green Belt. Whilst the Green Belt is designated partly to prevent urban growth into countryside, and, as such, does not directly designate land for landscape quality purposes, development within the Green Belt is nonetheless likely to have adverse impacts on landscape character and local distinctiveness through facilitating growth in the open countryside. This includes in locations such as Havering-atte-Bower, or Noak Hill, which have a rich historic environment resource. As such, the proposed spatial strategy, which largely precludes Green Belt development, will help limit impacts on landscape character and local distinctiveness in these locations.

In terms of Gypsy and Traveller accommodation, the current version of the Local Plan seeks to formalise seven existing private sites and retain and protect the existing Travelling Showpeople plot at Fair Oaks, St Marys Lane. These are within the Green Belt. However, given this comprises an intensification of uses at the sites rather than the allocation of new sites, and the application of the other policies of the Local Plan will help limit effects, significant effects on landscape and townscape are not anticipated.

### 8.7.2 Commentary on *Proposed Submission* document as a whole

Parts of Havering Borough have a rich historic environment and distinctive townscapes that should be conserved and enhanced. This is reflected by the planning policies proposed for the Local Plan, which have a strong focus on facilitating enhancements to townscape quality in the borough, conserving and enhancing the fabric and setting of the historic environment and supporting local distinctiveness.

A key policy with regards to local distinctiveness and heritage assets is Policy 28 (Heritage Assets). This seeks to 'sustain or enhance' buildings deemed to be at risk and identify and maintain a local list of heritage assets. It also seeks to protect and enhance the fabric and setting of nationally listed buildings, and support high quality development within the curtilage of a Registered Park or Garden, Historic Park or Garden of Local Interest, or within an Area of Special Townscape or Landscape Character. In relation to the archaeological resource of the borough, the policy also sets out provisions for development within an area of archaeological interest and seeks to preclude harm or loss to scheduled monuments in the borough.

Townscape character, local distinctiveness and the setting of the historic environment will also be supported by the policies relating to green infrastructure (e.g. Policy 29 (Green Infrastructure), Policy 18 (Open Space, Sports and Recreation), Policy 29 (Landscaping), Policy 30 (Nature Conservation) and Policy 12 (Healthy Communities)), which will promote enhancements to the public realm. This will be further supported by the policies relating to sustainable transport use (see **Section 8.10.2**), which will help to reduce the impact of the transport network (and traffic) on the quality of the public realm, and support townscape character and the setting of the historic environment.

Other policies which have a close focus on protecting and enhancing townscape quality include the policies for the two Strategic Development Areas (Policies 1 and 2), Policy 13 (Town Centre Development) and Policy 26 (Urban Design). These set out a range of provisions for utilising high quality design and layout of development to promote improvements to the public realm and local distinctiveness. Local distinctiveness and the setting of historic environment assets will also be supported by Policy 27 (Landscaping), which: seeks to require all developments to submit landscape themes; supports proposals which take account of the landscape character of the site and its wider setting; seeks to retain and enhance existing trees, planting and landscape features of value and protect them during construction; and maximise opportunities for 'greening' through the planting of trees and other soft landscaping.

The integrity of the eleven existing conservation areas in the borough is supported by Policy 28 (Heritage Assets), which sets out provisions for protecting and enhancing these key areas of historic

environment interest. Central provisions of the policy include an aim to better reveal the character of conservation areas, support high quality and appropriate design, and facilitate the replacement of buildings which do not add to the character of a conservation area. The policy also supports the designation of new conservation areas, and the maintenance of up-to-date Conservation Area Appraisals and Management Plans and the consideration of these through development proposals.

Other policies with relevance to this SA theme include Policy 31 (Rivers and River Corridors), which seeks to enhance the quality of river corridors, Policy 36 (Low Carbon Design, Decentralised Energy and Renewable Energy), which seeks to limit the impacts on such provision on townscape and landscape quality, and Policy 38 (Minerals Extraction), which seeks to ensure that the impact of minerals activities on the quality of the public realm is minimised.

54% of Havering is covered by the Metropolitan Green Belt. Whilst the Green Belt is partly designated to prevent urban growth into countryside, and as such does not directly designate land for landscape quality purposes, development within the Green Belt is nonetheless likely to have adverse impacts on landscape character and local distinctiveness through facilitating growth in the open countryside. In this context the Local Plan relies on the provisions of the NPPF to facilitate the continued protection of the Green Belt.

**Table 8.5 Likely significant effects and recommendations: Historic Environment, Landscape and Townscape**

<i>Likely significant effect</i>	<i>Effect dimensions</i>
Enhanced townscape character, public realm and local distinctiveness.	Direct and indirect, long-term, permanent and positive
Protection and enhancement of heritage assets, including repair and reuse where appropriate.	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive.
Revitalisation of features and areas of historic environment value in the borough.	Direct and indirect, long-term, permanent and positive.

## 8.8 Population and Community

### 8.8.1 Commentary on proposed Local Plan spatial strategy

The Local Plan has been prepared in the context of growth and development within London and the wider South East region, with this area experiencing significant development pressures to meet the needs of a growing population. At least 17,550 homes will be delivered over the plan period, with the plan seeking to optimise the use of brownfield land while providing continued protection for Havering's Green Belt and open spaces. This is in line with the requirements of the London Plan. Additionally, the Council has sought to identify additional capacity in order to close the gap between the housing target set out in the London Plan and the recently established Objectively Assessed Housing Need.

The development strategy for the Local Plan seeks to focus growth in the larger settlements of the borough, notably around Romford, through the Romford Strategic Development Area (SDA) and district centres. The Local Plan also recognises the Rainham and Beam Park SDA as a major growth and regeneration area, with the capacity to provide a significant number of new homes and jobs. Both of these SDAs have been granted Housing Zone status by the Mayor of London. Securing good accessibility to services and facilities is central for the quality of life of residents, for sustaining vital communities and for social inclusion. In this context, the proposed spatial strategy will reduce the need to travel by private vehicles and enhance accessibility for residents by focusing housing and employment provision in the larger centres which contain a broader range of services, facilities and amenities.

Additionally, the spatial strategy recognises the value of the Green Belt in terms of its contribution to the character of the borough, highlighting how it assists in restricting the sprawl of large built-up areas, preventing the merging of neighbouring towns and safeguarding the countryside from encroachment. This strengthens the strategic spatial approach to focusing development within larger

settlements, particularly through optimising brownfield land and through the intensification of the district centres, which, after Romford, are the settlements best served by services and facilities within the borough. Furthermore, the intensification and renewal of existing council housing estates will provide an enhanced housing stock.

In terms of housing growth, the highest allocations are within Romford, through the Romford SDA, which, designated as a Metropolitan Centre through the London Plan, is the settlement with the widest range of services and amenities in the borough. On this basis, the preferred spatial strategy has the potential to support accessibility to existing community facilities and promote more active lifestyles. This, however, depends on new development areas being well planned, supported by appropriate social infrastructure and service provision, and being of appropriate design to support community vitality.

Housing developments within the Rainham and Beam Park SDA are supported by enhancements to sustainable transport networks, utilising Rainham's location on the Essex Thameside line, through the proposition of a new station at Beam Park, and by achieving significant green infrastructure enhancements. As such, development in this location has the potential to support the quality of life of residents by promoting accessibility to new and improved services and facilities. These amenities are recognised as crucial social infrastructure to facilitate social inclusion and support the level of growth expected in the borough.

Reflecting the above context, the spatial strategy therefore supports the quality of life of residents through providing an appropriate balance between housing delivery and employment land intensification, and supporting improved accessibility to services facilities and amenities, promoting community vitality and promoting sustainable transport use.

### 8.8.2 Commentary on *Proposed Submission* document as a whole

The Local Plan (through Policy 1 (Romford Strategic Development Area) and Policy 2 (Rainham and Beam Park Strategic Development Area)) enables the provision of 6,500 homes and residential schemes within the Romford SDA and 4,000 within the Rainham and Beam Park SDA during the plan period. The policies also emphasise the Local Plan's support in for development proposals which enhance transport networks, ensure the delivery of vital social infrastructure and realise development within the larger settlements and district centres.

Key housing challenges in the borough include affordable housing provision, with Policy 4 (Affordable Housing) setting out the approach to address this challenge. In this context all developments of ten or more dwellings or residential developments with a site area of more than 1,000 sq. metres will be required to provide at least 35% affordable housing based on habitable rooms. Developments will also be required to deliver an appropriate housing mix in terms of size, type and tenure, reflecting the need and demand within the borough (outlined in Policy 5 (Housing Mix)). This will support meeting needs relating to the expected future population dynamics within the borough, with younger (0-15) and older (over 65) age groups seeing the largest increases. Reflecting these dynamics, Policy 6 'Specialist Accommodation' aims to both resist the loss of such housing and deliver extra accommodation which will enable older residents, or those with a disability, to live independently and safely in their own homes. Additionally, Policy 17 (Education) outlines the support for the development of new or the expansion of existing schools, with this critical social infrastructure supporting any future growth in the younger population.

In terms of the provision of sites to meet the needs of Gypsies and Travellers, Policy 11 (Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation) seeks to meet local Gypsy and Traveller need through the formalisation of seven existing sites and a site for Travelling Showpeople. It also sets out a range of provisions for the identified sites, including relating to site layout, services provision, boundary treatment and landscaping. The policy also enables the provision of additional permanent and temporary sites if need is identified and a range of provisions are met, including relating to access and parking, proximity to services and facilities, flood risk, and impacts on visual amenity. This will help support the availability and quality of Gypsy and Traveller provision in the borough.

Additional housing challenges within the borough concern the growth of the private rental sector. The Council recognises that Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) can make a valuable contribution to the private rented sector by catering for the needs of specific groups/households. However, the plan

acknowledges that there is a need to balance this value with the potential harm that can arise from such developments if they are not regulated. As such, HMOs will be supported where the proposal meets the London Borough of Havering's quality standards for HMOs, the proposal does not result in more than 10% of properties in one street becoming HMOs or more than two adjacent properties becoming HMOs, and the property contains communal space large enough for all occupants (see Policy 8 (Housing in Multiple Occupation)). Furthermore, there is a need to support developments which meet housing needs and mitigate costly alternatives. Policy 9 (Conversions and Subdivisions) recognises the benefits of subdividing existing houses into self-contained homes and converting commercial floor space to residential use, subject to a set of conditions specified within the policy. Also, the Local Plan states that it will look favourably upon garden and 'backland' development if they represent comprehensive development of a number of whole land plots, ensure good access, retain and provide adequate amenity space and do not have significant adverse impacts on the amenity of existing and new occupants (see Policy 10 (Garden and Backland Development)).

Good accessibility to services and facilities is central to the quality of life of residents, for sustaining vital communities and improving health and wellbeing, in addition to reducing noise and air pollution, carbon emissions and traffic congestion related to heavy dependence on car travel. Policy 1 outlines how the arrival of Crossrail in 2018 in the Romford SDA will be a key driver of growth and investment within the borough. Proposals will also be supported through the Local Plan if they tackle congestion, improve connectivity, develop new paths for pedestrians and cyclists, and promote active travel within town centres (see Policy 1 and Policy 23 (Transport Connections)). The enhancement of town centres within the borough is important for maintaining their vibrancy and distinctive character, as stated in Policy 13 'Town Centre Development'. Additionally, the Local Plan recognises that through ensuring high quality urban design, development can be effectively integrated with existing path and circulation networks so encouraging active travel, in addition to providing an attractive, safe living environment for new residents (with these elements addressed in Policy 7 'Residential Design and Amenity' and Policy 26 'Urban Design'). Also, through supporting the delivery of multi-use, flexible and adaptable social infrastructure, it accommodates the borough's demographics (see Policy 16 'Social infrastructure'). These elements will all support the quality of life of residents.

Housing development within the Rainham and Beam Park SDA are supported by enhancements to sustainable transport networks, utilising Rainham's location on the Essex Thameside line, through the proposition of a new station at Beam Park, and by achieving significant green infrastructure enhancements. As such, development in this location has the potential to support the quality of life of residents by promoting accessibility to new schools and leisure facilities. These facilities are recognised as crucial social infrastructure to facilitate social inclusion and support the level of growth expected in the borough, in addition to encouraging sustainable transport use. Additionally, Policy 2 aims to improve bus connections to Beam Park Station, Queens Hospital and the Rainham Employment Area, complementing any future proposals for commercial developments which provide skills and training for local residents (see Policy 22 (Skills and Training)). In order to help address future transport needs within the borough, the Local Plan states that all new developments will be required to provide sufficient car and cycle parking in accordance with the standards of the London Plan (see Policy 24 'Parking Provision and Design').

Accessibility to services and facilities will be further supported by the policies relating to sustainable transport, which will enhance transport options by non-car modes. This is particularly relevant for people with mobility concerns, in terms of improving bus reliability, improving the poor north to south links in the borough and curbing the reliance on cars – all of which are recognised as key sustainability issues.

Policy 29 (Green Infrastructure) seeks to maintain and expand the network of green spaces and natural features in the borough, with the Local Plan aspiring to optimise the benefits of green infrastructure to the environment, economy and community. This will support recreational and leisure activities, and promote the health, wellbeing and quality of life of residents.

**Table 8.6 Likely significant effects and recommendations: Population and Community**

<i>Likely significant effect</i>	<i>Effect dimensions</i>
Increased delivery of affordable housing.	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive overall.

Provide for gypsy and traveller sites to meet projected need.	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive overall.
Improved access to services and facilities.	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive overall.
Increased use of sustainable transport modes, including public transport and walking and cycling.	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive overall.
Enhanced provision of community infrastructure.	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive overall.
Provision of improved accessibility to multi-functional open spaces.	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive overall.
Reduced dependency on the private car.	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive overall.
Maintain and enhance the vitality of communities by locating housing where it sustains balanced communities.	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive overall.
Maintain and enhance the vitality of communities by securing the delivery of community infrastructure.	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive overall.

## 8.9 Health and wellbeing

### 8.9.1 Commentary on proposed Local Plan spatial strategy

Havering is one of London's greenest boroughs with a wealth of open space and over 50% of the borough designated as Green Belt land. As such, the development strategy for the Local Plan aims to focus residential development within the larger towns and district centres in the borough. Additionally, the Rainham and Beam Park SDA is also recognised as an area of future residential growth, with the Local Plan seeking to build a new neighbourhood around a new railway station which will improve transport access and safeguard the future economic success of the borough's key employment areas. Furthermore, the Local Plan encourages the intensification and renewal of existing council housing estates in order to enhance the housing stock.

Accessibility to services and facilities is a key influence on the quality of life of residents and community cohesion. In this regard, development in the key settlements in the borough (Romford and the district centres) will enhance accessibility through directing housing to the settlements with the broadest range of services and facilities. This will support accessibility to the wider range of amenities located in these settlements. Locating more housing in closer proximity to the services and facilities available in the key centres of the borough will also likely support quality of life and wellbeing through promoting walking and cycling and active lifestyles.

The delivery of housing and employment growth in the borough has the potential to lead to effects on health and wellbeing through increasing road safety issues and impacts on air and noise from increased traffic flows at certain locations. This may have impacts on the health and wellbeing of residents. In this context, the effects depend on the detailed location, layout and design of new development areas and the integration of elements such as sustainable transport and green infrastructure.

### 8.9.2 Commentary on *Proposed Submission* document as a whole

Health and wellbeing in the borough is closely related to a number of factors, including accessibility to services and facilities, the use of healthier modes of travel, access to high quality green infrastructure, the quality of housing, levels of crime and security, air and noise quality and optimising the benefits that the built and natural environment offers to the health and wellbeing of residents.

A central impact of the policies on health and wellbeing within the Local Plan will be through protecting and enhancing the borough's built and natural environment. This provides space - including natural green space - for recreation and relaxation, as well as air and water quality benefits. There is now robust evidence that access to nature improves people's health and wellbeing through encouraging healthy outdoor recreation and relaxation. In this context, Policy 18 (Open Space, Sports and Recreation) seeks to ensure that all residents of Havering have access to good quality open space and sports facilities, with the conditions stated in the policy emphasising the need to promote multifunctional and shared-use of existing facilities, as well as for new development to create additional open spaces and facilities for sports and recreation. This policy also has the potential to help improve the low participation in sports in the borough. The growth in community groups will be further facilitated by Policy 15 (Culture and Creativity) and Policy 16 (Social Infrastructure), which will support social inclusiveness.

Furthermore, Policy 30 (Nature Conservation) seeks to protect and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity assets in the borough, providing benefits to wildlife and local residents. Policy 31 (Rivers and River Corridors) recognises the value of Havering's water assets in terms of biodiversity and recreation, amongst other benefits listed within the policy. Policy 29 (Green Infrastructure) seeks to maintain and expand the network of green spaces and natural features in the borough, with the Local Plan aspiring to optimise the benefits of green infrastructure to the environment, economy and community. These policies, along with Policy 26 (Urban Design), Policy 27 (Landscaping) and Policy 28 (Heritage Assets) will support the health and wellbeing of residents through creating, protecting and enhancing places, spaces and buildings that are of high quality, well designed, support the quality of the natural environment and respect the character of the local area.

Policy 1 (Romford Strategic Development Area), Policy 2 (Rainham and Beam Park Strategic Development Area) and Policy 23 (Transport Connections) in the Local Plan will help to indirectly promote health and wellbeing improvements by supporting more sustainable modes of transport, improving road safety and encouraging more active travel. Likewise, the Local Plan aims to ensure that the health and quality of life of Havering's residents is not put at further risk or degraded by air and noise pollution issues. Key policies in this regard are Policy 33 (Air Quality), and Policy 34 (Managing Pollution), which seeks to ensure that new development proposals '*Do not unduly impact upon amenity, human health and safety and the natural environment by noise, dust, odour and light pollution, vibration and land contamination*'. Health and wellbeing will be further supported by Policy 36 (Low Carbon Design, Decentralised Energy and Renewable Energy), which enables energy efficiency design, which will help limit issues such as fuel poverty and health issues relating to poor quality housing.

The Local Plan policies will also promote health and wellbeing in the borough by promoting accessibility to services and facilities. In this context, Policy 16 'Social infrastructure' and Policy 17 'Education' aims to support the provision of amenities in the borough, with the policies seeking to ensure that facilities are multi-use and flexible in order to adapt to any changes in the cultural demographics of the borough (see Policy 15). This is also particularly relevant in terms of meeting the needs of future population growth, with younger (0-15) and older (over 65) age groups seeing the largest increases. Furthermore, by focusing development within district centres (Romford, Hornchurch and Upminster) and encouraging sustainable transport use, as described in the preferred spatial strategy, this will potentially increase the accessibility to these facilities and reduce the reliance on travelling via private vehicles. The policies' focus on active travel (see **Chapter 8.10**) will also support healthier lifestyles in the borough.

Expanding on some of the indirect effects negatively impacting upon health and wellbeing, crime and the fear of crime can cause stress and anxiety, with community safety recognised as a key sustainability issue within the borough. There are very few explicit references to crime in the Local Plan document but there is clear evidence of the ability to 'design out' crime through high quality design. For example, Policy 7 'Residential Design and Amenity', outlines support for residential development designs that allow for active streets and good sight lines to prevent anti-social behaviour and crime and increase community safety (as identified by 'Secured by Design' - the official UK Police flagship initiative combining the principles of designing out crime with physical security). The National Planning Practice Guidance also provides direction on the issue in its design guidance; as such, further guidance is not anticipated to be required in the Local Plan on this issue.

In terms of deprivation, there are some significant areas of deprivation present in South Hornchurch, Harold Hill and around Romford. There are few explicit references to deprivation in the Local Plan document, however Policy 12 'Healthy Communities' outlines the support for development which provides opportunities for healthier lifestyles and reduces health inequalities, and seeks to ensure that all major development proposals are supported by a Health Impact Assessment to demonstrate that full consideration has been given to health and wellbeing. However all of the policies listed within this commentary have the potential to lead to indirect benefits to health and wellbeing and will therefore help to address a variety of deprivation- related issues. Additionally, the housing policies (see Section 8.8.2) refer to the provision of housing to meet local needs. Access to decent housing is an important wider determinant of health so these policies have the potential to indirectly support improved health outcomes and reduced health inequalities. The policies in the Local Plan which support biodiversity (Section 8.3.2), environmental quality (Section 8.6.2) and the historic environment, landscape and townscape (Section 8.7.2) will also support health and wellbeing through reducing effects on health from noise and air quality issues, increasing access to open spaces and recreational facilities, and enhancing the distinctive character of the borough.

**Table 8.7 Likely significant effects and recommendations: Health and Wellbeing**

<b>Likely significant effect</b>	<b>Effect dimensions</b>
Improvements in mental and physical health and wellbeing through enhancements to the quality of the built environment and public realm	Indirect, long-term, permanent and positive.
Improvements to health and wellbeing through prioritising transport modes other than cars and improving accessibility to services and facilities.	Indirect, long-term, permanent and positive.
Enhancements of active travel opportunities.	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive overall.
Enhancements to strategic and local green infrastructure networks, promoting leisure and recreational opportunities and active lifestyles.	Indirect, long-term, permanent and positive.
Enhanced provision of community infrastructure.	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive overall.

## 8.10 Transportation

### 8.10.1 Commentary on proposed Local Plan spatial strategy

The preferred spatial strategy directs an increased level of housing provision to the key town and district centres in Havering. This will promote accessibility through directing housing to the settlements with the broadest range of services and facilities and help limit the need to travel by car to employment and amenities.

In this context the spatial strategy facilitates the development of 6,500 dwellings in Romford, which, designated as a Metropolitan Centre through the London Plan, is the settlement with the widest range of services and amenities in the borough with a PTAL rating of 6a/b. It also directs housing growth to the district centres of the borough, which, after Romford are the settlements in the borough best served by services and facilities. Apart from Romford, these district centres have the highest PTAL ratings within the borough (for example Hornchurch is serviced by the London Underground District Line, whilst Upminster is serviced by both the District Line and Essex Thameside line and both centres have reliable, frequent bus connections).

The Rainham and Beam Park Housing Zone is part of the London Riverside development. Given the proposed housing growth in this area is part of the larger London Riverside Opportunity Area, it is considered that the delivery of 4,000 new homes in the area will be delivered alongside a significant improvement of services, facilities and amenities in the area. Proposals will also be supported by enhancements to sustainable transport networks, utilising Rainham's location on the Essex Thameside line and a proposed new station at Beam Park due to be in operation in 2020. As such, the spatial strategy, through promoting a large scale of development in this area, has the potential to support sustainable transport use.

### 8.10.2 Commentary on *Proposed Submission* document as a whole

The policies presented in the current version of the Local Plan have a strong focus on supporting sustainable transport use and minimising the need to travel. In this context Policy 3 (Housing Supply) supports the preferred spatial strategy (discussed in the previous section) through supporting the density matrix set out through the London Plan and promoting an intensification of uses.

This will be further supported by the policies for the SDAs. In this context Policy 1 (Romford Strategic Development Area) seeks to: support the delivery of Crossrail services and enhancements in the vicinity of the station; support the delivery of a new east-west shared use link from the railway station across the River Rom to the residential areas to the west; pursue opportunities to tunnel the western

section of the ring road; work with TfL to improve accessibility into Romford Town Centre for active travel users; improve links to the hospitals in the borough; limit the role of the Romford ring road as a barrier; improve active travel links between Romford Station, Waterloo Road and Bridge Close; and require proposals for development along the River Rom to improve the quality and setting of the river and to provide continuous, safe and accessible links alongside the river. Policy 2 (Rainham and Beam Park Strategic Development Area) seeks to deliver: the Beam Park Station on the Essex Thameside Line; a transformational project along the A1306 (Beam Parkway) between Dovers Corner and the Marsh Way junction; a continuous east-west active travel connection between Rainham Village, Beam Park Station and the Rainham Employment Area; bus connections to Beam Park Station and bus links to Romford and Queens Hospital; improved bus connections to and from Rainham Employment Area; a link across Rainham Creek to support east west movements and to enable buses to access the Rainham Employment Area; and a new, integrated network of shared use routes connecting neighbourhoods, local facilities and open spaces.

Policy 23 (Transport Connections) sets out a range of provisions designed to support sustainable transport use in the borough. This includes: supporting enhancements to rail services; new north-south networks in the borough; improvements to bus services; enhancing access to employment areas; requiring new development to maximise access to public transport networks and cycle and pedestrian networks; promoting active school travel; facilitating improvements to walking and cycling networks; and maximising the opportunities afforded by Crossrail. The policy also seeks to limit congestion, a key contributor to air quality issues in the borough.

Sustainable transport use will also be supported by Policy 6 (Specialist Accommodation) and Policy 8 (Houses in Multiple Occupation), which seeks to ensure that these types of housing provision are accessible to facilities and amenities and public transport networks. Policy 12 (Healthy Communities) seeks to direct development to '*well connected locations*' and to support measures to promote walking and cycling. Policy 16 (Social Infrastructure) seeks to locate community facilities in locations close to residents and minimise the need to travel to such facilities, and ensure they are accessible by public transport and walking and cycling routes. Policy 24 (Parking Provision and Design) promotes car club membership and enhanced provision for cycle parking and electric vehicles, and promotes a demand management approach to car parking. Sustainable transport use will also be supported by Policy 26 (Urban Design), which facilitates design and layout which encourages walking and cycling and supports permeability by active travel. Policy 29 (Green Infrastructure) and Policy 31 (Rivers and River Corridors) also support enhancements to walking and cycling networks in the borough.

Finally Policy 14 (Eating and Drinking) seeks to ensure that such provision is located in accessible locations and such establishments do not adversely impact on the quality of the public realm through generating inappropriate traffic flows.

**Table 8.8 Likely significant effects and recommendations: Transportation**

<b>Likely significant effect</b>	<b>Effect dimensions</b>
Limitation of traffic growth and congestion resulting from housing and employment growth in the borough.	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive.
Enhancements to active travel networks in the borough, including pedestrian and cycle networks.	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive.
Enhanced accessibility to public transport networks, including rail and bus.	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive.
Improved access to services and facilities, and an associated reduction in the need to travel to such amenities.	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive.
Increased permeability of the townscape through enhancements to the quality of the public realm.	Direct, long-term, permanent and positive.

## 8.11 Economic Vitality, Employment and Skills

### 8.11.1 Commentary on proposed Local Plan spatial strategy

The preferred spatial strategy directs an increased level of housing provision to the key town and district centres in Havering. The delivery of 6,500 dwellings in Romford will support ongoing enhancements to the economic vitality of the town centre, recognising the town's designation as a Metropolitan Centre through the London Plan. Similarly, the delivery of development to the district centres of the borough will support the vitality of the larger district centres of Upminster and Hornchurch. This will be supported by the spatial strategy's stated aim to '*protect and strengthen*' the Metropolitan Centre of Romford and the District Centres at Collier Row, Elm Park, Harold Hill Hornchurch, Rainham and Upminster.'

The economic vitality of the borough will also be supported by the spatial strategy's aim to protect the King George Close Estate and the Harold Hill Estate Strategic Industrial Locations, and its aim to protect the borough's Locally Significant Industrial Sites at Harold Wood, Hillman Close, the Seedbed Centre, Lyon Road and Crow Lane for continued industrial and employment use.

The preferred spatial strategy, through facilitating the delivery of 4,000 new homes in the Rainham and Beam Park Housing Zone, will support the economic regeneration of Rainham and South Hornchurch. Given that proposed housing growth in this area is part of the larger London Riverside Opportunity Area, new housing at this location will be delivered alongside enhancements to employment opportunities, including at the Rainham Employment Area. Proposals will also be supported by enhancements to sustainable transport networks, utilising Rainham's location on the Essex Thameside line and a proposed new station at Beam Park. As such, additional housing growth in this location has the potential to support economic regeneration proposals for the immediate and wider area. Economic vitality at this location will also be further supported by the spatial strategy's aim to protect the borough's Strategic Industrial Location at the Rainham Employment Area and the Freightmaster Estate for continued industrial and employment use and the creation of a new Local Centre at Beam Park.

### 8.11.2 Commentary on *Proposed Submission* document as a whole

The benefits for economic vitality of the spatial strategy will be supported by the policies for the two Strategic Development Areas.

In relation to Romford, Policy 1 (Romford Strategic Development Area) sets out a range of provisions for supporting the refurbishment and replacement of existing retail units, reinforcing the role of South Street and promoting the transformation of the Market Place. It also provides for new office development, promoting the flexibility and adaptability of new office space in the town. This latter provision is important given the Employment Land Review's<sup>14</sup> finding that Havering contains some older office stock, which once vacant proves difficult to re-let given that it may no longer appeal to modern occupiers. The economic vitality of Romford will be further supported by the policy's focus on transport connectivity, including associated with the opportunities offered by Crossrail, and the policy's aim to enhance the quality of the public realm and local distinctiveness of the town centre and the area around the River Rom.

Policy 2 (Rainham and Beam Park Strategic Development Area) similarly sets out a range of provisions which will support the economic vitality of this location. This includes through the provision of a new Local Centre at Beam Park Station, which will provide between 3,500 and 4,000 sq m of floor space through the provision of new modern retail and commercial units, and potential provision for an expansion of floor space if required in the future. The policy will also support the economic vitality of the area through facilitating a high quality public realm, transport enhancements (including active travel and public transport provision and the transformation of key routes into 'green streets') and the overcoming of existing physical barriers in the area including roads, the river and industrial areas.

More widely in relation to this SA theme, a key Local Plan policy seeking to support the vitality of the borough's economy is Policy 19 (Business Growth). This includes supporting the proposed designation and development of Strategic Outer London Development Centres in the borough, protecting Strategic Industrial Locations and Locally Significant Industrial Sites, and focussing office space in Romford Town Centre and the district centres,

The policy also seeks to require large scale residential proposals in Romford Town Centre to incorporate flexible business space (e.g. office space, studios and workshops), and support the development of affordable and flexible business spaces of varied unit sizes to meet the needs of small and medium sized enterprise (SME), start-ups and businesses requiring more affordable workspaces. This will further reinforced by Policy 21 (Affordable Workspaces), which seeks to ensure that all major commercial developments include 20% of their floorspace as affordable workspace and incorporates provision for short term and flexible workspace. This is important given that a large contributor to the projected growth in office floorspace in Havering is demand from SMEs for smaller units (Employment Land Review 2015).

In relation to changes of use from industrial land to other uses, Policy 20 (Loss of Industrial Land) enables this if a range of provisions are met, including ensuring that the change of use from industrial employment uses will not lower the industrial capacity of the borough below that necessary to meet projected demand, and low demand at individual locations has been sufficiently established. The policy also enables the loss of industrial uses where the '*...existing employment land use causes unacceptable detrimental effects on the amenity of nearby residential areas,*' This recognises the findings of the Employment Land Review (2015), which indicates that approximately 24 hectares of existing industrial land in Havering could be released for other uses while still providing sufficient industrial land in the borough to meet future demand.

The vitality of town centres in the borough will be supported by Policy 13 (Town Centre Development). This seeks to ensure that appropriate town centre uses are encouraged which support the vitality of town centres, and development is facilitated which optimises the development potential of town centre sites. It also sets out a series of provisions relating to promoting development which is: appropriate to the scale and function of the town centre's position within the town centre network; does not harm the town centre's vitality and viability; promotes a wider retail offer and choice to consumers; provides high quality shop front design and signage that enhances the character and appearance of the town centre; provides active frontages at ground floor level, supports street activity and generates pedestrian movement; and makes effective use of upper floors. It also seeks to maintain a high proportion of A1 and A2 uses to maintain the primary shopping function of the area and seeks to prevent the concentration of A5 uses (i.e. hot food and takeaway) in inappropriate locations.

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<sup>14</sup> URS (April 2015) Employment Land Review

These provisions for town centres will be further supported by Policy 14 (Eating and Drinking), which supports restaurant, pub, and micro-brewery uses if appropriate conditions are met, and Policy 15 (Culture and Creativity), which seeks to promote cultural offer, community engagement, and diversification of the night time economy. Both of these elements will therefore support the vitality and vibrancy of the borough, and contribute to the diversification of the economy.

The Local Plan also seeks to ensure that the opportunities available relating to growth in the borough are readily available to local people. In this context, Policy 22 (Skills and Training) seeks to ensure that local labour is utilised for construction projects through setting targets for the training and employment of local people, encourages the use of local businesses in the London Borough of Havering Council's supply chains and making Council job opportunities easily accessible to local people. The policy also sets out that these elements will be achieved through a requirement on developers to produce an Employment & Skills Plan to help ensure these provisions are met.

As highlighted in Section 8.10, the Local Plan policies have a strong focus on promoting accessibility, supporting sustainable transport use and minimising the need to travel. This will support the economic vitality of the borough through improving links within the borough and to locations outside of the borough, and enhancing accessibility for residents to the opportunities afforded by economic growth. Policy 25 (Digital Connections) will further support economic vitality of the borough through facilitating enhancements to high-speed broadband services and improved telecommunications coverage.

**Table 8.9 Likely significant effects and recommendations: Economic Vitality, Employment and Skills**

<i><b>Likely significant effect</b></i>	<i><b>Effect dimensions</b></i>
Diversification of the borough's economy.	Direct, indirect, long-term, permanent and positive.
Promoting the economic vitality of Romford and a Metropolitan Centre.	Direct, indirect, long-term, permanent and positive.
Promoting the economic vitality and viability of the borough's district centres.	Direct, indirect, long-term, permanent and positive.
Enhancing economic opportunities in the Rainham and South Hornchurch area.	Direct, indirect, long-term, permanent and positive.
Promotion of employment opportunities in the borough.	Direct, indirect, long-term, permanent and positive.
Supporting a growth of skills in the borough.	Direct, indirect, long-term, permanent and positive.

## 8.12 Cumulative effects

Cumulative effects occur from the combined impacts of policies and proposals on specific areas or sensitive receptors.

In the context of SA/SEA, cumulative effects can arise as a result of the in-combination and synergistic effects of a plan's policies and proposals. Comprising 'intra-plan' effects, these interactions have been discussed above in Sections 8.3 to 8.11, which evaluate the in-combination and synergistic effects of the various policies of the Local Plan.

Cumulative effects can also result from the combined impacts of a plan with impacts of another plan, or the 'inter-plan' effects. These can affect the same receptor, resulting in in-combination or synergistic effects. The Havering Local Plan therefore has the potential to combine with other planned or on-going activities in the vicinity of the borough to result in cumulative effects.

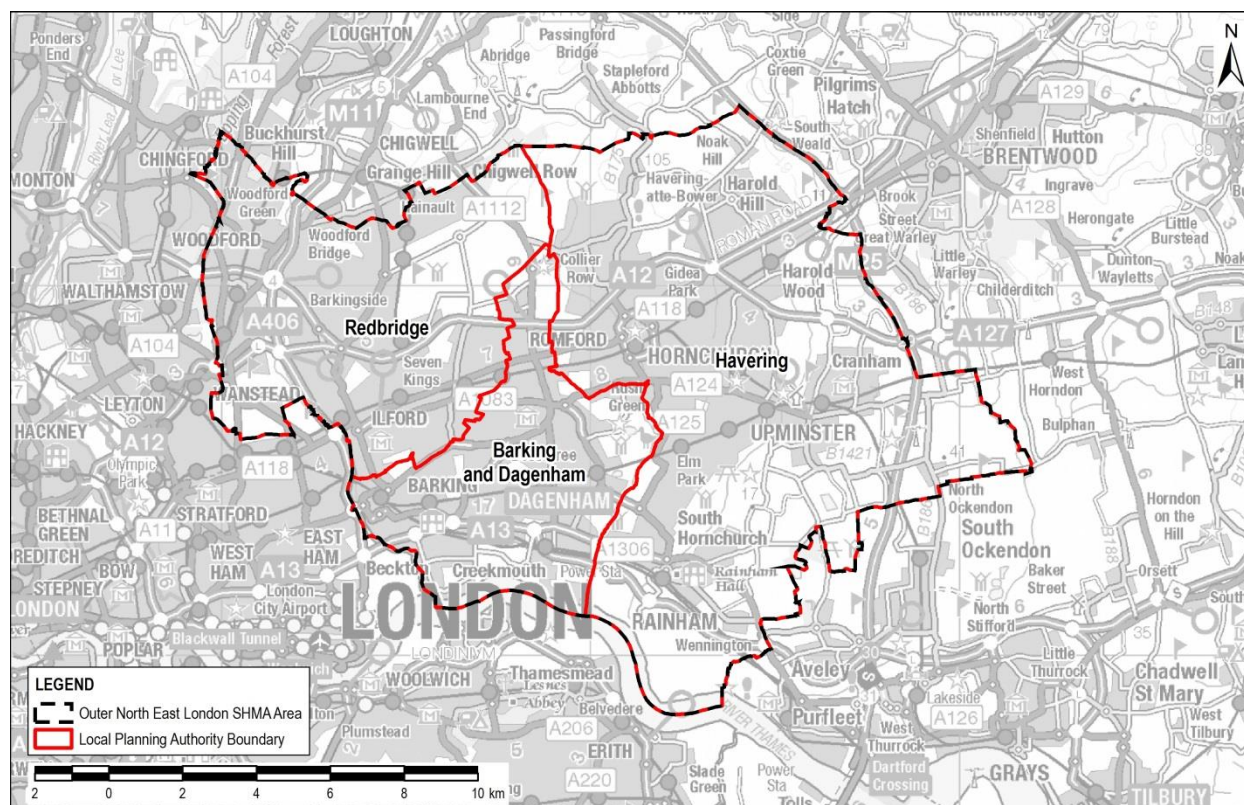
As discussed in Section 4.1, housing need in Havering has been considered through the estimation of objectively assessed housing need (OAHN) through the Outer North East London SHMA. In addition

to Havering's OAHN, the SHMA also sets out housing need for the London Boroughs of Redbridge and Barking and Dagenham, which comprise the remaining parts of the Housing Market Area.

The OAHN for the three areas comprising the Housing Market Area are as follows:

**Table 8.10 Objectively assessed need in the Outer North East London Housing Market Area**

<b>Local Planning Authority area</b>	<b>OAHN</b>
London Borough of Havering	1,366 per annum (recent update, November 2016)
London Borough of Barking and Dagenham	2,132 per annum (September 2016)
London Borough of Redbridge	2,287 per annum (April 2017)



**Figure 8.1 Outer North East London Housing Market Area**

The Local Plans for the three Local Planning Authorities will set out the level of growth and development that will take place in the respective boroughs. As such, the in-combination effects of housing growth across the three Local Planning Authority areas have the potential to lead to cumulative effects. Furthermore, the combination of Local Plan proposals and other proposals being taken forward in the wider area has the potential to lead to cumulative effects. Examples include:

- Proposals linked to the London Plan Opportunity Areas, including associated with the proposals for the London Riverside Opportunity Area outside of the borough (including at Barking Riverside);
- Crossrail; and
- Potential enhancements to capacity on the Essex Thameside line.

In this context, potential effects which may occur as a result of the in-combination effects of the Local Plan and other plans and proposals in the area include the following:

- Increases in traffic flows and congestion from the in-combination effects of development, with potential impacts on air and noise quality. However the in-combination effects of proposals

on enhancing public transport and pedestrian and cycle infrastructure may help limit potential negative effects and secure positive effects in this regard.

- Incremental erosion of the Metropolitan Green Belt as a result of the need to deliver objectively assessed need, and associated cumulative impacts on landscape character from new development.
- Cumulative impacts on ecological networks. This is from the in-combination effects of new development and associated infrastructure on habitats and biodiversity corridors. However, enhancements to green infrastructure provision facilitated through Local Plan proposals and other projects in the area have the potential to support local, sub-regional and regional ecological networks.
- Impacts on flood risk from the in-combination effects of new development, including relating to surface water and fluvial flooding. However, the provisions of the NPPF and measures and policy approaches implemented through the relevant plans and proposals will limit the significance of effects.
- Improvements to accessibility resulting from the in-combination effects of enhancements to public transport and walking and cycling networks.
- Impacts on the urban heat island effect (a key likely impact of climate change) from an intensification of land uses across the wider area. This however has the potential to be offset by enhancements to sub-regional green infrastructure networks and open space provision.

As highlighted above, for many potential cumulative effects, the policy approaches proposed by the current version of the Local Plan will help reduce the significance of these in-combination impacts. However monitoring for the various Local Plans and, more broadly, the London Plan will be a key means of ensuring that unforeseen adverse environmental effects are highlighted, and remedial action can be taken where adverse environmental effects arise.

Chapter 9 below sets out a proposed monitoring programme for the SA process.

## 9. Monitoring programme for the SA

### 9.1 Monitoring in SA

The SEA Directive states that '*member states shall monitor the significant environmental effects of the implementation of plans and programmes.....in order, inter alia, to identify at an early stage unforeseen adverse effects, and to be able to undertake appropriate remedial action*' (Article 10.1). In addition, the Environmental Report (or SA Report) should provide information on a '*description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring*' (Annex I (i)). To limit the potential burdens related to monitoring associated with the SA process, monitoring should be undertaken smartly. For this reason, the proposed monitoring framework should focus on those aspects of the environment that are likely to be negatively impacted upon, where the impact is uncertain or where particular opportunities for improvement might arise.

### 9.2 Proposed monitoring programme

Table 9.1 outlines suggestions for a monitoring programme for measuring the Local Plan's implementation in relation to the areas where the SA has identified significant opportunities for an improvement in sustainability performance to arise. It also seeks to monitor where uncertainties relating to the appraisal findings arose and suggests where monitoring is required to help ensure that the benefits of the Local Plan are achieved through the planning process.

The purpose of monitoring is to measure the significant sustainability effects of a plan, as well as to measure success against the plan's objectives. It is therefore beneficial if the monitoring strategy builds on monitoring systems which are already in place. To this end, many of the indicators of progress chosen for the SA require data that is already being routinely collected at a local level by the London Borough of Havering and its partner organisations. It should also be noted that monitoring can provide useful information for future plans and programmes.



**Table 9.1 Proposed monitoring programme for the SA of the Local Plan**

<i>Area to be monitored</i>	<i>Indicator</i>	<i>Data source</i>	<i>Frequency of monitoring</i>
Effect of housing, employment and infrastructure on greenhouse gas emissions.	Carbon footprint of the borough	London Borough of Havering	Annual
Effect on the delivery of renewable energy	Renewable energy installation capacity in MW	London Borough of Havering	Annual
Loss of Green Belt land	Number of hectares of undeveloped Green Belt land lost to development	London Borough of Havering	Annual
Effect of new development on air quality	No. of days when air pollution is moderate or high for NO <sub>2</sub> or PM <sub>10</sub>	London Borough of Havering	Daily
Green infrastructure provision	Ha of Accessible Natural Greenspace per 1,000 population	London Borough of Havering	Annual
Economic vitality	Number of VAT registrations	London Borough of Havering	Annual
Car use	Proportion of people travelling to work by public transport or walking and cycling	Transport for London	Annual
Effects on townscape character	Percentage of new developments which are informed by detailed characterisation studies	London Borough of Havering	Annual
Minerals supply	Local Aggregates Assessment	London Borough of Havering	Annual
Employment in emerging sectors of Havering's economy	Number of people employed in emerging economic sectors	London Borough of Havering	Annual

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## **Part 3:**

### **What are the next steps?**

## 10. Next Steps

### 10.1 Next steps for plan making / SA process

This SA Report accompanies the current consultation on the Local Plan (*Havering Local Plan – Proposed Submission*).

Once the period for representations on the *Havering Local Plan – Proposed Submission* document and the SA Report concludes, the main issues raised will be identified and summarised by the London Borough of Havering, who will then consider whether, in light of representations received, the plan can still be deemed 'sound'. If this is the case, the Local Plan will be submitted for Examination, alongside a statement setting out the main issues raised during the consultation. The Council will also submit the SA Report.

At Examination, the Inspector will consider representations (alongside the SA Report) before then either reporting back on the Local Plan's soundness or identifying the need for modifications. If the Inspector identifies the need for modifications to the Plan these will be prepared (and undergo SA where appropriate) and then be subject to consultation (with a possible SA Report Addendum published alongside).

Once found to be 'sound', the Plan will be formally adopted by the London Borough of Havering. At the time of Adoption, a SA 'Statement' must be published that sets out (amongst other elements) *'the measures decided concerning monitoring'*.

## Appendix A Consultation responses received on the Scoping Report

Consultation response	How the response was considered and addressed
<b>Natural England</b>	
The approach and methodology used are in line with regulations and the advice that would be offered by Natural England; therefore we have no substantive comments to make in respect of this Scoping Report.	Comments noted
The report lists twenty two Sustainability Objectives which can be broadly support, especially Objective (10) 'Maintain and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity'	Listed within the 'Relevant Plans and Policies: General / Overarching' section in Appendix B
Reference to the London Plan 2013 and the Further Alterations to the London Plan are welcomed and to be encouraged	
Similarly identification of and reference to the Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI's – Hornchurch Cutting, Inner Thames Marshes and Ingrebourne Marshes) within the Borough, is also welcomed and to be encouraged. The Council may also wish to give consideration to Hainault Forest and Purfleet Marshes SSSI's which abut the Borough and could be affected by development in proximity to them, including the potential for recreational pressure due to increased housing numbers.	Additional SSSIs mentioned in the Biodiversity section in Appendix B
<b>Environment Agency</b>	
Task 1: Policy Review	
<i>LBH Consultation Question 1 Are there any relevant policies, plans, programmes or strategies additional to those outlined in Appendix A that should be reviewed?</i>	
We feel that the majority of relevant policies, plans, programmes and strategies have been outlined in Appendix A but have the following comments to make:	
<b>Biodiversity and Geodiversity</b>	
International:	
The Water Framework Directive should be included in the Biodiversity and Geodiversity section in addition to the Water and Flood Risk section as WFD also considers and assesses these issues.	The WFD has now been included within the relevant plans and policies for both of these sections in Appendix B.
Regional:	
Appendix A should be revised to include the Roding Beam and Ingrebourne catchment of the Thames River Basin Management Plan.	Revision made.
<b>Water and Flood Risk.</b>	
Local:	
In this section you have referenced the Havering SFRA 2007 (Page 24). This should be amended to reference your latest Strategic Flood Risk Assessment which was completed in 2014. The data within the 2007 SFRA has largely been superseded and therefore is not a suitable basis for policies in the Local Plan.	The 2014 SFRA has not been directly referenced within the local policies for the 'Water and Flood Risk' section. The following text has, however, been provided: "A new Havering SFRA (Levels 1 and 2) is being prepared. The full, updated SFRA will be used to inform the Local Plan preparation".
	The 2014 SFRA has been mentioned within the

Consultation response	How the response was considered and addressed
<p>It is my understanding that you have also published a Surface Water Management Plan and a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. These should also be included in the Water and Flood Risk section as strategies to inform your Local Plan.</p>	<p>national list of policies for the 'Water and Flood Risk' section, in the 'Implications for the Local Plan' box for the 'National Planning Policy Framework 2012' listing.</p> <p>Comments noted. Both have been included in the 'Water and Flood Risk' policy list in Appendix B</p>
<p>Task 2: Baseline Information</p> <p><i>LBH Consultation Question 2 Is there any additional baseline data that should be included in appendix B?</i></p> <p>The following sources of baseline data should be included in Appendix B to inform your Local Plan:</p> <p><b>Biodiversity and Geodiversity</b></p> <p>In bullet point one you have stated ...There are two large rivers running north-south through Havering-namely, the Rivers Rom/Beam and Ingrebourne - and the southern boundary of the borough is marked by the Thames (page 57).</p> <p>Although the Rivers Ingrebourne, Rom, Beam and Thames could be considered the largest rivers in Havering I have listed the complete names of main rivers in the Borough below:</p> <p>Rivers in LB Havering are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• River Ingrebourne</li> <li>• Rainham Main Sewer</li> <li>• Wennington Branch Sewer</li> <li>• Rainham Creek</li> <li>• Haverings New Sewer</li> <li>• Carters Brook</li> <li>• Paines Brook</li> <li>• Weald Brook</li> <li>• Ravensbourne</li> <li>• Emerson Park Stream</li> <li>• Blacks Brook</li> <li>• Rom</li> <li>• Beam</li> <li>• West Mardyke Branch</li> <li>• River Mardyke</li> <li>• Puddledock Sewer</li> <li>• River Thames</li> </ul>	<p>Comments noted. All rivers are now listed within this section.</p> <p>Comments noted. All watercourses are now included, reflecting the updated list.</p>
<p><b>Climate Change and Flooding</b></p> <p>In this section you state... There are four distinct watercourses in Havering (page 60). Please see our comments above showing that there are more than four watercourses within the borough.</p> <p>The section then goes on to state... generally flood risk is limited to the southern area of the Borough in the vicinity of the Thames and the Valleys of the River Beam and Ingrebourne and their tributaries (page 60).</p>	<p>Text now reads as follows:</p> <p><i>"Generally flood risk is limited to the southern area of the Borough in the vicinity of the Thames and the valleys of the Rivers Beam and Ingrebourne and their tributaries. Further clarification will be provided by the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment 2014".</i></p> <p>Comments noted. An additional section has</p>

Consultation response	How the response was considered and addressed
<p>We do not entirely agree with this statement and recommend further clarification using your recent SFRA. We agree that the Borough benefits from tidal defences.</p> <p>It may also be beneficial to include a section stating that these defences may have to be raised or set back as outlined in the guidance contained within the Thames Estuary 2100 plan to account for climate change.</p> <p>We also recommend that you include recommendations or a summary of findings from your Surface Water Management Plan and your Local Flood Risk Management Strategy if the aim of this section is to summarise flood risk in the borough.</p> <p><b>Pollution</b></p> <p>In this section you state... The Chemical and Biological water quality of the rivers in Havering has been historically poor particularly the River Ingrebourne and the River Rom/Beam, which have poor ecological status under the Water framework Directive. Under WFD the Beam and Ingrebourne need to achieve good status by 2027 and the Ravensbourne needs to achieve good ecological potential as it is a heavily modified water body (page 60).</p> <p>This statement is not necessarily true if you are using the term 'poor' in terms of WFD classifications. The most recent WFD classification data that we hold is attached to this letter. This should be used to inform specific policies in your forthcoming Local Plan. This data should be included as baseline data in Appendix B.</p>	<p>been included, providing this information. .</p> <p>This element has been considered through the appraisal</p> <p>Comments noted. Data has been included within this section.</p>
<p>Task 3: Identified Sustainability Issues</p> <p><i>LBH Consultation Question 3 Do you think the issues identified are appropriate? Are there any other issues that should be identified?</i></p> <p>We feel that the following issues could be added to the table and ask that you consider either adding them to existing objectives or adding them as stand-alone objectives:</p> <p><b>3. Environmental Dimensions</b></p> <p><b><i>Biodiversity and Geodiversity</i></b></p> <p>Enhancements as identified by the Roding Beam Ingrebourne Catchment Plan would be a valid inclusion as an issue in this section.</p> <p><b><i>Climate Change and Flooding</i></b></p> <p>The need to raise tidal flood defences, safeguard land for future flood defence works and improve fluvial flood defences to protect the borough from the increased risk of flooding as a result of climate change would be valid issues to be identified in this section. Enhancing existing flood storage and creating new flood storage areas where appropriate to alleviate tidal and fluvial flood risk (TE2100).</p>	<p><i>The 'Biodiversity and Geodiversity' section within the Environmental Dimensions contains three bullet points, with the wording as follows:</i></p> <p><i>"Protection and enhancement of green infrastructure and biodiversity;</i></p> <p><i>Protection of protected habitats and species; and Management of water quality of Havering's rivers, in line with existing and emerging plans.</i></p> <p><i>"</i></p> <p><i>"The need to raise tidal flood defences, safeguard land for future flood defence works and improve fluvial flood defences to protect the borough from the increased risk of flooding as a result of climate change" is stated within the 'Climate Change and Flooding' Environmental Dimension section.</i></p>

Consultation response	How the response was considered and addressed
<p>You may also wish to consider including the issue of increased risk of surface water flooding as a result of climate change and the need for SuDS to be included in new development to help to alleviate this problem.</p> <p>We support the inclusion of issues raised in the <b>pollution</b> section.</p>	<p>Use of SuDS has been considered through the appraisal process</p>
<p>Task 4: Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Framework</p> <p><i>LBH Consultation Question 4 Do you think the objectives identified are appropriate? Are there any additional ones we might consider?</i></p> <p>We generally support the inclusion of aims 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17 and 18 but have the following comments for your consideration.</p> <p>Objective 14 could specifically reference Sustainable Drainage Systems and/or urban greening as a method of reducing contributions to climate change.</p> <p>We feel that it would be positive if land remediation could be added to objective 17. This objective could also include the aim to contribute to the recommendations of the River Basin Management Plan.</p> <p>Objective 18 could be amended to state Avoid, reduce and manage all forms of flood risk. It may also be appropriate to summarise how this will be achieved. You could state that this will be achieved through the robust application of the Sequential and Exception tests. It may also be appropriate to include a statement alluding to the fact that this will be achieved by encouraging the use of SuDS.</p>	<p>Objective 14 now reads as follows: “Reduce contributions to climate change and enhance the capability of the borough to adapt to climate change while promoting systems efficiency (water, energy, recycling, sustainable drainage systems, green infrastructure) and local renewable energy production”.</p> <p>Objective 17 now reads as follows: “Improve water quality and protect water resources, while contributing to the objectives of water management plans”.</p> <p>Objective 18 now reads as follows: “Support land remediation that can improve the ecology of the area and mitigate flood risk”.</p>
<p>Task 5: Scope of the SA</p> <p>I recommend that you also consult the Lead Local Flood Authority. This is due to the powers granted to them in the Floods and Water Management Act.</p>	
<b>Historic England</b>	
<p>We would draw your attention to English Heritage’s published guidance on the Strategic Environmental Assessment of plans, <i>Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) / Sustainability Appraisal (SA) and the Historic Environment</i> (2013), in particular, the general principles when analysing the historic environment in the context of the SA process. The document is available in the guidance library on the Historic Environment Local Management (HELM) website (<a href="http://www.helm.org.uk">www.helm.org.uk</a>).</p>	<p>Noted</p>
<p>It is essential that the Scoping Report is tailored to the type and purpose of the Local plan being considered. In line with the National Planning policy Framework (NPPF) the Local Plan should be based on adequate, up to date and relevant evidence. This includes the Borough’s heritage assets and wider historic environment, and their contribution to the economic, social and environmental characteristics and prospects of Havering.</p>	

Consultation response	How the response was considered and addressed
<p><u>Relevant Plans and Policies</u></p> <p>The Design and Heritage section of appendix A should include a summary review and its implications of the following -</p> <p><i>International</i> - European Landscape Convention (Florence Convention)</p> <p><i>National</i> – PPS5 Practice Guide (planning in the historic environment) which is still valid until it is replaced by the forthcoming Historic Environment Good Practice Advice in Planning; and the National Planning Policy Guidance e.g. references to the conserving and enhancing the historic environment.</p> <p>In addition in line with the inclusion of primary pieces of legislation captured in the ‘general/overarching’ section we would suggest including the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, as well as the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.</p> <p><i>Regional</i> – The GLA have published a number of SPGs which are considered to be relevant to consider. This includes Accessible London: Achieving an inclusive environment (2014), and Shaping Neighbourhoods: Character and Context (2014).</p> <p><i>Local</i> – Any Borough Conservation Area appraisals and management plans; Heritage Cultural Strategy 2012-2014; Heritage SPD and any other relevant SPD.s</p>	<p>Comments noted. The European Landscape Convention is now listed.</p> <p>Comments noted. The PPS5 Practice Guide is now listed.</p> <p>Comments noted. The Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 and the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 are now listed.</p> <p>Comments noted. ‘Accessible London: Achieving an inclusive environment (2014)’ and ‘Shaping Neighbourhoods: Character and Context (2014)’ are now listed.</p> <p>Conservation Areas are listed, along with the following text: “<i>The Local Plan will have regard to the issues and actions identified by each Conservation Area Management Plan</i>”.</p> <p>The Heritage Cultural Strategy 2012-2014 and Heritage SPD have not been referenced in the ‘Design and Heritage’ local plans and policies section, but the Heritage SPD and Heritage Asset Register 2014 are referred to in the baseline information.</p>
<p><u>Baseline Information</u></p> <p>The baseline information could be improved further by providing more qualitative and analytical information on the status and condition of the historic environment in Havering. For example it would be useful to identify relevant trends and targets, plus identify any potential cross boundary heritage issues and characteristics.</p> <p>In addition it is important to ensure that all aspects of the historic environment are understood, beyond those designated and highlighted in the current draft Scoping Report. For example this could include other non-designated heritage assets, locally listed buildings and other features that are valued for the heritage interest. This could include any characterisation studies the Council may have undertaken and which should form part of the baseline understanding of the Borough’s historic environment.</p>	<p>Text within the Heritage section provides quantitative information regarding the number of nationally and locally designated historical features in Havering. There is no specific reference to ‘trends or targets’ in the Heritage section.</p> <p>The following text has been included: “<i>There are also 180 Buildings of Local Heritage Interest included in the Heritage Supplementary Planning Document adopted in 2011 and reviewed in the Heritage Asset Register 2014. Fieldwork undertaken as part of the Heritage Asset Register work identified 12 buildings that have been demolished since their inclusion on the list</i>”.</p>
<p><u>Sustainability Issues</u></p> <p>The current sustainability issues identified for the historic environment is limited. This could be expanded to include the issues, such as:</p> <p>Heritage assets at risk from neglect, decay or development</p>	<p>The identified sustainability issues within the ‘Heritage’ theme are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection and enhancement of Heritage assets.</li> <li>• Heritage assets at risk from neglect or</li> </ul>

Consultation response	How the response was considered and addressed
<p>pressures – these could specific types of heritage assets or defined areas where there is a concentration of a range of heritage assets.</p> <p>Areas where development has had or is likely to have significant impact upon the historic environment, principally upon the setting of heritage assets.</p>	<p>decay, as identified by the heritage at risk register.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heritage assets at risk from development pressures, particularly Romford Conservation Area.</li> <li>• Securing the continued work of heritage management groups such as charities, civic societies and other voluntary groups.</li> </ul>
<p><u>Sustainability Appraisal Framework</u></p> <p>The current sustainability objective for the historic environment (number 16) should be expanded to include a reference to 'settings', so that it would read as follows:</p> <p><i>Conserve and enhance the historic environment, <del>and</del> heritage assets and their settings.</i></p> <p>This specific objective could then be supported by a series of sub-objectives that are tailored to the character of the Borough and the purpose of the Plan. This includes objectives relating to the economic, environmental and social dimension of managing the historic environment. Examples include:</p> <p>Protect, enhance and manage the character and appearance of landscapes and townscapes, maintaining and strengthening local distinctiveness and sense of place.</p> <p>Improve and broaden access to and understanding of local heritage, historic sites, areas and buildings.</p> <p>Foster heritage-led regeneration.</p>	<p>Comments noted. Objective 16 has been amended to reflect this suggestion.</p> <p>These additional examples have not been included within the list of sustainability objectives.</p>
<p>English Heritage would strongly advise that the Borough's own conservation staff are closely involved throughout the preparation of the emerging new Local Plan and associated Sustainability Appraisal, as they are often best placed to advise on: local historic environment issues and priorities, sources of data and consideration of options relating to the historic environment.</p>	<p>Comment fed back to London Borough of Havering</p>

## Appendix B Summary of context review and baseline data

This appendix presents information which relates to the scope of the SA process. This summarises and updates the information originally included in the SA Scoping Report, which was initially prepared in February 2015.

The appendix includes for each theme:

- Context review;
- Baseline data; and
- Key issues for the SA process.

## B.1 Overall context review

International		
European Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive (2001/42/EC)	The Directive seeks to provide a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development. The Directive requires the environmental assessment of plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.	Strategic Environmental Assessment to be carried out to inform the preparation of the Local Plan.
National		
Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004	The provisions introduce powers which allow for the reform and speeding up of the planning system and an increase in the predictability of planning decisions and the speeding up of the handling of major infrastructure projects. The Act abolished local and structure plans and replaced them with Local Development Frameworks.	The Local Plan to be prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Act. The Local Plan must be accompanied by a Sustainability Appraisal.
Planning Act 2008	Established the Infrastructure Planning Commission and makes provision about its functions, the development of nationally significant infrastructure and town and country planning. It also makes provision for the introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy.	The Local Plan to reflect introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy.
Localism Act 2011	<p>The Localism Act introduces a number of measures to provide greater decision making powers at the local level, creating space for Local Authorities to lead and innovate, and giving people the opportunity to take control of decisions that matter to them. The proposals set out in the Localism Act include:</p> <p>New freedoms and flexibility for local government;</p> <p>New rights and powers for communities and individuals;</p>	The Local Plan to be prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Act. In preparing the Local Plan, the Local authority will be required to engage constructively, actively and on an ongoing basis with other local authorities to meet the Duty to Co-operate

	<p>Reforms to make the planning system more democratic and more effective;</p> <p>Reforms to ensure decisions about housing are taken locally</p> <p>The Act sets out a range of changes to the planning system. Most significant for plan making are the concept of neighbourhood planning, which includes neighbourhood development plans and neighbourhood development orders (supporting community right to build), the abolition of Regional Spatial Strategies and the duty to co-operate.</p>	
<p>The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012</p>	<p>The Regulations (a) consolidate the existing Town and Country Planning (Local Development)(England) Regulations 2004 and the amendments made to them; and (b) make new provision and amendments to take account of the changes made by the Localism Act 2011.</p>	<p>The Local Plan preparation process will need to comply with the requirements for content and for consultation arrangements included in the Regulations 2012.</p>
<p>National Planning Policy Framework 2012</p>	<p>Sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. The NPPF has streamlined national planning policy replaces previous national planning policy statements and guidance. At the heart of the NPPF is the presumption in favour of sustainable development.</p> <p>The NPPF sets out how Local Plans should be prepared and how they will be examined.</p>	<p>The Local Plan will need to be consistent with the wide range of policies in the NPPF including on the preparation of Local Plans.</p>
<p>National Planning Practice Guidance 2014</p>	<p>Provides additional planning practice guidance to support the NPPF on a significant range of planning issues</p>	<p>The NPPG will help guide the Local Plan preparation process to secure its compliance with the NPPF.</p>
<p>Securing the Future – United Kingdom Government Sustainable Development Strategy 2005</p>	<p>Identifies four priority areas for action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustainable consumption and production</li> <li>• Climate change and energy</li> <li>• Natural resource protection and environmental enhancement</li> </ul>	<p>The Local Plan will need to take account of the principles of Sustainable Development.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sustainable communities</li> </ul>	
Urban White Paper 2000	This report identifies the need to tackle urban decline, through addressing education, transport, crime reduction, housing and planning. There is also a need to improve people's prosperity and quality of life.	The Local Plan will consider the recommendations made in regards to local areas of deprivation.
<b>Regional</b>		
London Plan 2011, Revised Early Minor Alterations to the London Plan 2013 and Draft Further Alterations to the London Plan 2014	The overall strategic plan for London, setting out an integrated economic, environmental, transport and social framework for the development of London over 20-25 years. Boroughs' LDDs have to be 'in general conformity' with the London Plan.	<p>The Local Plan is required to be in general conformity with the London Plan.</p> <p>Further details on specific policy areas can be found throughout this table.</p>
<b>Local</b>		
Havering Community Strategy 2008 – Living Ambition	<p>Long-term strategy to improve still further the quality of life enjoyed by Havering's residents, based on five goals for the Environment, Learning, Towns and Communities, Individuals and Value:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to ensure a clean, safe and green borough</li> <li>to champion education and learning for all</li> <li>to provide economic, social and cultural opportunities in thriving towns and villages</li> <li>to value and enhance the lives of our residents</li> <li>to deliver high customer satisfaction and a stable council tax</li> </ul>	The Local Plan should reflect and help to achieve the Council's Living Ambition goals.

## B.2 Biodiversity

### Policy Context

#### Biodiversity and Geodiversity

International		
EU Biodiversity Strategy 1998	This strategy aims to anticipate, prevent and attack the causes of significant reduction or loss of biodiversity at the source. Targets for biodiversity are set by member states.	The Local Plan should seek to address those issues highlighted with spatial implications.
EU Biodiversity Action Plan 2006	The EU Biodiversity Action Plan addresses the challenge of integrating biodiversity concerns into other policy sectors in a unified way. It specifies a comprehensive plan of priority actions and outlines the responsibility of community institutions and Member States in relation to each. It also contains indicators to monitor progress and a timetable for evaluations. The European Commission has undertaken to provide annual reporting on progress in delivery of the Biodiversity Action Plan.	The Local Plan should seek to address those issues highlighted with spatial implications.
United Nations Convention (Ramsar) on Wetlands of International Importance (1971)	Lists wetlands of international importance based on ecological and hydrological criteria Promotes the conservation and wide use of the wetlands included in the list	The Local Plan will need to consider how to protect and enhance any wetlands
European Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)	Maintain or restore designated natural habitat types, and habitats of designated species. Take appropriate steps to avoid degrading or destroying Special Areas of Conservation	The Local Plan will need to consider how to protect and enhance the boroughs natural spaces.
European Birds Directive (2009/147/EEC)	Identifies 181 endangered species and sub-species for which the Member States are required to designate Special Protection Areas	The Local Plan will need to consider how to protect local endangered species and their habitats.
European Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)	Sustainable use of water and long term protection of water resources. Member States must aim to reach good chemical and ecological status in inland and coastal waters by 2015 and reduce pollution to surface water and groundwater.	The Local Plan will need to protect local waterways and seek to improve quality of surface water.
National		
Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000	Places a duty on local authorities to take reasonably practicable steps to further the conservation, restoration or enhancement of those species and habitats identified as priorities for biological conservation	The Local Plan will need to consider how to protect and enhance the boroughs biodiversity.
National Planning Policy Framework 2012	The planning system should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by: protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, geological conservation interests and soils; recognising the wider benefits of ecosystem services; minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible	The Local Plan is required to be consistent with the National Planning Policy Framework. The Local Plan will need to include policies to assess proposals for development with regards to biodiversity, geodiversity and landscape areas.

	<p>Local planning authorities should set criteria based policies against which proposals for any development on or affecting protected wildlife or geodiversity sites or landscape areas will be judged. Distinctions should be made between the hierarchy of international, national and locally designated sites, so that protection is commensurate with their status and gives appropriate weight to their importance and the contribution that they make to wider ecological networks.</p> <p>Local planning authorities should set out a strategic approach in their Local Plans, planning positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure.</p>	
Natural Environment White Paper – The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature (2011)	<p>Outlines the Government's vision for the natural environment over the next 50 years. It aims to set a clear institutional framework to achieve the recovery of nature:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>establish Local Nature Partnerships (LNPs)</li> <li>create new Nature Improvement Areas (NIAs)</li> <li>reforms to the planning system</li> </ul> <p>Specific actions include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>removing barriers to learning outdoors</li> <li>creating a new Local Green Areas designation</li> <li>establishing a Green Infrastructure Partnership</li> <li>new phase of the Muck In4Life campaign</li> </ul>	The Local Plan will need to consider how it will seek to protect, enhance and promote the boroughs natural environment.
National Biodiversity Strategy: Biodiversity 2020: a strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services (2011)	<p>Aims to halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people</p> <p>The Strategy identifies actions in 4 priority areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A more integrated large-scale approach to conservation on land and at sea</li> <li>Putting people at the heart of policy</li> <li>Reducing environmental pressures</li> <li>Improving our knowledge</li> </ul>	The Local Plan will need to consider how it will protect, enhance and promote the boroughs green habitats.
Biodiversity 2020: A Strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystems services (2011)	<p>Aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>halt overall biodiversity loss</li> <li>support healthy well-functioning ecosystems</li> </ul>	The Local Plan will need to consider the implications of development on the local ecological network and resist habitat fragmentation.

	establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people.	
The State of Natural Capital: Second Report (2014)	This report lays the foundation for the Committee's third State of Natural Capital report, which will be published in early 2015. The Committee's main advice to Government on how to prioritise action to maintain and improve natural capital in order to maximise wellbeing will take the form of a 25 year plan. To produce this enabling framework for action, the Committee will engage with Government and undertake informal discussions with interested parties regarding the content and delivery of the proposed plan.	The Local Plan should seek to address those issues highlighted with spatial implications.
Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006	The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 sets up the framework for conservation of the natural environment, including establishing Natural England. It sets up the organisational structure for nature conservation and includes the main tools and legislation for achieving this.	The Local Plan should seek to protect the landscapes and priority species identified in the Action Plan. See Havering Nature Conservation and Biodiversity Action Plan 2014-2016 section below.
<b>Regional</b>		
London Plan 2011, Revised Early Minor Alterations 20112 and Draft Further Alterations to the London Plan 2014	The London Plan encourages and promotes the management, enhancement and creation of green space for biodiversity, and promotes public access and appreciation of nature. The Mayor has set up the concept of a Blue Ribbon Network for the Thames and London's waterways and the land alongside them. This will establish principles concerning the use and management of the water and land beside it. The Blue Ribbon Network along with green and open spaces create the Green Grid.	The Local Plan is required to be in general conformity with the London Plan and its Alterations.  Continue protecting and enhancing the boroughs protected green spaces and waterways.
Mayor's Biodiversity Strategy 2002	Four priority areas: Protection of biodiversity Positive measures to encourage biodiversity action, promoting the management, enhancement and creation of valuable green space Incorporating biodiversity into new development Access to nature	The Local Plan will need to consider how it will address the four priority areas.
London Biodiversity Action Plan	11 habitat types are identified, each with its own Habitat Action Plan.	The Local Plan should support local and regional groups involved in the management and preservation of biodiversity.
Thames River Basin Management Plan 2009 - 2015	The management plan identifies priorities for improvement in the Roding, Beam and Ingrebourne catchment area. Key actions for this catchment identified: • The Environment Agency will investigate current levels of	The Local Plan should support the actions and priorities identified in the Thames River Basin Management Plan for the Roding, Beam and Ingrebourne catchment.

	<p>abstraction in the Upper Roding.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Environment Agency will work with partners to re-meander the Mayes Brook through Mayesbrook Park and improve water quality from urban diffuse pollution.</li> <li>• The Environment Agency will work with partners to re-naturalise the River Ravensbourne through Harrow Lodge Park.</li> <li>• The Environment Agency will work with partners to restore the Wantz Stream and the Beam through the Dagenham Washlands Flood Storage Area.</li> <li>• The Environment Agency will investigate methods for improving fish passages through the tidal sluices.</li> </ul>	
All London Green Grid SPG 2012	Promotes the concept of green infrastructure and the benefits of increasing provision, by describing and advocating an approach to the design and management of green and open spaces to deliver hitherto unrealised benefits. These benefits include sustainable travel, flood management, healthy living, and creating distinctive destinations; and the economic and social uplift these support.	Local Plan will need to promote green infrastructure, new and old.
London's Foundations SPG 2012	Sets out London's geological heritage, explaining the process for identifying sites of national, regional and local geological importance, identifying important geological sites for protection and advising boroughs on how to promote as well as protect geodiversity.	The Local Plan will need to protect the areas of geological importance identified in the borough.
<b>Local</b>		
Havering Nature Conservation and Biodiversity Action Plan 2014-2016	<p>Provides the framework for the Council and its partners to progress nature conservation and biodiversity work in the borough for the three years (2014-16).</p> <p>The Action Plan ensures that the Council considers biodiversity issues in exercising its functions, as required by the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 (see above)</p>	The Local Plan should seek to protect the landscapes and priority species identified in the Action Plan.

## Baseline Information

### Biodiversity and Geodiversity:

- Havering's environment includes 420 ha of forest cover, 93 Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation, 3 Sites of Special Scientific Interest and seven local nature reserves. It is also protected by Green Belt which covers half of the borough. There are also 17 rivers flowing through Havering, of which the largest are the rivers Rom, Beam and Ingrebourne, and the river Thames which marks the southern boundary of the borough. The other rivers are: Rainham Main Sewer, Wennington Branch Sewer, Rainham Creek, Haverings New Sewer, Carters Brook, Paines Brook, Weald Brook, Ravensbourne, Emerson Park Stream, Blacks Brook, West Mardyke Branch, River Mardyke, and Puddledock Sewer.
- Of Havering's Sites of Important Natural Character 9 are of metropolitan importance, 21 are of borough importance grade 1, 43 of borough importance grade 2, and 16 are of local importance.
- Havering has three Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) – Hornchurch Cutting, Ingrebourne Marshes and Inner Thames Marshes. 34% of Havering's SSSI land is classed as favourable, 42% is in unfavourable condition and declining and 21% is in unfavourable condition but recovering, whilst 3% has been destroyed or partly destroyed. In addition to these, there are two SSSIs that border Havering and could be affected by further development and population growth in Havering. These are Hainault Forest in Redbridge and Purfleet Marshes in Thurrock.
- The Local Natural Reserves in Havering are: Rainham Marshes, Bedfords Park, The Chase (jointly managed with London Wildlife Trust), The Manor (Dagnam Park and Duck Wood), Ingrebourne Marshes, Cranham Brickfields, and Cranham Marsh.
- There are 7 wildlife corridors running through Havering: From the Inner Thames Marshes SSSI following the Common Sewer NE into Running Water Brook and Belhus Woods; the Ingrebourne Valley from the Thames to Harold Wood, then up through Harold Hill via Paine's and Carter's Brook; the stream valley from Berwick Ponds up to Cranham Marsh and then via Broadfields Farm, Cranham Brickfields, Tylers Commons and Maylands Golf Course to Dagnam Park; from Dagnam Park via Bedfords Park to Havering Country Park and Hainault Forest; Beam Valley and Dagenham Corridor, with a branch up through Harrow Lodge Park into Hornchurch; From Bedfords Park south via Rise Park and Raphael Park; and The River Thames.
- Protected species that can be found in Havering include bats, brown owl, great crested newt, water vole, badgers, harvest mouse, brown hare, reptiles and amphibians, stag beetle, and other BAP species.

## B.3 Climate Change

### Policy Context

Energy and Climate Change		
International		
Doha amendment to the Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change (2012)	Places greenhouse gasses emission reduction targets of 20% for the UK.	The Local Plan must consider the impact of climate change, and how to contribute to reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.
The Future We Want - Rio+20 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (2012)	Recognizes the importance of the three Rio conventions for advancing sustainable development. Urges all parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and parties to the Kyoto Protocol there to fully implement their commitments, as well as decisions adopted under those agreements.	The Local Plan must consider the impact of climate change, and how to contribute to reductions in greenhouse gas emissions.
Renewable Energy Directive (2009/28/EC)	Establishes a common framework for the use of energy from renewable sources in order to limit greenhouse gas emissions and to promote cleaner transport. It sets national indicative targets for renewable energy production from individual member states. The UK has committed to sourcing 15% of its energy from renewable sources by 2020.	The Local Plan will seek to contribute towards meeting renewable energy targets.
Energy Performance of Buildings (EU Directive 2010/31/EU)	Requires moving towards new and retrofitted nearly-zero energy buildings by 2020 (2018 in the case of Public buildings), and the application of a cost-optimal methodology for setting minimum requirements for both the building's envelope and the technical systems.	The Local Plan should promote energy efficiency of buildings within policies.
National		
Climate Change Act 2008	Places a duty on the United Kingdom to reduce its carbon dioxide and other emissions by at least 26 per cent by 2020 and at least 60 per cent by 2050, compared to 1990 baseline level (which includes other greenhouse gases).	Ensure the policies in the new Local Plan contribute to achieving the targets set in the Act.
Energy Act 2008	The Energy Act 2008 updates energy legislation to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reflect the availability of new technologies and emerging renewable technologies</li> <li>• correspond with the UK's changing requirements for secure energy supply</li> <li>• protect our environment and the tax payer as the energy market changes</li> </ul>	The Local Plan should promote and encourage the use of renewable energy technologies.

Energy Act 2011	<p>The Act includes provisions on:</p> <p>Green deal: the Act creates a new financing framework to enable the provision of fixed improvements to the energy efficiency of households and non-domestic properties, funded by a charge on energy bills that avoids the need for consumers to pay upfront costs.</p> <p>Private rented sector: the Act includes provisions to ensure that from April 2016, private residential landlords will be unable to refuse a tenant's reasonable request for consent to energy efficiency improvements where a finance package, such as the Green Deal and/or the Energy Company Obligation (ECO), is available.</p> <p>Provisions in the Act also provide for powers to ensure that from April 2018, it will be unlawful to rent out a residential or business premise that does not reach a minimum energy standard (the intention is for this to be set at EPC rating 'E').</p> <p>Energy Company Obligation: the Act amends existing powers in the Gas Act 1986, Electricity Act 1989 and the Utilities Act 2000 to enable the Secretary of State to create a new Energy Company Obligation that will:</p> <p>Take over from existing obligations to reduce carbon emissions which expire at the end of 2012.</p> <p>Work alongside the Green Deal finance offer by targeting appropriate measures at those households likely to need additional support – in particular those containing vulnerable people on low incomes and in hard-to-treat housing.</p> <p>The Act also includes measures to:</p> <p>Improve energy efficiency and energy security.</p> <p>Enable low-carbon technologies.</p> <p>Extend the role of the Coal Authority.</p>	Promote high energy efficiency standards for new buildings and support refurbishment of existing buildings to a minimum EPC standard of 'E' to ensure smooth transition to the 2018 Energy Act provision.
UK Renewable Energy Strategy (2009)	<p>Sets out the approach to meet a legally binding target to ensure 15% of our energy comes from renewable sources by 2020. This target is most likely to be achieved by generating:</p> <p>30% of our electricity from renewables</p> <p>12% of our heat generated from renewables and</p> <p>10% of transport energy from renewables</p> <p>All new homes in England will be zero-carbon from 2016 and all new buildings by 2019.</p>	<p>New developments will need to comply with high energy efficiency and carbon-zero requirements.</p> <p>The Local Plan should promote local energy production from renewable sources.</p>

National Planning Policy Framework 2012	<p>The NPPF states that, to support the move to a low carbon future, local planning authorities should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>plan for new development in locations and ways which reduce greenhouse gas emissions;</li> <li>actively support energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings;</li> <li>when setting any local requirement for a building's sustainability, do so in a way consistent with the Government's zero carbon buildings policy and adopt nationally described standards.</li> </ul>	New developments will need to comply with high energy efficiency and carbon-zero requirements.
National Policy Statements EN1 – EN6	<p>Suite of energy National Policy Statements (NPS) for England. The NPSs set out national policy against which proposals for major energy infrastructure projects will be assessed and decided on.</p> <p>NPS EN-1: Overarching Energy Policy Statement sets out the broad policy context and need for the development of nationally significant energy infrastructure, provides assessment principles in accordance with which applications will be decided, and sets out generic assessment impacts for all NPS technology types.</p> <p>The other NPS documents are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>EN-2 Fossil Fuel Electricity Generating Infrastructure</li> <li>EN-3 Renewable Energy Infrastructure</li> <li>EN-4 Gas Supply Infrastructure</li> <li>EN-5 Electricity Networks Infrastructure</li> <li>EN-6 Nuclear Power Generation – Volume 1</li> <li>EN-6 Nuclear Power Generation – Volume 2</li> </ul> <p>The individual technology NPSs provide further detailed guidance for the specific type of development they cover, in addition to the generic guidance set out in EN-1.</p> <p>The Statements reaffirm the need for new low carbon energy infrastructure, based around:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The county's wider greenhouse gas reduction and renewable energy production targets</li> <li>security of supply</li> <li>increasing electricity demand</li> <li>increasing energy costs</li> <li>closure of existing generation capacity</li> </ul>	The Local Plan should promote local energy production from renewable sources.

Regional		
London Plan 2011, Revised Early Minor Alterations 20112 and Draft Further Alterations to the London Plan 2014	Sets out the Mayor's policies on for tackling climate change, particularly in relation to the built environment. The plan seeks to strongly influence the way in which new development in London responds to the challenge of climate change, and creates opportunities for existing areas with respect to both mitigation and adaptation.	The Local Plan is required to be in general conformity with the London Plan and its Alterations.
Managing Risks and Increasing Resilience: The Mayor's climate change adaptation strategy 2011	<p>Aims to assess the consequences of climate change on London and to prepare for the impacts of climate change and extreme weather to protect and enhance the quality of life of Londoners. The Mayor proposes that this aim will be met through achieving the following objectives:</p> <p>Identify and prioritise the climate risks and opportunities facing London and understand how these will change through the century</p> <p>Identify and prioritise the key actions required to prepare London, and to define where responsibility for delivering and facilitating these actions lies</p> <p>Promote and facilitate new development and infrastructure that is located, designed and constructed for the climate it will experience over its design life</p> <p>Improve the resilience of London's existing development and infrastructure to the impacts of climate change</p> <p>Ensure that tried and tested emergency management plans exist for the key risks and that they are regularly reviewed and tested</p> <p>Encourage and help business, public sector organisations and other institutions prepare for the challenges and opportunities presented by climate change</p> <p>Promote and facilitate the adaptation of the natural environment</p> <p>Raise general awareness and understanding of climate change with Londoners and improve their capacity to respond to changing climate risks</p> <p>Position London as an international leader in tackling climate change.</p>	Consider the contribution the Local Plan can make to reducing carbon emissions, through location of development, delivery of renewable energy, and energy efficient buildings.
Delivering London's Energy Future: the Mayor's climate change mitigation and energy strategy 2011	Sets out a strategic approach to limiting further climate change and securing a low carbon energy supply for London. The Mayor has set a target to reduce London's CO2 emissions by 60% of 1990 levels by 2025. Delivering London's Energy Future details the programmes and activities that are on-going across London to	Consider the contribution the Local Plan can make to reducing carbon emissions, through location of development, delivery of renewable energy, and energy efficient buildings.

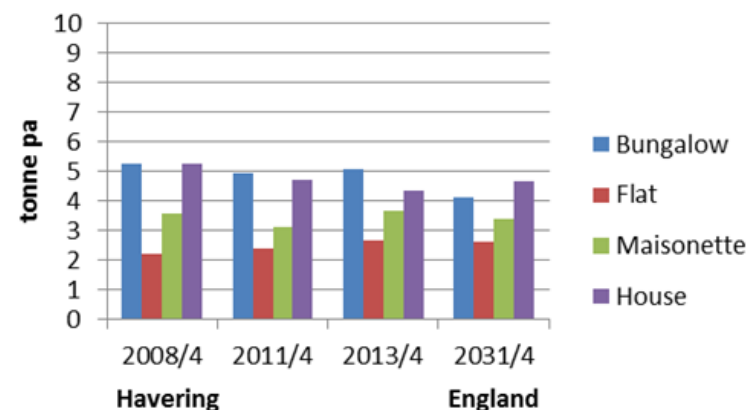
	<p>achieve this. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RE:NEW – retrofitting London's homes with energy efficiency measures, and helping Londoners save money off their energy bills.</li> <li>• RE:FIT – retrofitting London's public sector buildings, saving millions of pounds every year.</li> <li>• RE:CONNECT – ten low carbon zones in London aiming to reduce CO2 emissions by 20% by 2012 across the community.</li> <li>• Decentralised energy programme – aiming to supply 25 per cent of London's energy from secure, low carbon local sources.</li> </ul>	
<b>Local</b>		
Havering Climate Change Action Plan 2014 -2017	Sets actions and targets for achieving reductions in energy consumption, generating renewable energy, adapting to anticipated impacts of climate change and reducing carbon emissions.	Alignment between the Local Plan and Council policy to achieve reductions in energy consumption and carbon emissions.
Havering Fuel Poverty Strategy 2012	Sets out the Council's commitment to reduce fuel poverty in Havering, particularly through efforts to improve the energy efficiency of residential properties of Havering's most vulnerable residents.	Alignment between the Local Plan and Council policy to reduce number of residents facing fuel poverty.

## Baseline Information

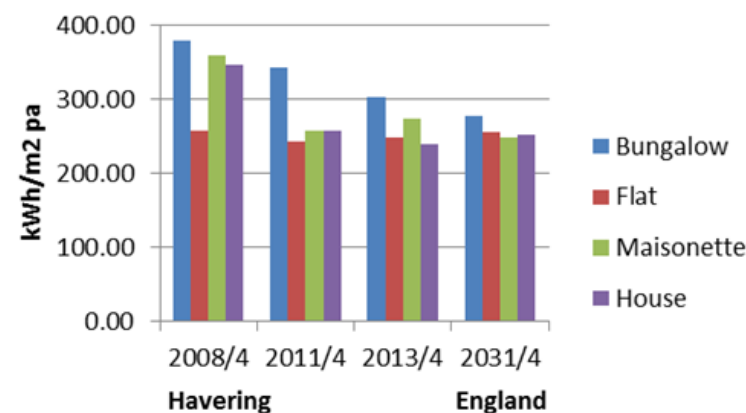
### Climate change and Flooding:

- CO2 emissions estimates in 2012 stood at 5.1 kt per capita, in line with London's emissions (5.2 kt per capita), and much lower than England average (7.0 kt per capita). Of the 1211.3 kt CO2 emitted in 2012, 1065.4 kt were within the scope of influence of the local authority (DECC, June 2014). Average yearly reduction of CO2 emissions in Havering has been at 2.4 kt per year, 0.19% of 2012 net value, much lower than the average London reduction of 0.48% in the same year.
- The biggest sources of CO2 in 2012 were from Domestic Gas consumption (23.30%) and Domestic Electricity consumption (19.36%), followed by Industry and Commercial using mainly electrical energy (17.78%), Motorway Transport (11.78%) and A-Roads Transport (12.82%).
- Havering Council's current planning policies uphold sustainability in building design and on-site renewable energy generation, in order to reduce the impact on climate change of new development. Some developments have gone beyond our requirements, and in Havering there is a 51-property passivhaus scheme, development schemes running on large CHP energy centres, and several which have achieved Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4.
- Havering has the fifth highest number of solar photovoltaic installations of all London boroughs, with 744 solar installations - 200 more than the sixth highest borough (DECC, 2014). There are also three large wind turbines at Ford Dagenham facilities generating 5.9MW of energy. Energy-from-waste facilities are currently operating in Rainham Riverside with Veolia, and new gasification plant has been approved for development which will turn non-recyclable and non-compostable waste into energy (London Riverside Opportunity Area Energy Masterplan, GLA, 2013)
- Between 2008 and 2013 there have been a total of 38,445 Energy Performance Certificates logged in Havering, of which 36,997 are dwelling certificates amounting to a total of 2,933,335 m2 Floor Area (CLG, 2014). The 1458 non-dwelling certificates amounted to 928,313 m2 Floor Area. Most domestic EPC certificates were registered with an average efficiency rating of 'D', followed by 'C' and 'E'. There are 44 domestic buildings and 6 non-domestic buildings registered with 'A' efficiency rating (CLG, 2014).
- 87.94% of households in 2011 had gas central heating and 5.83% had electric central heating. No central heating was reported by 2.00% of Havering's population, while 2.71% had two or more types of central heating (Census 2011).
- Havering has an estimated 6,300 households in fuel poverty, who may be struggling to afford their fuel bills each winter (DECC, 2012). This equates to 6.9% of the number of households in

### Average CO2 Emissions per Dwelling



### Average Energy Use per Dwelling



Havering, however in some areas in Havering the level of fuel poverty is estimated at over 9% - some LSOAs in wards Brooklands, Craham, Gooshays, Hactor, Havering Park, Romford Town, and Upminster.

- The average water consumption in Havering in 2010/11 was 158.7 litres per person per day. The five year average, calculated for Havering is 158.9 litres per person per day between 2006-07 and 2010-11. This has decreased from 160 litres per person per day in 2009/10, and a five year average of 159.6 litres.
- It is anticipated that London (Havering included) will face warmer average temperatures interspersed with more heavy rain incidences as the climate changes (London Climate Change Partnership, 2012). This will lead to increased surface water flooding, more risk of summer overheating in buildings and reductions in water availability.
- There are 17 ~~four~~ distinct watercourses in Havering, of which the following are the largest:
  - The River Beam forms a part of the western boundary of the Borough with the London Borough of Redbridge to the West. It has three tributaries. The River Rom drains the north-western area of the Borough and is joined by the Black Brook at Romford. The Emerson Park Stream joins the Rom at Heath Park, Elm Park. From this point the watercourse is named the Beam;
  - The Ingrebourne, including its tributaries the Weald Brook and the Paines Brook, drain the centre, east and north of the Borough;
  - The River Mardyke drains the eastern area of the Borough although for most of its length it flows through Thurrock, outside Havering; and
  - The River Thames into which the above watercourses drain. This forms the southern boundary of the Borough.
- Havering is potentially vulnerable to flooding from three sources (Multi-Agency Flood Plan 2012):
  - A proportion of the London Borough of Havering is situated in close proximity to the River Thames, River Rom, River Beam and River Ingrebourne which are all key features of the Borough, and all pose (to some degree) a potential risk of flooding to local homes and businesses.
  - The London Borough of Havering is also potentially vulnerable to tidal flooding along the Thames downstream of the Thames Barrier.
  - Lastly the London Borough of Havering is vulnerable to surface water flooding.
- Generally flood risk is limited to the southern area of the Borough in the vicinity of the Thames and the valleys of the Rivers Beam and Ingrebourne and their tributaries. Further clarification will be provided by the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment 2014.
- The southern area of Havering is at risk of flooding from the River Thames which is tidal at this point. The Borough is protected by the Thames Tidal Defences which run along both banks of the river downstream (east) of the Thames Barrier. There are tidal sluices at Beam Tidal Sluice, Havering Tidal Sluice and Frog Island Tidal Sluice which prevent ingress of the River Thames. However, due to the effects of climate change, these defences may have to be raised or set back as outlined in the guidance contained within the Thames Estuary 2100 plan.
- Havering's emergency services operate under a Multi-Agency Flood Plan that identifies the flood risks and emergency response framework. The latest version of this plan was published in 2012.

## B.4 Land, Soil and Water Resources

### Policy Context

Water and Flood Risk		
International		
Urban Waste Water Directive (91/271/EEC)	To protect the environment from the adverse effects of sewage discharges. The Directive regulates the collection and treatment of waste water from homes and industry and sets standards for collection and treatment of wastewater.	The Local Plan should seek to promote the objective contained within the waste water directive.
European Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)	Sustainable use of water and long term protection of water resources. Member States must aim to reach good chemical and ecological status in inland and coastal waters by 2015 and reduce pollution to surface water and groundwater.	The Local Plan will need to protect local waterways and seek to improve quality of surface water.
European Flood Risk Directive (2007/60/EC)	<p>Aims to reduce and manage the risks that floods pose to human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity. It requires Member States to assess whether all water courses and coast lines are at risk from flooding, to map the flood extent and assets and humans at risk in these areas, and to take adequate and coordinated measures to reduce this flood risk.</p> <p>The Directive shall be carried out in co-ordination with the Water Framework Directive, most notably through flood risk management plans and river basin management plans, and also through co-ordination of the public participation procedures in the preparation of these plans.</p>	The Local Plan will need to take into account local flood risk zones, including through the preparation of an SFRA.
National		
Flood and Water Management Act 2010	<p>The Act introduced a comprehensive management structure to protect people, homes and businesses from flood risk. It established Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFA) and Risk Management Authorities (RMA) with different roles and responsibilities in flood risk and water management.</p> <p>Alongside new duties in preparing new plans called Preliminary Flood Risk Assessments (PFRA) and investigating flooding events, the LLFA and RMA will become Sustainable Drainage System (SuDS) Approval Bodies with responsibilities for approving proposed drainage systems in new development.</p> <p>They will also be required to adopt and maintain most approved</p>	The Local Plan will need to ensure that Development will take into account flood prevention and management.

	SuDS.	
Flood Risk Regulations 2009	<p>Introduces Lead Local Flood Authorities, who gain new powers and responsibilities such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Developing Flood Risk Management Strategies</li> <li>Designation and registration of assets</li> <li>Creation of SUDS approval bodies</li> <li>Investigation of flooding</li> </ul>	Local Plan will take into account results of SFRA and other Flood and Water Management Strategies prepared by the Council in its role as Lead Local Flood Authority.
National Planning Policy Framework 2012	<p>Inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding should be avoided by directing development away from areas at highest risk, but where development is necessary, making it safe without increasing flood risk elsewhere.</p> <p>Local Plans should be supported by Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and develop policies to manage flood risk from all sources, taking account of advice from the Environment Agency and other relevant flood risk management bodies, such as lead local flood authorities and internal drainage boards.</p> <p>Local Plans should apply a sequential, risk-based approach to the location of development to avoid where possible flood risk to people and property and manage any residual risk, taking account of the impacts of climate change, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>applying the Sequential Test;</li> <li>if necessary, applying the Exception Test;</li> <li>safeguarding land from development that is required for current and future flood management;</li> <li>using opportunities offered by new development to reduce the causes and impacts of flooding; and</li> <li>where climate change is expected to increase flood risk so that some existing development may not be sustainable in the long-term, seeking opportunities to facilitate the relocation of development, including housing, to more sustainable locations.</li> </ul>	Local Plan will be informed by a new (2014/15) Strategic Flood Risk Assessment including the application of the sequential test (Level 1 SFRA) and the requirements of the exception test (Level 2 SFRA).
<b>Regional</b>		
London Plan 2011, Revised Early Minor Alterations 2012 and Draft Further Alterations to the London Plan 2014	The Mayor will work with all relevant agencies including the Environment Agency to address current and future flood issues and minimise risks in a sustainable and cost effective way.	The Local Plan is required to be in general conformity with the London Plan and its Alterations.

	<p>Boroughs should utilise Strategic Flood Risk Appraisals to identify areas where particular flood risk issues exist and develop actions and policy approaches aimed at reducing these risks, particularly through redevelopment of sites at risk of flooding and identifying specific opportunities for flood risk management measures.</p> <p>Boroughs should, in line with the Flood and Water Management Act 2010, utilise Surface Water Management Plans to identify areas where there are particular surface water management issues and develop actions and policy approaches aimed at reducing these risks.</p>	
Securing London's water future: The Mayor's water strategy 2011	The strategy promotes increasing water efficiency and reducing water wastage to balance supply and demand for water, safeguard the environment and help tackle water affordability problems. It also sets out how the Mayor will help communities at risk of flooding to increase their resilience to flooding.	The Local Plan will have regard to the principles and aspirations set out in the strategy.
Thames Estuary 2100 Plan	Development of a long-term (100 years) tidal flood risk management plan for London and the Thames Estuary	The Local Plan should have regard to the strategic direction for managing flood risk across the estuary and any actions to be taken in the short, medium and long term for the Rainham Marshes and Mardyke area.
<b>Local</b>		
Havering Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) 2007	<p>The SFRA is a planning tool that enables local authorities to select and develop sustainable site allocations away from vulnerable flood risk areas. In addition to informing site allocations the SFRA informs decision making on non-allocated planning applications, strategic flood alleviation measures and other measures to reduce flood risk to existing development, planning requirements for new development and emergency planning.</p> <p>The key objectives of the Havering SFRA (2007) are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To investigate and identify the extent and severity of flood risk to the area at present and in the future</li> <li>To inform the policies in the Site Specific Allocations Submissions Development Plan Document, Romford Area Action Plan (AAP) and the Development Control Policies (DPDs)</li> <li>To inform the Sustainability Appraisal</li> <li>To enable the Council to apply the Sequential Test and the Exception Test</li> </ul>	<p>The Local Plan should reflect the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and ensure that flood risk is taken into account in allocating sites and developing policies.</p> <p>A new Havering SFRA (Levels 1 and 2) is being prepared. The full, updated SFRA will be used to inform the Local Plan preparation.</p>

	<p>To identify the level of detail required for site-specific FRAs To inform the emergency planning process.</p> <p>The Level 1 SFRA is a scoping study, taking a precautionary approach to identifying flood risk in the catchment, without accounting for flood defences. The Level 2 SFRA fully assesses the extent and variation of the residual risk remaining behind the defences in Havering.</p>	
Multi- Agency Flood Plan 2012	<p>The Plan seeks to provide 'a coordinated multi-agency response framework to mitigate the impact of a large-scale flood event in Havering, through achieving following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare key parts of the community susceptible to flooding through the provision of advice and information;</li> <li>• To prioritise the identification and required responses to protect the vulnerable within the community;</li> <li>• To support the Environment Agency in the provision of warnings to communities at flood risk, where technically feasible;</li> <li>• Manage precautionary actions to preserve life for the highest impact flood risks;</li> <li>• Provide accurate and timely information to public and local business on flood response;</li> <li>• Manage the wider impact of borough flooding events to reduce disruption to the utilities, communities and environment;</li> <li>• Lead recovery activity to support the recovery of communities and business;</li> <li>• Maintain critical services within each organisation as part of business continuity arrangements'.</li> </ul>	The Local Plan should have regard to provisions of the Multi-Agency Flood Plan and seek to facilitate effectiveness of emergency services' operation.
Surface Water Management Plan 2011	<p>The Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP) for Havering was developed in 2011 as part of the Drain London6 programme. The SWMP uses data and modelling to seek to understand the causes and effects of surface water flooding – that from sewers, drains, groundwater, and runoff from land, small watercourses and ditches that occurs as a result of heavy rainfall. The plan also seeks to manage surface water over the longer-term through the work of a range of bodies, including LBH, the EA, Thames Water and Transport for London. It includes potential high-level solutions to the flooding problems identified.</p>	The Local Plan should have regard to the provisions of the Surface Water Management Plan.
Local Flood Risk Management Strategy 2014	<p>The objective of the Flood Risk Management Strategy (FRMS) is to tackle 'local' flood risk (e.g. surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses) as opposed to Main River fluvial flooding. In addition</p>	The Local Plan should have regard to the provisions of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.

	<p>it will identify short-term (2 years) measures to tackle flood risk and agree the principles for the longer-term management of flooding in the Borough.</p> <p>The FRMS seeks to bring together all the Flood Risk Management Authorities that contribute to the mitigation of flood risk within Havering.</p>	
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Waste		
International		
European Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EEC)	The Directive sets a revised framework for waste management in the EU, aimed at encouraging re-use and recycling of waste. It includes a five-step hierarchy of waste management options, with waste prevention as the preferred option, and then reuse, recycling, recovery (including energy recovery) and safe disposal, in descending order. The Directive sets a 50% target for household recycling and reuse and 70% target for non-hazardous construction and demolition waste, both of which must be reached by the UK by 2020.	The Local Plan should reflect the waste hierarchy and have regard to the principles and aspirations set out in the strategy.
National		
National Planning Policy Statement 10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management	Seeks to drive waste management up the waste hierarchy and provides a framework for communities to take responsibility for their waste and to ensure sufficient and timely waste management facilities; to implement the national waste strategy; to protect human health and the environment; to engage the community; to ensure new development supports sustainable waste management and to protect greenbelts but appreciate the locational needs of some facilities. The Statement also provides guidance for preparing Local Development Documents including information relating to identification of land for waste management facilities, suitable sites and areas and for determining planning applications.	The Local Plan should reflect and promote the waste hierarchy
Regional		
London Plan 2011, Revised Early Minor Alterations 20112 and Draft Further Alterations to the London Plan 2014	Applies the waste hierarchy waste management which starts from the position that the best approach is to reduce the amount of waste that arises in the first place. Where this is not possible, he supports an approach based on the waste hierarchy that emphasises re-use,	<p>The Local Plan is required to be in general conformity with the London Plan and its Alterations.</p> <p>The Local Plan will need to reflect the waste hierarchy and</p>

	<p>and then recycling and composting, before energy recovery and disposal.</p> <p>Manage as much of London's waste within London as practicable, working towards managing the equivalent of 100 per cent of London's waste within London by 2031</p> <p>Create positive environmental and economic impacts from waste processing</p> <p>work towards zero biodegradable or recyclable waste to landfill by 2031.</p> <p>Municipal waste recycling - the Mayor wishes to see a doubling to 45 per cent by 2015 and then 50 per cent by 2020</p> <p>The London Plan sets out waste apportionment figures by borough.</p>	contribute to the targets set by the Mayor.
London's Wasted Resource: The Mayor's Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2011	<p>Has the following key objectives:</p> <p>Provide Londoners with the knowledge, infrastructure and incentives to change the way they manage municipal waste: to reduce the amount of waste generated, encourage the reuse of items that are currently thrown away, and to recycle or compost as much material as possible.</p> <p>Minimise the impact of municipal waste management on our environment and reduce the carbon footprint of London's municipal waste.</p> <p>Unlock the massive economic value of London's municipal waste through increased levels of reuse, recycling, composting and the generation of low carbon energy from waste.</p> <p>Manage the bulk of London's municipal waste within London's boundary, through investment in new waste infrastructure.</p>	The Local Plan will have regard to the principles and aspirations set out in the strategy.
Making Business Sense of Waste: The Mayor's Business Waste Management Strategy	<p>Set the overall direction for the management of business waste in London for the period 2010 to 2031</p> <p>focus on waste reduction and the more efficient management of resources to reduce the financial and environmental impact of waste</p> <p>manage as much of London's waste within its boundaries as practicable, by taking a strategic approach to developing new capacity</p> <p>boost recycling performance and energy generation to deliver environmental and economic benefits to London</p>	The Local Plan will have regard to the principles and aspirations set out in the strategy.

Local		
The Havering municipal Solid Waste Management Strategy 2006-2020	Provides a framework for managing municipal solid waste. The Strategy forms part of the ELWAs joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy.	The Local Plan will consider the strategic objectives for waste management.
Minerals		
International		
European Directive on the Management of Waste from Extractive Industries (2006/21/EC)	Produce a waste management plan which sets out predictions of the amount of waste likely to be generated and methods of management Ensure safety measures are in place that protect the environment and avoid possible accidents Create a site restoration plan Guarantee sufficient funds are available to restore the land to a satisfactory state	The Local Plan will need to comply with the provisions of this Directive.
National		
National Planning Policy Framework 2012 and National Planning Practice Guidance 2014	The NPPF seeks to ensure that there is sufficient supply to meet needs and seeks to make best use of resources. The NPPF sets out what the Planning Authority should consider when preparing local plans including the contribution of secondary/ recycled materials, defining minerals safeguarding areas, encouraging prior extraction and environmental impacts.	The Local Plan must be consistent with the NPPF and the Local Plan will need to identify and safeguard aggregates resources and include policies for the management of extraction activities.
Regional		
London Plan 2011, Revised Early Minor Alterations 20112 and Draft Further Alterations to the London Plan 2014	Seeks to ensure adequate supply of Aggregates to support construction in London.  The London Plan sets a target of 95% of recycling/re-use of construction, demolition and excavation waste by 2020 and 80% recycling of that waste as aggregates by 2020.  London should make provision for the maintenance of a landbank (i.e. seven years' supply) of at least 5 million tonnes of land won aggregates throughout the plan period until 2031. The plan sets a landbank apportionment of at least 1.75 million tonnes for LB Havering.	The Local Plan is required to be in general conformity with the London Plan and its Alterations.  The Local Plan will need to identify and safeguard aggregates resources.



## Baseline Information

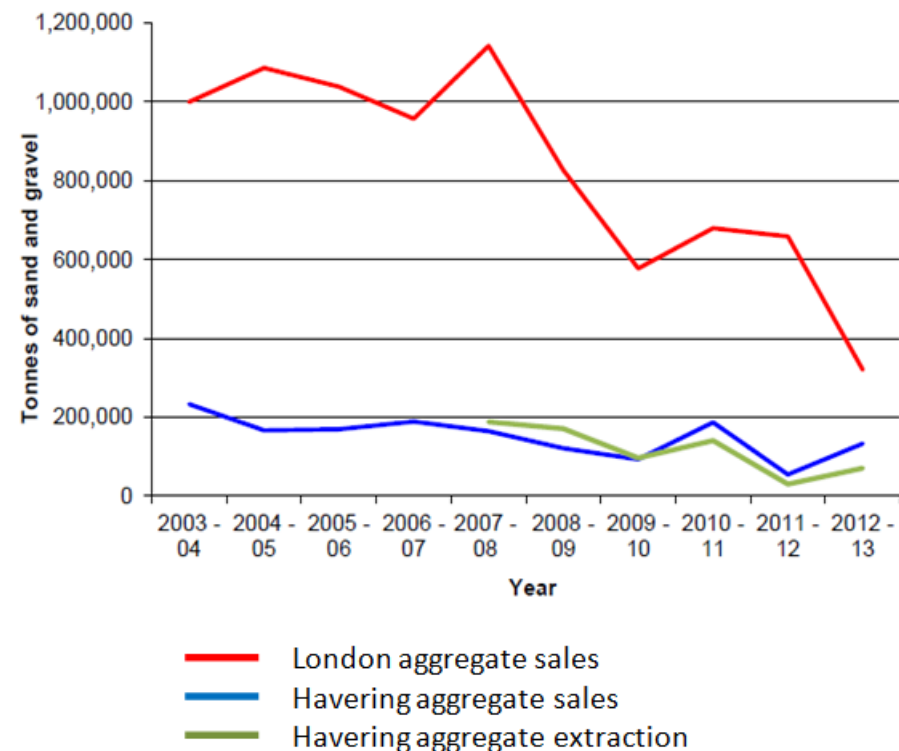
### Natural Resources:

- London Plan 2011 assigned a target assigned a mineral extraction target of 250,000 tonnes per annum to Havering. In addition to extraction, the London Plan aims for 95% recycling and re-use of construction, excavation and demolition waste by 2020, of which 80% of this waste will be recycled as aggregates.
- During 2012/13, 69,552 tonnes of primary land-won aggregates (production from virgin materials extracted from the land) were produced by two operators in the borough (Ingrebourne Valley Limited and Brett Aggregates). This is an increase on the 2011/12 production figure of 29,235 tonnes but still significantly lower than the 2010/11 figure of 140,000 tonnes (Draft LAA 2014).
- Average production of primary aggregates over the previous six years has been 115,391tpa, and for the previous three years has been 79,596tpa. The average sales of primary aggregates has been around 150,000tpa over the past ten years, and approximately 124,000tpa in the past three years (Draft LAA 2014). The data therefore reveal a general decline in average annual production and sales over time, and production has been below Havering's sub-regional apportionment throughout the period for which data is available.
- During 2012, 133,639 tonnes of secondary aggregates were produced in the borough. This is a significant increase on the 68,004 tonnes of secondary aggregates produced in 2011. The recycled aggregate production data for the financial year 2012/13 was 13,959 tonnes, a significant decrease on the figures for 2011/12 (45,433 tonnes) and 2010/11 (70,000 tonnes). (Draft LAA 2014)

### Waste and Recycling:

- Havering produced 108,380 tonnes of (municipal) waste in 2013/14. The total amount of residual waste per household in 2013/14 was 656kg, this is slightly up on the 2012/13 amount of 644kg, but still below the 2009/10 outturn of 706kg per household. In 2013/14, 33.18% of household waste was recycled, re-used or composted, which has been declining annually since the 2011/12 rate of 35.57%.
- There are 54 public access sites with recycling facilities in the borough –fewer than in the other East London boroughs, although tonnage is comparatively good. At these recycling sites, most have glass, cans, plastic bottles and paper recycling and many also offer the facility for

**Primary aggregate sales and extraction  
2007/08 to 2012/13**



textiles. There are also five sites around the Borough for recycling cartons.

- The East London Waste Authority (ELWA) was established in 1986 and is responsible for waste disposal in Havering as well as the London boroughs of Barking & Dagenham, Newham and Redbridge. ELWA collects over 430,000 tonnes of waste each year and is funded by the four boroughs – most of its cost relates to fees and taxes charged for the management, treatment and disposal of waste.

## B.5 Environmental Quality

### Policy Context

Air Quality		
International		
European Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC)	To maintain and improve ambient air quality, including the establishment of air quality standards for a specific set of pollutants PM10, PM2.5 and NO2.	New developments should help achieve stringent air quality targets.
National		
Air Quality Standards Regulations (2010)	Sets out the ways in which the EU Air Quality Directive 2008/50/EC will be complied with and managed at national level.	New developments should help achieve stringent air quality targets.
UK Air Quality Strategy (2007)	The strategy sets health-based air quality standards a range of air pollutants reflecting the European standards. The pollutants covered are: Benzene; 1,3-butadiene; carbon monoxide (CO); Lead; nitrogen dioxide (NO2); Ozone; Particles (PM10); sulphur dioxide (SO2); polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons. Performance against these objectives is monitored where people are regularly present and might be exposed to air pollution.	New developments should help achieve stringent air quality targets.
National Planning Policy Framework 2012	New development should aim to prevent adverse risks of new and existing development from any adverse risks associated with air quality. Policies and proposals should account with EU limit values, accounting for any air quality Management Areas and the cumulative impact of Air Quality as a result of the proposals..	Development should support healthy communities and sustainable modes of transport.
Regional		
London Plan 2011, Revised Early Minor Alterations 20112 and Draft Further Alterations to the London Plan 2014	Sets out the Mayor's policies for tackling air pollution and improving air quality in London. The Mayor will work with strategic partners to ensure that the spatial, climate change, transport and design policies of the plan support implementation of the Air Quality and Transport strategies to achieve reductions in pollutant emissions and minimise public exposure to pollution.	The Local Plan is required to be in general conformity with the London Plan and its Alterations.
Clearing London's Air –	The strategy sets out a framework for improving London's air quality	The Local Plan will have regard to the principles and aspirations set

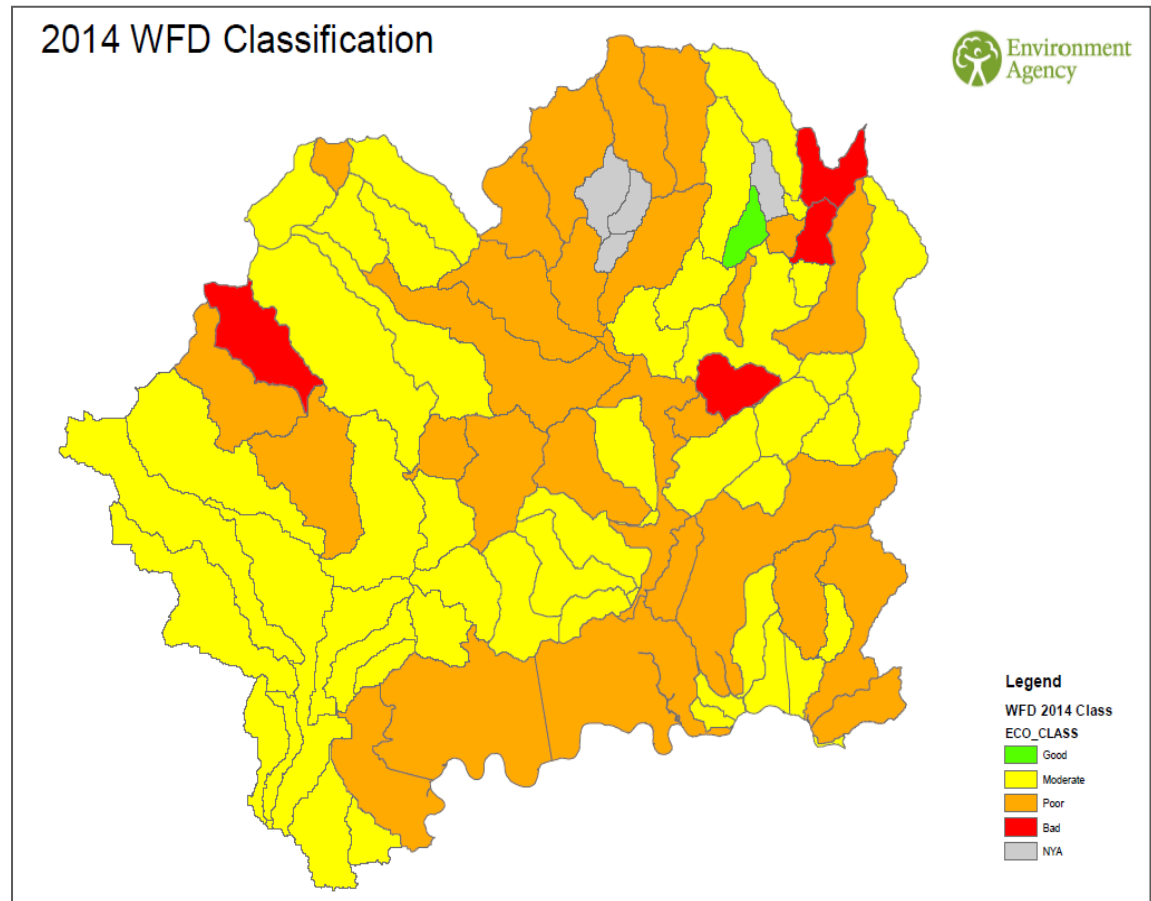
Mayor's Air Quality Strategy (2010)	<p>and measures aimed at reducing emissions from transport, homes, offices and new developments, as well as raising awareness of air quality issues. This will be delivered through a number of initiatives including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Age limits for taxis</li><li>• Promoting low-emission vehicles (such as electric cars)</li><li>• Promoting eco-driving</li><li>• New standards for the Low Emission Zone</li><li>• Retrofitting older buses</li><li>• Targeted measures for areas where air quality is poor.</li><li>• Using the planning system to reduce emissions from new developments.</li><li>• Retrofitting homes and offices to make them more energy efficient</li></ul>	out in the strategy.
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<b>Pollution</b>		
<b>National</b>		
National Planning Policy Framework 2012	One of the 12 Core Planning Principles of the NPPF is to contribute to conserving and enhancing the natural environment and reducing pollution. The NPPF goes further when guiding how a plan is prepared, stating: In preparing plans to meet development needs, the aim should be to minimise pollution and other adverse effects on the local and natural environment.	The Local Plan will need to minimise pollution from development
<b>Regional</b>		
London Plan 2011, Revised Early Minor Alterations 2012 and Draft Further Alterations to the London Plan 2014	London's issues with pollution are acknowledged in the London Plan and it is one of the Mayor's six strategic objectives to ensure that London is a city that becomes a world leader in improving the environment locally and globally, taking the lead in tackling climate change, reducing pollution, developing a low carbon economy, consuming fewer resources and using them more effectively. The Mayor sets out that London should be a city that leads in the reduction of pollution and has a suite of relevant environmental policies related to pollution, air quality and climate change.	The Local Plan is required to be in general conformity with the London Plan and its Alterations. The Local Plan will need to minimise pollution from development
The Control of Dust and Emissions during Construction and Demolition SPG 2014	This SPG seeks to reduce emissions of dust, PM <sub>10</sub> and PM <sub>2.5</sub> from construction and demolition activities in London. It also aims to manage emissions of nitrogen oxides (NOx) from construction and demolition machinery by means of a new non-road mobile machinery Ultra Low Emissions Zone (ULEZ).	The Local Plan will need to consider how to reduce emissions of dust.

## Baseline Information

### Pollution

- The chemical and biological water quality of the rivers in Havering has been historically poor particularly the River Ingrebourne and the River Rom/Beam. The latest Water Framework Directive assessment identifies some improvements, with sections of Havering's waterways achieving moderate quality classification. Under the directive (WFD), the Beam and Ingrebourne need to achieve good status by 2027 and the Ravensbourne needs to achieve good ecological potential. Havering is served by Riverside sewage treatment works. This is situated in Rainham and discharges into Rainham Creek. It currently serves a population equivalent of 389,000 people. This works has been identified by Thames Water as having future growth/capacity issues.
- The whole of the Borough is designated as an Air Quality Management Area.
- Havering's particles emissions in 2012 amounted to 197.5 ktPM10 and 82.6 kt PM2.5, which represents 4.31% of total MP10 and 3.47% of total PM2.5 emissions in London. The biggest cause for PM10 levels are resuspension (72.8 kt), road transport (81.4 kt) and construction and demolition activities (17.7 kt). For PM2.5 levels the largest sources were road transport (19.6 kt), waste (8.75 kt), construction and demolition activities (6.4 kt) (DECC 2014).
- NOx emissions in 2012 was at 1,678 kt, a share of 3.59% of total NOx emissions in London. The main sources of particles were road transport (1038.8 kt), consumption of domestic gas (110.9 kt), and construction activities (88.5 kt) (DECC 2014).
- While no sites in the borough are currently designated as contaminated land, numerous sites in the borough have been previously utilised for heavy industry and other contaminative uses such as landfill and this may pose land contamination problems for future development on such sites.



- In 2012 5.19% of the population reported noise disturbances, much lower than London average of 16.39% and lower than England average of 7.51%. The rate of people affected by road, rail and air transport noise of 55dB(A) or more at night time in 2011 was 7.12%. This is significantly lower than London rate of 15.33% and lower than England rate of 8.01 (DEFTA, 2011).

## B.6 Historic Environment, Landscape and Townscape

### Policy Context

Design and Heritage		
International		
The European (Valletta) Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Revised) (2000).	<p>To provide for the maintenance of an inventory of the country's archaeological heritage</p> <p>To provide for archaeological participation in planning policies designed to ensure well-balanced strategies for the protection, conservation and enhancement of sites of archaeological interest;</p> <p>To ensure that in development schemes affecting archaeological sites, sufficient time and resources are allocated for an appropriate scientific study to be made of the site and for its findings to be published</p>	The Local Plan should protect, conserve and enhance the Boroughs Archaeological assets.
European Landscape Convention (Florence Convention)	The scope of the Convention is extensive: it applies to the entire territory of the Parties and relates to natural, urban and peri-urban areas, whether on land, water or sea. It therefore concerns not just remarkable landscapes, but also ordinary everyday landscapes and degraded areas. Landscape is recognised irrespective of its exceptional value, since all forms of landscape are crucial to the quality of the citizens' environment and deserve to be considered in landscape policies. Many rural and urban fringe areas in particular are undergoing far-reaching transformations and should receive closer attention from the authorities and the public.	The Local Plan should protect and enhance local and regional landscapes, whether they have heritage, natural, or other value.
National		
National Planning Policy Framework 2012	Chapter 12 of the NPPF provides guidance on Conserving and Enhancing the Historic Environment. Within that chapter, planning authorities are told they should recognise that heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and conserve them in a manner appropriate to their significance. Requiring Good Design is a core principle and detailed guidance is set out in chapter 7. Critically, the NPPF states that "good design is indivisible from good planning". Further, local plans should "develop robust and comprehensive policies that set out the quality of development that will be expected	The Local Plan is required to be in general conformity with the London Plan and its Alterations.

	for the area".	
PPS5 Practice Guide (planning in the historic environment)	Although the policies of PPS5 have been superseded by the NPPF. However, the Practice Guide remains a valid and Government endorsed document pending Government's review of guidance supporting national planning policy. PPS5 Practice Guide provides detailed guidance on assessing, monitoring, planning for and making decisions on developments that affect significant heritage assets. The significance of a heritage asset is the sum of its architectural, historic, artistic or archaeological interest.	The Local Plan should have regard to the guidance contained in PPS5, particularly under points E2 : Evidence base for plan making, E3: Regional and local planning approaches, and E5: Monitoring indicators
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990	This Act places a duty on Local Planning Authorities to consider from time to time if there are any parts of their area that are worthy of designation as a conservation area.	The Local Plan should assess whether changes to existing Conservation Areas are necessary or whether new conservation areas could be designated.
Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979	This Act refers to powers of Secretary of State, the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England and Local Authorities (as guardians) by making provision for the investigation, preservation and recording of matters of archaeological or historical interest and regulating operations or activities affecting such matters.	The Local Plan will have regard to the provisions of the Act when policies may affect ancient monuments or archaeological assets.
<b>Regional</b>		
London Plan 2011, Revised Early Minor Alterations 2012 and Draft Further Alterations to the London Plan 2014	The London Plan goes into significant detail on design and heritage matters. According to the document, "Good quality design will be essential and must respond sensitively to local context. Further, it sets out that planning for the significant growth taking place in London means: Improving quality of life for all Londoners and all of London – enabling growth and change, while also supporting the retention of London's heritage and distinctiveness, and making living here a better and more enriching experience for all.	The Local Plan is required to be in general conformity with the London Plan and its Alterations.
Mayor's Shaping Neighbourhoods: Character and Context SPG 2014	This guidance sets out an approach and process to help understand the character and context of a place so that its results can inform the planning and design process, and guide change in way which is responsive to individual places and locations.	The Local Plan should have regard to the recommendations of the SPG when considering Conservation Areas and their site appraisals.
Accessible London: Achieving an inclusive environment SPG 2014	The Accessible London SPG provides advice to boroughs, developers, designers and planning applicants on implementing inclusive design principles effectively and on creating an accessible environment in London, with particular emphasis on the access needs of disabled and older people.	The Local Plan should have regard to this SPG when drafting policies for inclusive design.
<b>Local</b>		
Conservation Area	The Conservation Area Management Plans identify site specific	The Local Plan will have regard to the issues and actions identified

Management Plans for: - Corbets Tey Conservation Area - Cranham Conservation Area - Gidea Park Conservation Area - Havering-atte-Bower Conservation Area - Langtons Conservation Area - North Ockendon Conservation Area - RAF Hornchurch Conservation Area - Rainham Conservation Area - Romford Conservation Area - St Andrews Conservation Area - St Leonards Conservation Area	issues relating to their area and the heritage assets therein. The also consider actions to remedy the situation.	by each Conservation Area Management Plan.
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## Baseline Information

### Open and green spaces:

- Green Belt covers 50% of Havering's area, accommodating a network of pathways and bridleways that form 'green chains' throughout the countryside. The Thames Chase community forest accounts for 70% of Green Belt land, including 400 ha of forest cover.
- The 2013 Your Council Your Say survey found that 75% of residents were satisfied or very satisfied with Havering's parks and green spaces, while 12% were dissatisfied or very dissatisfied and 14% were neither satisfied nor dissatisfied. This shows a very slight decline in satisfaction of 1% since the 2011 Your Council Your Say Survey, where satisfaction levels were 76% and dissatisfaction was 11%.
- There are 126 parks and other publicly owned open spaces, of which 4 are metropolitan parks and 5 are district parks. Of Havering's parks, 9 have Green Flag awards: Bedfords Park, Cottons Park, Harold Wood Park, Hylands Park, Lawns Park, Lodge Farm Park, St Andrews Park, Raphael Park and Upminster Park.
- There are 3 Countryside Conservation Areas: Home Farm and Clay Tye Farm; Dagnam Park and North East Havering; Tomkyns Lane pastures and common land.

### Heritage:

- There are 140 statutory listed buildings in Havering, of which six are Grade I listed and 15 are Grade II\* listed. Around 50% of the borough falls within Areas of Archaeological Potential, and there are also additional buildings, parks and gardens of historical interest and 4 Scheduled Ancient Monuments.
- Havering has 11 Conservation Areas, in Cranham, Rainham, Romford, Havering-atte-Bower, Gidea Park, St. Leonards, RAF Hornchurch, Corbets Tey, North Ockenden, Langtons and St Andrews. All Conservation Areas have a Conservation Area Character Appraisal and a Management Plan. Romford Conservation Area is considered at risk, mostly due to high development pressures for this metropolitan centre, and is under constant monitoring.
- Havering had 13 historic buildings at risk in 2014, with 10 buildings having remained on the register for longer than 5 years (Garden walls to former North Ockendon Hall, Church Lane; Bridge in Parklands Park, Corbets Tey Road, Upminster; 96-102 North Street, Romford; High House Farmhouse, Ockendon Road; Garden walls to south of Bretons House, Rainham Road, Hornchurch; Upminster Windmill, St Mary's Lane; Stable Block, Rainham Hall; Garden walls at Cranham Hall, The Chase; Mill Cottage, The Dell, Hornchurch; Footbridge to rear of Nos. 52 and 54, The Grove, Upminster), as well as one ancient monument (Cockeralls medieval moat in Dagnam Park).
- There are also 180 Buildings of Local Heritage Interest included in the Heritage Supplementary Planning Document adopted in 2011 and reviewed in the Heritage Asset Register 2014. Fieldwork undertaken as part of the Heritage Asset Register work identified 12 buildings that have been demolished since their inclusion on the list.

## B.7 Population and Community

### Policy Context

Housing		
National		
Housing Act 2004	Makes the following provisions: Regulates houses in multiple occupation Introduces Home Information Packs Provides the legal framework for Tenancy Deposit Schemes	The Local Plan will need to take account of and reflect the Provisions of the Act.
National Planning Policy Framework 2012	Promotes the provision of housing to meet present and future demand, based on objectively assessed needs. Local Plans should boost significantly the supply of housing. Authorities should demonstrate that they have enough deliverable housing sites to meet need for the next 5 years.	The Local Plan evidence base will need to objectively assess the needs for market and affordable housing in the housing market area. Identify a 5 year supply of specific, deliverable housing site and identify a supply of specific, developable sites or broad locations for growth, for years 6-10 and, where possible, for years 11-15.
Laying the Foundations: A housing strategy for England 2011	Sets out a package of reforms to: get the housing market moving again lay the foundations for a more responsive, effective and stable housing market in the future support choice and quality for tenants improve environmental standards and design quality.  The new strategy addresses concerns across the housing market making it easier to secure mortgages on new homes, improving fairness in social housing and ensuring homes that have been left empty for years are lived in once again.	The Local Plan will have consideration for the recommendations made in the Strategy with regard to developing within market conditions and improving the quality of the environment and the design of dwellings.
Regional		
London Plan 2011, Revised Early Minor Alterations 20112 and Draft Further Alterations to the London Plan 2014	Sets out Mayor's policies with regard to housing delivery and design standards, and sets borough targets based on London-wide SHLAA and SHMA assessments. The Current Housing target in the London Plan 2011 for Havering is 970 units per annum. The Draft Further Alterations to the London Plan proposes to increase this to 1170 per annum.	The Local Plan is required to be in general conformity with the London Plan and its Alterations.  The Local Plan will need to demonstrate how the housing target set out in the London Plan will be met
Housing Strategy 2010	Sets out the Mayor's priorities to: Raise aspirations and promote opportunity: by producing more affordable homes, particularly for families, and by increasing	The Local Plan will have regard to the principles set out in the Housing Strategy including housing design and provision of affordable housing

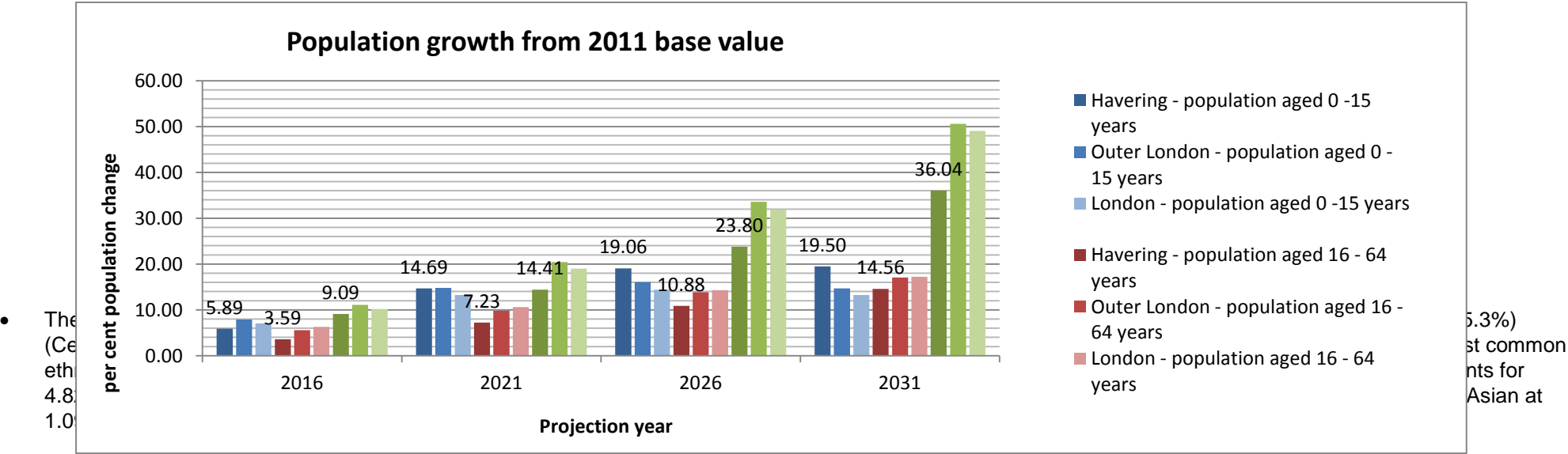
	<p>opportunities for home ownership</p> <p>Improve homes and transform neighbourhoods: by improving design quality, greening homes, promoting successful, strong and mixed communities and tackling empty homes;</p> <p>Maximise delivery and optimise value for money: by creating a new architecture for delivery, developing new investment models and promoting new delivery mechanisms.</p>	
Draft Revised London Housing Strategy 2014	<p>Sets out Mayor's Housing delivery strategy through a series of targets and programmes. The key objectives of the strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>increasing housing supply to levels not seen since the 1930s;</li> <li>better supporting working Londoners and helping more of them into home ownership;</li> <li>improving the private rented sector and promoting new purpose-built and well managed private rented housing;</li> <li>pushing for a new, long-term financial settlement for London Government to drive housing delivery; and</li> <li>bringing forward land for development and accelerating the pace of housing delivery through Housing Zones and the London Housing Bank.</li> </ul>	<p>The Local Plan will have regard to the principles set out in the Housing Strategy recognising the need to increase housing supply, including affordable housing. As part of the Local Plan process it will be necessary to consider how collaboration with GLA (programmes) can benefit local and regional housing delivery.</p>
Housing Supplementary Planning Guidance 2012	<p>Supports the implementation of the London Plan in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>increase housing supply and optimise housing potential</li> <li>improve the quality and design of housing developments by setting design standards</li> <li>promote housing choice and mixed and balanced communities</li> <li>negotiate and secure affordable housing</li> <li>improve the existing housing stock</li> <li>provide social infrastructure</li> <li>promote mixed use developments</li> </ul>	<p>The Local Plan will need to consider how the supply of housing can be increased. The Guidance should be followed to ensure that the Local Plan is in general conformity with the London Plan.</p>
<b>Local</b>		
Housing Strategy 2014-2017	<p>The strategy outlines Council's plans to counter existing and anticipated housing challenges. It identified five broad areas that the Housing service wants to focus on in order to meet the housing needs of our residents. These areas consist of: homelessness, affordable housing developments, private sector housing, older people's housing and supported housing.</p>	<p>The Local Plan should reflect the housing priorities identified in the Housing Strategy</p>

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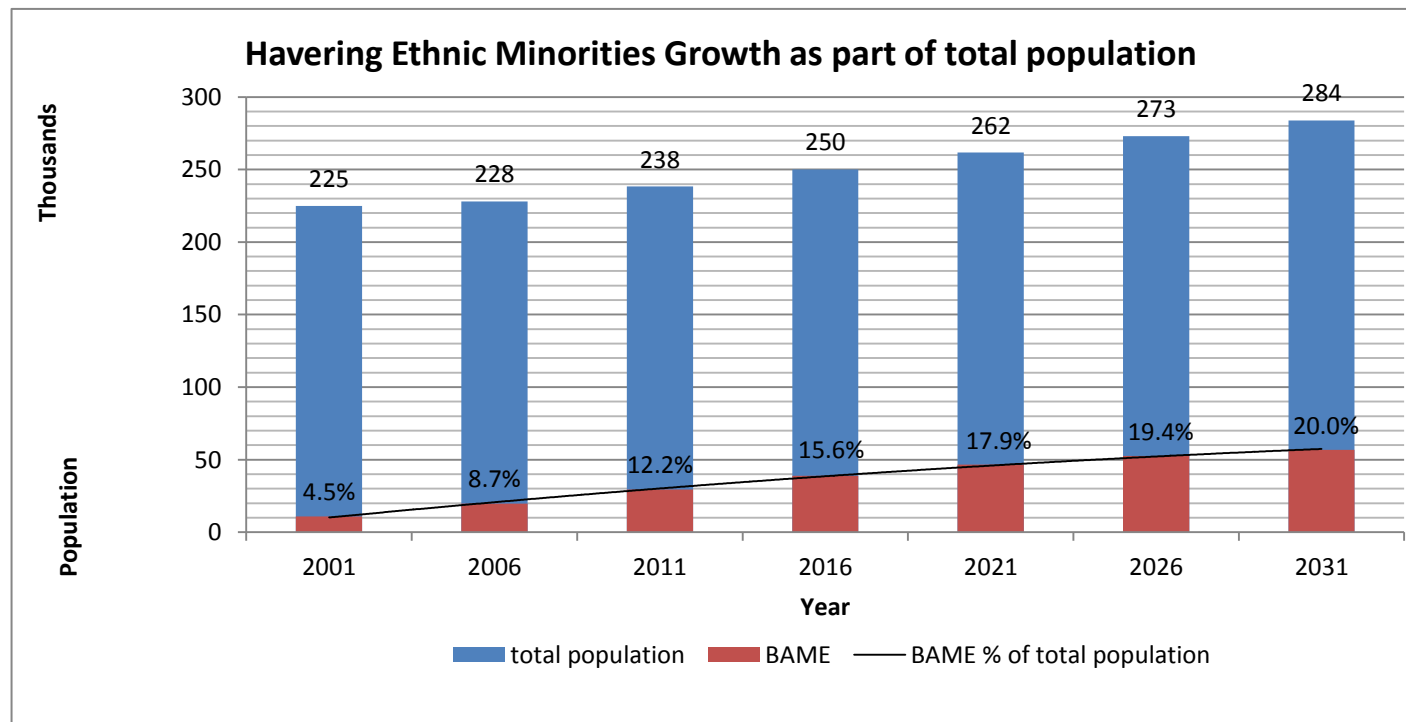
Baseline Information

Demographic aspects:

- Havering’s population numbered 238,281 in 2011, 2.89% of London’s total population (8.2 million). The wards with the biggest population growth between 2001 and 2011 are Romford Town with 21%, Brooklands with 15%, Squirrels Heath at 12% and South Hornchurch at 8%. Upminster and Pettits have seen the least growth with only 1% population increase, while Hacton has had a population decrease of -2%. Borough’s population is expected to increase by 19% by 2031, to 283,700 (GLA, mid estimates, 2013).
- The over 65-years age group will see the largest growth from the 2011 baseline, with 9% increase by 2016, 14.4% by 2021, 23.8% by 2026 and 36% by 2031 (GLA, 2013).
- Children and young people (0 to 15 years) is expected to see the second biggest increase, starting from 5.8% by 2016, to 14.6% by 2021, 19% by 2026 and 19.5% by 2031. At the time of the 2011 census, Gooshays remained the ward with the highest numbers of children, followed by Brooklands. 21% of all children in Havering live in Gooshays, Brooklands or South Hornchurch (GLA, 2013)
- Working age population (16 to 65 years) will see a steady growth from 2011 baseline, up 3.59% by 2016, to 10.8% by 2026 and 14.5% by 2031. (GLA, 2013)

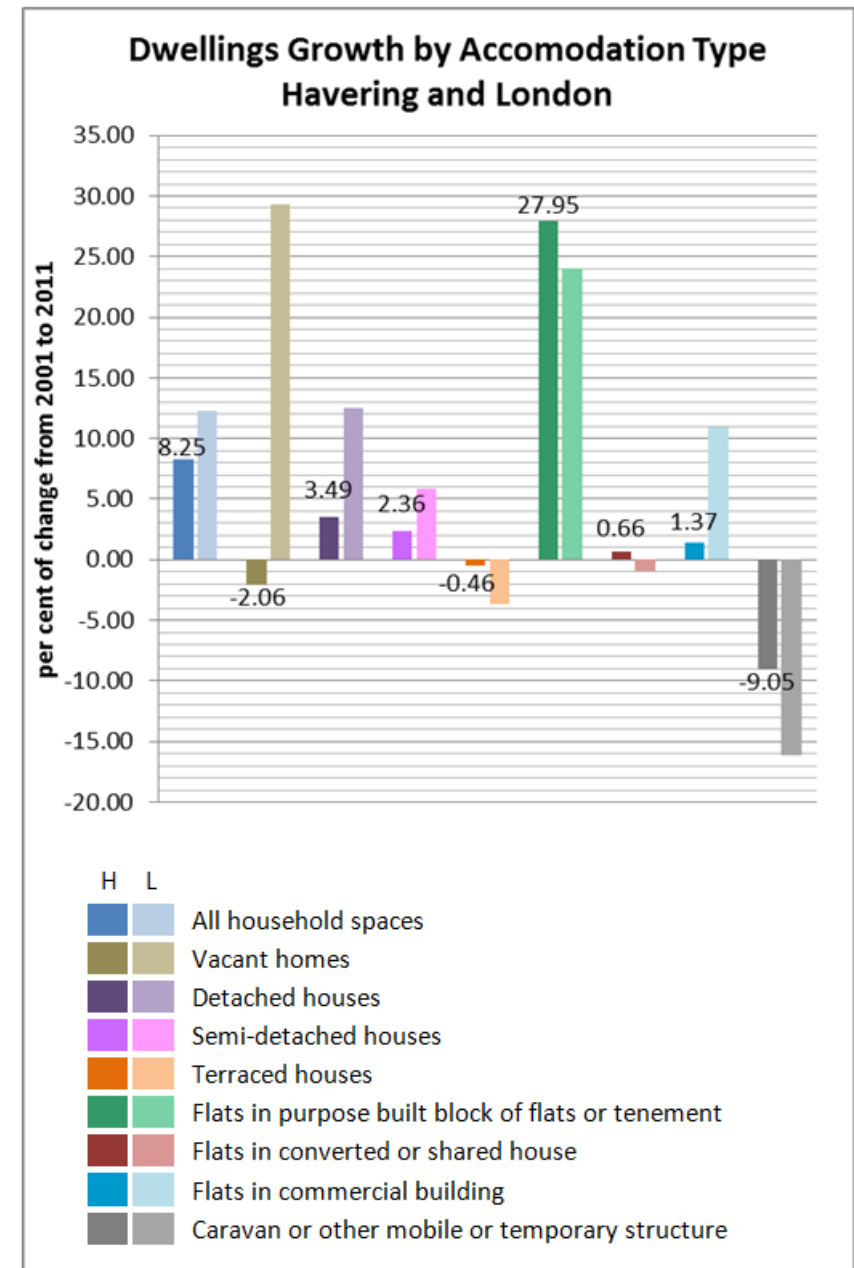


- Havering's ethnic profile shows an increasingly diverse population, from 12.2% of total population being BME in 2011 (Census 2011) and projected to grow to 20% by 2031 (GLA, 2012). The fastest growing groups are Black African, followed by Indian and Black Caribbean. Other Black and Other Asian groups also show significant growth (GLA, 2013).
- In 2011, 5.6 per cent of the households spoke at least one other language than English at home, and 2.3% of households did not have English as main language. The top 5 languages spoken in 2011 in Havering were Lithuanian (980 persons, 0.4%), Polish (829 persons, 0.4%), Panjabi (595, 0.3%), Bengali – with Sylheti and Chatgaya (490, 0.2%), Tagalog/Filipino (430, 0.2%). Lithuanian does not feature as a top five language in England nor London (Census, 2011). School census in January 2014 identified Yoruba as the top language, with 401 children speaking it (1.1%), followed by Lithuanian (1%), Urdu (0.7%), Polish (0.7%) Bengali (0.6%) and Romanian (0.6)%
- In the 2011 Census, two-thirds (65.58%) of Havering's population stated that they are Christian, followed by 22.57% with no religion and just below 6.65% who preferred not to state their religion. Other religions in the borough are: Muslim (2.03%), Hindu (1.24%), Sikh (0.81%), Jewish (0.48%), Buddhist (0.32%).



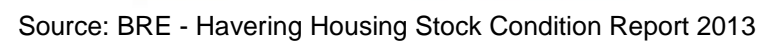
## Housing:

- The number of households in Havering is expected to increase from 97,478 (in 2011) to about 112,827 by 2026 (15.75%) and 118,301 by 2031 (21.36%) – an average of 1.06% yearly increase from the 2011 level (GLA, 2013). The estimated number of households in 2013 is 101,00 (ONS, 2014)
- The total number of dwellings in 2011 was 99,290, a growth of 8.25% from 2001 value (ONS, 2011). A total of 128 communal establishments provided accommodation for 1,561 persons in 2011.
- Of the total number of households in 2011, 35.62% owned their home outright, 38.14% owned it with a loan or mortgage, and a further 0.60% had shared ownership. Of the households who rented their home, 10.76% rented from the Council, 3.43% rented from registered social landlords and 10.63% rented from private landlords (Census 2011). In 2013, 18.8% households rented from council or social landlords and 10.2% rented from private landlords, 35.2% owned their home outright and 35.4% owned their home with a mortgage or loan (APS, 2014).
- Havering's housing stock is comprised mainly of semi-detached (40.7% of dwellings) and terraced properties (26.4%), although there has been a growing number of purpose built flats in recent years (ONS, 2011). In 2011, 19.06% of homes were in purpose-built blocks of flats, up from 16.11% in 2001. This trend is in line with London wide housing growth (ONS, 2011).
- Local Authority owned dwelling stock has fallen from 12,004 in 2001 to 10,129 in 2011 (ONS, 2011), mostly due to selling of properties, or demolition and redevelopment. Council's stock at 1st April 2014 accounted for 9,884 properties with 80.4% of council owned housing reported as decent. The number of dwellings on the Registered Social Landlord list has increased from 1,731 in 2001 to 3,650 in 2011. Overall, the number of affordable dwellings has increased by 3,794 between 2001 and 2011 (ONS, 2011) and represented 15% of total stock. Social housing is largely concentrated in Harold Hill, Waterloo Road (Romford) and Orchard Village (formerly the Mardyke estate, South Hornchurch).
- Homeless people in temporary accommodation accounted for 4.6 per 1,000 households, but this rose to 6.3 per 1,000 households in March 2014 (CLG, 2014).
- Havering had 6,992 households on the Council housing waiting list in 2011 (HSSA) – comprising 7.1% of all households and was proportionally below both the Outer London average of 8.4% of all households on the waiting list, and the London average of 11%. Recent numbers, following the review of council's Allocation Policy, show 2,379 households in need of



social housing (Housing Register, 2014). Out of those waiting to be housed 74.6% require one or two bedroom accommodation, with more than 42% waiting specifically for two bedrooms.

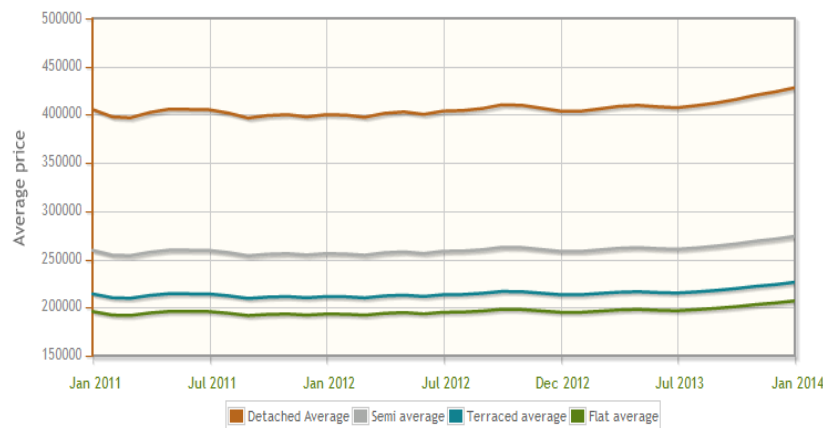
- According to VOA (2014), average renting price in Havering is £919 per month, among the lowest in London. When considering property size, studios were priced on average £600 a month, 1-beds at £689 a month, 2-beds £884 a month, 3-beds at £1,065 a month, and 4+ beds at £1,684 a month. Analyses of the private rented sector 2013 to 2014 has indicated a year on year increase in price of 13.28% for studios (0 bedrooms), 12.25% for 4-bedroom units, and between 4.5% and 6.5% increase in the other types of dwelling sizes.
- The numbers of Housing Benefit claimants living in the private rented sector have increased from 3,800 in 2007 to 7,331 by April 2013 and for the first time, there are more claimants living in private rented homes than claimants in the social sector. Havering data has identified that only 10.07% of new applicants for housing benefits in 2013 were previous local residents, while 67.80% had migrated in from other London boroughs.
- The 2012 Housing Need and Demand Assessment data suggests that over 45% of market housing demand is from in- migration which is principally for two and three bedroom properties. Property type demand from in- migrant households is 52% of the total demand for flats and 58% of total demand for bungalows.
- Room occupancy ratings in 2011 show that 7.37% of households were undersized, while 48.66% of households had two extra rooms; also, 34.4% of households had two or more extra bedrooms, while 0.4% were seriously overcrowded and 3.5% needed an extra bedroom (ONS, 2011).



- Housing market has increased in sales volume from about 2,500 in 2011 to around 3,500 in 2013, indicating a more favourable economic environment (Land Registry, 2014). In 2001, 2.32% of units were vacant, compared to 2.1% vacant in 2011, in spite of a growth of 8.13% in supply of homes (7462 units) (Census, 2011). Between 2008/09 and 2012/13, there have been an average of 422 new homes delivered each year (about half of it social housing)(AMR, 2013).
- The mean average house price in Havering has increased from around £255,500 in 2011 to about £265,000 in 2013, which remains significantly lower than the London average (Land Registry 2014). However, when looking at average price by property type, these have remained largely the same between 2011 and 2013, meaning there is an increase in demand for detached and semi-detached properties which have higher sale value.

### Housing Market Trends 2011 to 2014

**Property Type**



**Sales Volume**



## B.8 Health and Wellbeing

### Policy Context

Culture		
National		
National Planning Policy Framework 2012	<p>The NPPF requires local authorities to take account of and support local strategies for social and cultural wellbeing, and protect and deliver sufficient community and cultural facilities and services to meet local needs (para. 17, 70 and 156).</p> <p>The NNF seeks to ensure the vitality of town centres and identifies the arts, culture and tourism development (including theatres, museums, galleries and concert halls, hotels and conference facilities) as main town centre uses.</p>	The Local Plan should include policies for the 'adequate provision' of community facilities, including the 'protection and enhancement' of existing community facilities (where they are viable), in recognition of the increasing importance these will / can play in town centre economies. Community facilities provide for the health and wellbeing, social, educational, spiritual, recreational, leisure and cultural needs of the community.
Creating a sporting habit for life – Youth Sports Strategy 2012	Aims to increase consistently the number of young people developing sport as a habit for life. Over the next five years, Sport England will invest at least £1 billion of Lottery and Exchequer funding to help to ensure that young people are regularly playing sport. Sport England will work with schools, colleges and universities, as well as local County Sports Partnerships, the National Governing Bodies for sport, local authorities and the voluntary sector to improve the sporting offer that we make available to them.	The Local Plan should include policies to support the provision of an appropriate level of sport and recreation facilities (informed by a revised Open Space, Sport and Recreation Needs Assessment)
Regional		
London Plan 2011, Revised Early Minor Alterations 2012 and Draft Further Alterations to the London Plan 2014	Sets out policies to support the continued success of London's diverse range of arts, cultural, professional sporting and entertainment enterprises and the cultural, social and economic benefits that they offer to its residents, workers and visitors.	The Local Plan is required to be in general conformity with the London Plan and its Alterations.
Mayor's Cultural Strategy: Cultural Metropolis (2010)	The Mayor's Cultural Strategy sets out his vision, priorities and recommendations for how to strengthen the cultural life of Londoners across the capital. The strategy recognises the significance of the cultural and creative sectors in making London a successful world city, and puts forward a case for its continued support and investment – particularly in the run up to the 2012 Olympics and the opportunity it presents for London to undertake a step change in cultural activity and participation	The Local Plan should include policies, policies for the 'adequate provision' of community facilities, including the 'protection and enhancement' of existing community facilities (where they are viable), in recognition of the increasing importance these will / can play in town centre economies. Community facilities provide for the health and wellbeing, social, educational, spiritual, recreational, leisure and cultural needs of the community.
Local		
Havering Culture Strategy	An over-arching 3-year Culture Strategy for the borough, covering	The Local Plan should reflect the Council's approach as set in the

2012-2014	the period 2012-2014. The core ambition of the Culture Strategy is 'to transform lives through participation in, and enjoyment of, culture'. The strategy set out three objectives (health and wellbeing, learning and development, and towns and communities) and four underpinning principles (community empowerment, work in partnership, inclusion and cohesion, and good value services) which outlined the Council's priorities for achieving this.	Culture Strategy and subsequent iterations.
Havering Culture Sub-Strategies (Sport & Physical Activity; Arts; Libraries; Parks & Open Spaces, and Heritage & History) 2013-2015	<p>The five Culture Sub-Strategies (Sport &amp; Physical Activity; Arts; Libraries; Parks &amp; Open Spaces, and Heritage &amp; History) provide a strategic direction for the Council and also for the wider development of culture in the borough through partnership with agencies in the public, private and voluntary sectors.</p> <p>The sub-strategies include an analysis of the current service, identify emerging opportunities and areas for development, and set out an action plan for the next 3 years.</p>	The Local Plan should reflect the Council's approach as set in the Culture Sub-Strategies and subsequent iterations.

### Equalities

#### National

National Planning Policy Framework 2012	Equalities and inclusive design are at the forefront of the NPPF. It recognises that design should not only be about the aesthetics of a building but that planning policies and decisions should address the connections between people and places and the integration of new development into the natural, built and historic environment. Inclusive design is defined as - designing the built environment, including buildings and their surrounding spaces, to ensure that they can be accessed and used by everyone"	The Local Plan should incorporate the principles of inclusive design.
Equality Act 2010	Requires that regard is given to the desirability of reducing socio-economic inequalities; reform and harmonise equality law and restate the greater part of the enactments relating to discrimination and harassment related to certain personal characteristics.	The Local Plan will need to ensure that it promotes equal opportunities.

#### Regional

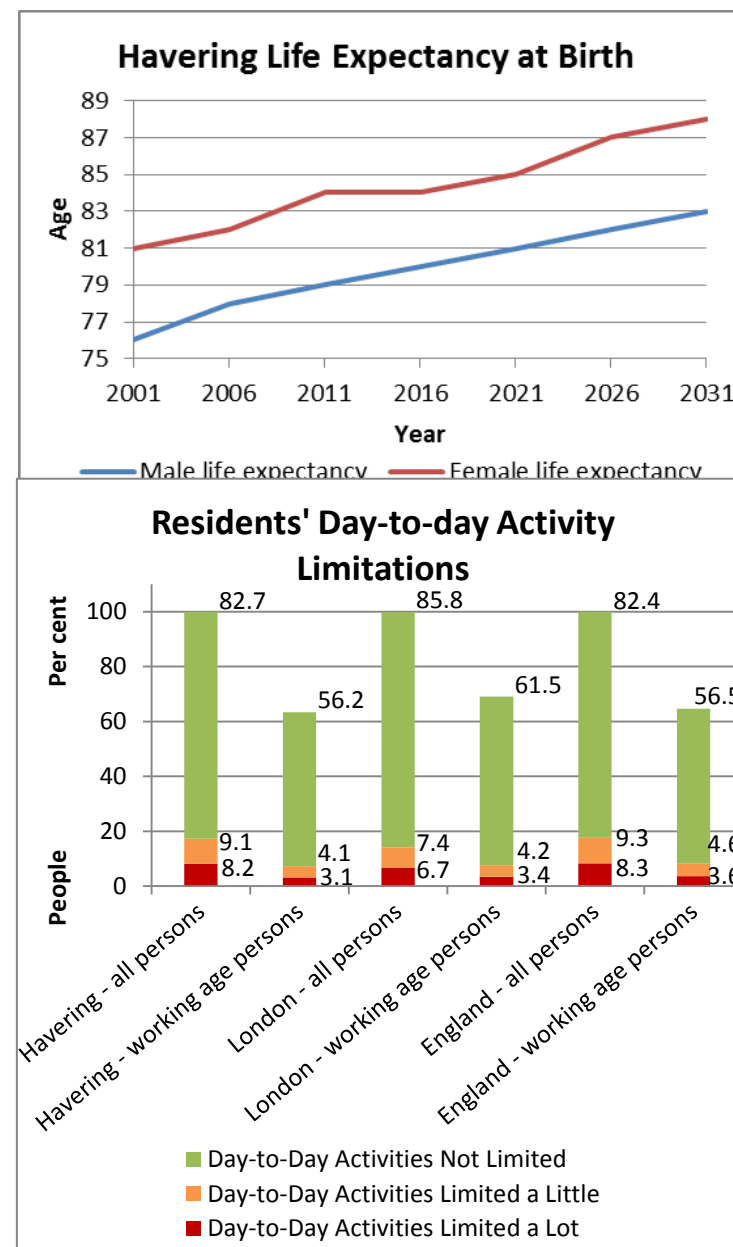
London Plan 2011, Revised Early Minor Alterations 2012 and Draft Further Alterations to the London Plan 2014	The London Plan aims to tackle health, social and educational inequalities within London. Specifically, section 3 on London's People features policy 3.1 'Ensuring Equal Life Chances for All'. Within that policy, guidance is provided on DPD preparation. The policy states: "In preparing DPDs, boroughs should engage with local groups and communities to identify their needs and make	<p>The Local Plan is required to be in general conformity with the London Plan and its Alterations.</p> <p>The Local Plan should promote equal opportunities across all policy areas.</p>
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	appropriate provision for them". It is worth noting that the London Plan was prepared in keeping with national equalities and disabilities legislation and was subject to a full Equalities Impact Assessment during its preparation.	
Accessible London: Achieving an Inclusive Environment. Mayor's Supplementary Planning Guidance (2004)	This provides detailed guidance on the policies contained in the London Plan to make places usable by everyone especially disabled people.	The Local Plan should seek to ensure that places are accessible and usable.
Equal life chances for all 2014	Highlights the Mayor's commitment to tackling inequality; improving life chances, and removing barriers that prevent people from reaching their full potential. The document (an update from the 2012 version) sets out a number of objectives and how the Mayor aims to meet them. The objectives relate to such things as employment, sports, housing, and regeneration.	The Local Plan will need to ensure that it promotes equal opportunities.
Planning for Equality and Diversity in London. Mayor's Supplementary Planning Guidance (2007)	This SPG provides guidance on the implementation of policies in the London Plan, which relate to equalities issues and addressing the needs of London's diverse communities.	The Local Plan should seek to meet the needs of Havering's communities.

## Baseline Information

### Health and Wellbeing:

- General health of Havering residents is improving. In 2011, 81.6% were in good (and very good) health and 5.2% in bad (and very bad) health, compared to 69.7% in good health and 8.2% in bad health in 2001 (Census 2011).
- Life expectancy at birth is increasing, with both males and females expected to live 4 years longer by 2031 compared to 2011 (GLA, 2013).
- Infant mortality rate per 1000 live births was at 3.4 in the period between 2008 and 2010, lower than London and England rates (both at 4.4)(GLA, PHOF 2013).
- Hospital admissions are most commonly related to Coronary Heart Disease, and Cancers (Information Centre 2008). In 2011 there were 21,447 hospital admissions, up from 18,911 in 2006 (HSCIC, 2012).
- There are 52 GP practices in the Havering NHS Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) catchment area, covering a total of 256,731 patients. The average patient list per practice in 2012 is therefore 4,937 which is an increase from 4,847 in 2011 (AMR, 2013).
- Ambulance service incidents per hundred population rating in 2013 stood at 12.8, in line with London value (GLA, 2014).
- The amount of road casualties has decreased significantly, from 973 recorded in 2006 (852 slight severity) to 673 recorded in 2013 (622 slight severity)(PHOF 2013).
- Long term health problems or disability that limits day-to-day activity were experienced by 17.3% of the population (7.2% of working age population) in 2011 (Census 2011). Data from the Department of Work and Pensions (DWP) in 2013 shows 20.66% of working age population in Havering is disabled, with 4.11% of Havering's working age residents are claiming Disability Living Allowance and a further 1.87% are claiming Incapacity Benefits.
- In 2012, 19.33% of people aged over 16 were smoking, and 30.57% were ex-smokers, higher than London rates (17.97% smokers and 28.74% ex-smokers), but lower than England rates (33.15% smokers and 47.3% ex-smokers). The 4-weeks smoking quit rate in Havering was 1,468 per 100,000 people aged over 16 years, in 2012/13, lower than the London rate of 1,846 and lower still than England rate of 2,050. The rate of mothers who were known to be smoking at time of delivery



was 11.4% in 2012/13, above the national ambition level of 11%, but lower than the London rate of 13.0% (HSCIC, 2014).

- Active People Survey 2012 found that only 36.1% of the population over 16 years was of normal weight (by body mass index), 0.6% being underweight and 41.0% being overweight but not obese, meaning 22.3% if the population is considered obese (PHOF 2013). In London 41.1% are of normal weight, 1.6% are underweight and 19.6% are obese, while in England 35.0% of population is of normal weight, 1.2% are underweight and 23.0% are obese.
- National Child Measurement Programme 2012/13 showed that children in Havering's schools are generally of healthy, with 78.1% of the 4-5 year olds and 63.9% of 10-11 year olds being of normal weight. Around 1% of children are underweight. (PHOF 2013) The biggest issue is the growth in the number of overweight and obese children from reception to year six. Of 5-6 year old children, 14.4% were classed as overweight in 2006/7, while 15.1% of year 6 pupils were overweight in 2012/13. Obesity rate in children at reception in 2006/7 was 11.2%, but 19.9% for year 6 pupils in 2012/13.
- The rate of people supported to live independently by social services in Havering is 2,979 per 100,000 residents, this is much lower than London and national averages and has decreased significantly since 2009 (DoH 2010).
- In 2011, 6.8% of population provided 1 to 19 hours of unpaid care a week, and a further 3.9% provide more than 20 hours unpaid care a week (Census 2011)
- In 2011, 1.7% of households represented lone parents (ONS, 2011).
- Between October 2005 and October 2006 31.2% of Havering's population was participating in sports at least 4 times a month for at least 30min (Sport England, 2012). Between 2011 and 2012 the rate reached 32.6%. This is lower than the London average of 35.4% in 2005-2006 and 36.5% in 2011-2012. Overall, 55.33% of adult population in Havering were physically active in 2012, just slightly under London (57.20%) and England (56.03%) rates (PHOF 2013).
- 10% of adults cycle at least once per month, in line with London and England values (DfT, 2013).
- London's Strategic Planning for Sports Facilities 2010 estimates the satisfied demand by Havering's facilities are at 60.1% for a-g pitches, 74.3% for sports halls, and 84.4% for swimming pools
- Havering ranks pretty well in subjective well-being scores. Between 2012 and 2013, Havering was 6<sup>th</sup> in London on Life Satisfaction Index with a score of 7.4 (worst recorded 7.0, best 8.1), 10<sup>th</sup> on Worthwhile Index with 7.65 (worst 7.22, best 8.23), 16<sup>th</sup> on Happiness Index with 7.24 (worst 6.85, best 7.51), and only 22<sup>nd</sup> on Anxiety Index with 3.17 (worst 3.74, best 2.51) (ONS/GLA, 2013).

### **Culture and Community:**

- Romford is the entertainment centre of the borough, and sub-regionally important, offering a community theatre (Brookside Theatre), a museum, two cinemas, many eating establishments, pubs and nightclubs, and a strong retail offer that the Council is actively promoting in light of growing competition from Westfield Stratford City, Lakeside and Bluewater. Arts provision is strong in Hornchurch, with the Queen's Theatre and Fairkytes Arts Centre adding to Hornchurch's thriving restaurant offer. Upminster is also locally important as a hub for restaurants.
- Havering has three leisure centres, in Harold Hill, Hornchurch and Rainham, and two museums – the Havering Museum, opened in May 2010 in Romford, and Tithe Barn Museum in Upminster. Upminster Windmill is preserved by the Friends of Upminster Windmill and Upminster Windmill Trust and it is opened to the public on certain days throughout the year. The Council has also recently received HLF funding to restore the Windmill and build a Heritage and Education Centre, working with the Friends Group and Upminster windmill Trust. A new leisure centre for Romford (comprising a swimming pool, ice rink and gym facilities) is also anticipated to open early in 2017.

- There are 126 parks and other publicly owned open spaces, with 50% of the borough being Green Belt and largely covered by the Thames Chase Community Forest. Numerous countryside-based recreational opportunities are available in these areas. A 'green chain' runs through Havering, and is currently being developed and extended, to link together public footpaths and bridleways running as 'green veins' through the borough. In addition, work is on-going at 'Wildspace' with the ambition to form a regional visitor destination over the next 10 -15 years.
- Between 2011 and 2012, 44.5% of the population used a public library service, 52.1% visited a gallery or museum, and 60.9 attended an art event or participated in arts activities (DCMS 2013). This is an increase from 2010 to 2011 period when 41.1% used a library service, 36.2% visited a gallery or museum, and 53.6 attended an arts event or participated in arts activities.
- Between 2010/11 and 2012/13, yearly volunteering activities were reported by 17% of adult population, compared to 26% rate for London and 24% for England. (DCMS 2013)
- There are a wide variety of third sector groups active in Havering in fields such as education, health, wellbeing, social care, green infrastructure, sports etc.
- Havering's Your Council, Your Say survey 2013 found that 76% of residents feel satisfied with their local area as a place to live, while 11% felt dissatisfied and 13% felt neither satisfied nor dissatisfied. This shows an increase in satisfaction levels since the 2011 Your Council Your Say Survey, when 73.6% were satisfied, but the same levels of dissatisfaction were found at 10.9%.

### Deprivation, Poverty and Crime:

- Havering is ranked 177<sup>th</sup> authority by Index Of Multiple Deprivation 2010, but there are pockets of deprivation identified, with areas of South Hornchurch and the Harold Hill area (Gooshays and Heaton wards) being within the 10% most deprived LSOAs nationally, and wider areas of Harold Hill and Romford being in the 20% most deprived (ONS 2010).
- In 2012, 13.6% of people in employment earned less than £7 an hour, which is comparable with London (13.3%) and lower than England rate (ONS, 2012).
- Number of working age persons (16 to 64) claiming Income Support Benefits has decreased from 4.7% in 2006, to 3.6% in 2011 and 2.5% in 2013. About 18.6% of the population were claiming benefits in 2013, down from 20.1% in 2010 (DWP 2014).
- 17.5% of households did not have any economically active persons in 2006. This fell to 16.1% in 2011, but rose back to 17.1% in 2012. This is still lower than the rate of workless households for London – 20.0% in 2006, 18.7% in 2011 and 17.5% in 2012 (ONS, 2013).
- 18.4% of children in Havering were living in workless families in 2012, a slight decrease from 2010 value of 18.7% (9200). Havering is doing considerably better than Outer London (33.2%) and better than London as a whole (22.9%). Of all younger age groups, the most vulnerable are those 0 to 4 years old, 23.6% of whom live in a family claiming out-of-work benefits (DWP, 2013).

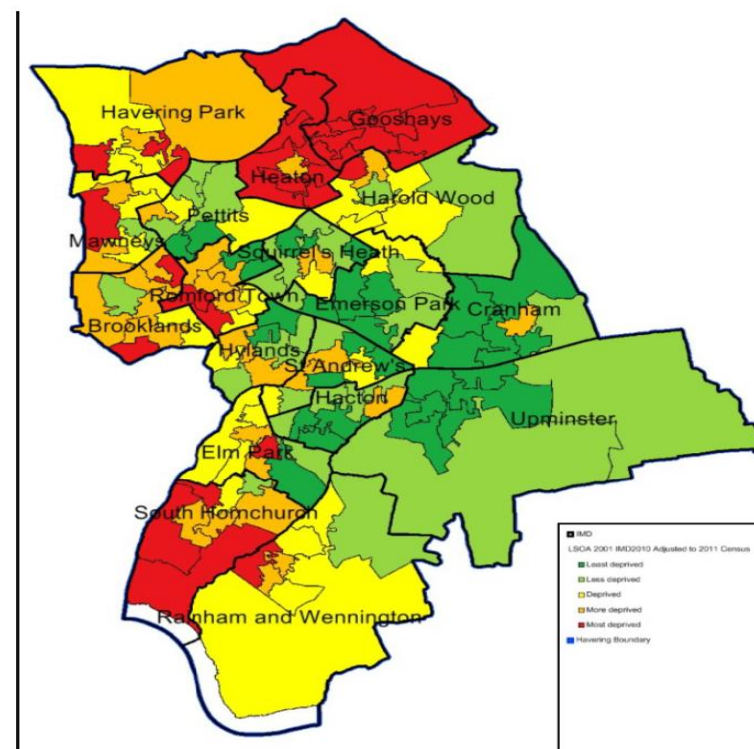


Figure 5: Index of Multiple Deprivation: local quintiles, 2011 census

- In 2012, 60.9% of primary school and 37.4% of secondary school pupils were entitled to Free School Meals (DCSF 2014).
- The rate of children looked after has decreased from 40 in 10,000 children aged under 18 in 2006 to 36 in 2012, and is better than Outer London rate (48) and London rate (55) (DfE 2013).
- The rate of new Personal Insolvencies per 1000 people was at 4.2 in 2001, but rose sharply to 19.6 in 2006 and is now falling slowly, with the rate in 2012 being 16.8. This trend is similar with London as a whole (Neighbourhood Statistics, 2012).
- Crime rates fell from 97.3 per 1000 people in 2001/02 to 87.6 by 2006/07 and a 62.3 in 2013/14 (MET 2014). However, violent crime, sexual offences and burglary have remained at similar levels in absolute numbers, and drug use accounts have doubled over the period (from 539 in 2001/02 to 903 in 2013/14). Accounts of criminal damage and fraud have seen the biggest reduction. Compared to London, Havering scores better on all accounts, and fairly similar to England and Wales values.
- The wards with crime rates above the borough average in 2012/13 were Romford Town (196.1 per 1000 people), Brooklands (80.1), Gooshays (78.0), St Andrew's (75.5), and South Hornchurch (72.8) (MET 2014).
- Ambulance service incidents recorded in 2013 and 2011 showed a decrease in all types of assault from 638 to 494, 22.57% decrease (London Ambulance Survey 2014). However, binge drinking incidents rose slightly from 616 to 642. Cocaine and Heroin overdose incidents have stayed roughly level, around five a year each.
- In 2011, 10.74% of households in Havering were experiencing fuel poverty, in line with England average (10.90%), but above London average (9.86%) (PHOF, 2014)

## B.9 Transportation

### Policy Context

National		
The Future of Transport a Network for 2030: White Paper 2004	This White Paper looks at the factors that will shape travel, and our transport networks, over the next 30 years. It sets out how the Government will respond to existing pressures; safeguard our economic and social well-being and our environment. The strategy is built around three key themes: Sustained investment over the long term. Improvements in transport management. Planning ahead.	The Local Plan will need to consider the themes of the White Paper and promote sustainable transport which meet future needs
Creating Growth, cutting carbon, making sustainable transport happen: White Paper (2011)	The vision is for a transport system that is an engine for economic growth but one that is also greener and safer and improves quality of life in our communities.  The Green Paper promotes the reduction of carbon emissions from transport at the local level, encourages more sustainable travel choices for shorter journeys and promotes electrification of the passenger car fleet in the longer term.	The Local Plan will need to promote sustainable transport that supports economic growth and reduces carbon emissions
National Planning Policy Framework 2012	Promoting sustainable transport is a core principle of the NPPF. Local Plans should actively manage patterns of growth, promoting public transport and walking/cycling. Encouragement should be given to growth that is directed towards more sustainable locations, which mitigate the need to travel and contribute towards healthy lifestyles. Plans that generate significant movement should ensure that public transport is maximised and pedestrian and cycle movements are prioritised. Local Authorities should safeguard sites and routes which are critical in maintaining choice of transport uses.	The Local Plan must be consistent with the NPPF. The Local Plan will need to promote sustainable transport options and seek to reduce the need to travel.
Regional		
London Plan 2011, Revised Early Minor Alterations 2012 and Draft Further Alterations to	The Overall aim is to have a city where it is easy, safe and convenient for everyone to access jobs, opportunities and facilities. The London Plan sets out an indicative list of transport schemes	The Local Plan is required to be in general conformity with the London Plan and its Alterations.

the London Plan 2014	such as Crossrail and sets out detailed car and cycle parking standards.	The Local Plan will need to promote sustainable transport and reflect the parking standards.
Mayor's Transport Strategy 2010	Six goals set out how the overarching vision should be implemented. The transport strategy should: Support economic development and population growth Enhance the quality of life for all Londoners Improve the safety and security of all Londoners Improve transport opportunities for all Londoners Reduce transport's contribution to climate change and improve its resilience Support delivery of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games and its legacy	The Local Plan will have regard to the principles and aspirations set out in the strategy.
Mayor's Cycle Safety Action Plan	Aims to reduce cycling casualties on London's Road by setting nine actions covering, cycling infrastructure, training and information, communication, enforcement, improved regulation, improved vehicle technology, commercial driving and working practices, improved research and monitoring and continued partnership working.	The Local Plan should have regard to the need for safe cycling.
Mayor's River Action Plan 2013	This plan outlines a number of specific measures to be taken by TfL and other stakeholders to help boost the number of river trips in line with achieving the Mayor's target of 12 million passenger journeys a year by 2020. This includes the extension of pier links up to Barking Riverside.	The Local Plan should have regard to the strategic promotion of the Blue Ribbon and river transport infrastructure growth.
Mayor's East and South East London Sub-regional Transport Plan - 2014 update	Supports a variety of projects and programmes aimed at improving transport in the East and South East London boroughs: Regeneration in London Riverside opportunity area, with possible projects such as London Overground Extension, junction improvements, river services pier, improved bus links into the wider boroughs, creation of a strategic cycle network with links to the Barking cycle hub, together with a potential station at Beam Park Olympic Transport Legacy Action Plan identified infrastructure improvements Crossrail Silvertown road tunnel and further river crossings work Romford Station Approach, Victoria Road and the Battis public realm improvements project	The Local Plan should have regard to the strategic and local transport infrastructure improvement programmes and projects, either already agreed or proposed, and their likely implications for development in the borough.

## Baseline Information

### Accessibility and Transport

- Of the 63,709 jobs in the borough in 2011, 31,928 were filled by local residents (50.11%), meaning Havering businesses are importing about half their workforce (Census 2011). The total number of people in employment in Havering was 91,856 meaning Havering is a net exporter of workforce. The main local authorities where people travelled for work are: Westminster and City of London (13.38%), Barking and Dagenham (7.74%), Tower Hamlets (5.89%), Redbridge (5.31%), Thurrock (3.99%), and Newham (3.88%) (Census 2011).
- In 2011, 23% of Havering's households had no car, while 44.2% had one car and 32.8% had two or more cars or vans (Census 2011). This level of car ownership (78%) is significantly above the Outer London average of 69.4% and the Greater London average of 58.3%. The proportion of households with two or more cars (28%) was greatly above the averages for Outer and Greater London – at 21% and 15% respectively. Overall, car ownership per household rating is at 1.2, whereas London is 0.8 and nationally it stands at 1.1 (Census 2011).
- Havering can be considered adequately accessible in terms of travel times, by various modes of transport, from residents' homes to key amenities, services and employment. Like most other London boroughs, Havering has no households which are over 8 km from a bank, building society, cash point, job centre, dentist or GP. All of our households are within 40 minutes travel from a centre of employment; 60 minutes travel from a hospital; 30 minutes travel from a supermarket; and all pupils are within 40 minutes travel of a secondary school. However, as of 2009 data, Havering saw 83% of working age people able to access employment by public transport – the joint lowest of London boroughs together with six other councils, and with the highest being 94%.
- Havering has six mainline railway stations – at Romford, Gidea Park, Harold Wood, Emerson Park, Upminster and Rainham – and four stations on the District line of the London Underground – at Elm Park, Hornchurch, Upminster Bridge and Upminster. This means the borough is generally well served between east and west, but leaves the northern areas of the borough (Collier Row and Harold Hill, for example) without rail links.
- Havering will benefit in coming years from the Crossrail services at three stations: Romford, Gidea Park, and Harold Wood. The Council is also the lead promoter for a new rail station at Beam Park in London Riverside as this would support the redevelopment and regeneration of this area.
- Havering is served by the M25 to the east and an extensive network of A-roads.
- Romford has the highest PTAL scores, given its frequent rail links to London and over 30 bus routes going through the town. Upminster is also a 'hotspot' for public transport accessibility but many parts of the borough are less well served by public transport.
- The main mode of travel to work remains the car, with 48.18% of people driving to work and a further 3.23% being driven to work and 1.08% taking a taxi. This is much higher than London rate of 28.03% drivers and 1.74% passengers, but lower than England rate of 57.01% drivers and 5.03% passengers. Taxies are used to travel to work by 0.51% of workers in London and 0.52% of workers in England (Census 2011).
- Only 0.9% of trips to work are made by bicycle and 6.27% on foot, while 3.58% of people work from home. By comparison, in London 4.04% of people cycle and 8.82% walk to work, while 5.07% work from home. In England, 2.95% of people cycle and 10.74% walk to work, with 5.36% working from home (Census 2011).
- Of public transport modes, rail is most popular with 18.03% of people travelling to work by train and 9.54% by underground. A further 7.72% travel to work by bus or coach (Census 2011).

- Most public transport-related suggestions for improving the borough that the Council received through the survey were about improving the buses and bus routes.
- The Your Council, Your Say survey found that road and pavement repairs were considered the aspect of the borough that most needs improving. Traffic congestion was also a prime concern for residents. When asked for suggestions for improving the borough, the most common topic that residents raised was parking, followed by pavements, then roads and potholes.
- There were 33 traffic counting points in Havering in 2013. Annual traffic flows in the borough have been oscillating over the last decade, with the trend showing no overall improvements compared to London where traffic levels have been constantly decreasing since 2003; in 2013 traffic in Havering was at 1,164 million vehicle kilometres. (DfT, 2014). But when excluding trunk road data, traffic is showing a decrease from its peak in 2006 (1040) to 1,014 in 2013 (DfT, 2014).

## B.10 Economic Vitality, Employment and Skills

### Policy Context

Economy and Employment		
National		
National Planning Policy Framework 2012	<p>The NPPF places significant weight on the need to support economic growth through the planning system. To help achieve economic growth, local planning authorities should plan proactively to meet the development needs of business and support an economy fit for the 21st century. Planning policies should recognise and seek to address potential barriers to investment, including a poor environment or any lack of infrastructure, services or housing. Local Plans should take a flexible approach to employment allocations considering alternative uses if demand for a site does not materialise.</p> <p>Local Plans should create a hierarchy of centres that are resilient to future economic changes and promote healthy competition and customer choice.</p>	The Local Plan will need to set out a clear economic vision and strategy for achieving sustainable economic growth. It will support existing business sectors, taking account of whether they are expanding or contracting and, where possible, identify and plan for new or emerging sectors likely to locate in the area.
Regional		
London Plan 2011, Revised Early Minor Alterations 2012 and Draft Further Alterations to the London Plan 2014	Sets out the Mayor's policies which policies seek to support development and growth of London's diverse economy, enabling it to contribute to the prosperity of the UK and provide Londoners with the goods, services and job opportunities they will need.	The Local Plan is required to be in general conformity with the London Plan and its Alterations.
Mayors Economic Development Strategy (2010)	The Mayor's vision is for London to be the best big city in the world. The Strategy sets out this vision with respect to the London economy, and how it can be realised. The Mayor's ambitions are for London to be the World Capital of Business, and to have the most competitive business environment in the world; to be one of the world's leading low carbon capitals, for all Londoners to share in London's economic success and for London to maximise the benefits of the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic games.	The Local Plan will need to have regard to the principles and aspirations set out in the strategy
London Enterprise Panel's Jobs and Growth Plan 2013	<p>Sets out four key priorities:</p> <p>skills &amp; employment: to ensure Londoners have the skills to compete for and sustain London's jobs;</p> <p>small &amp; medium sized enterprises: to support and grow London's businesses;</p>	The Local Plan will need to consider the priorities and integrate them into policies.

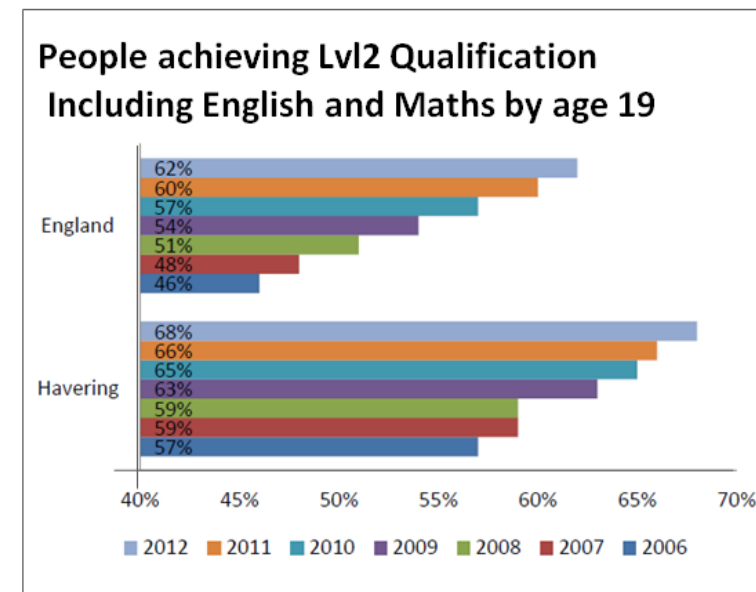
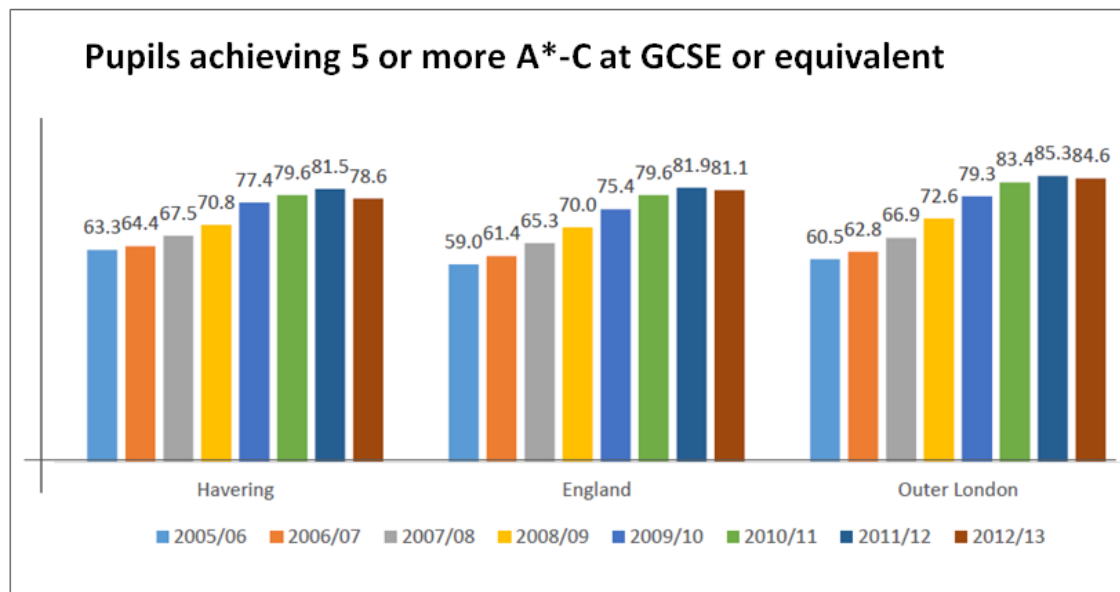
	<p>science &amp; technology: for the capital to be recognised globally as world leading hub; for science, technology and innovation - creating new jobs and growth;</p> <p>Infrastructure: to keep London moving and functioning.</p>	
Land for Industry and Transport SPG 2012	<p>The SPG provides guidance on industrial land requirements as well as on possibilities, appropriate processes and suitable locations for release of any surplus industrial land. The SPG further discusses how the requirements of different sectors can be addressed to enhance their competitiveness, and to carrying forward the Mayor's broader concerns for improvements to the overall quality of London's environment by emphasising the importance of good design for industrial development. The SPG also provides guidance to identify and protect land for transport functions including sites and routes which could be critical in developing infrastructure to widen transport choice.</p>	<p>The Local Plan will consider the principles and strategies contained in the SPG. The Guidance should be followed to ensure that the Local Plan is in general conformity with the London Plan.</p>

## Baseline Information

### Education, Skills and Training:

- Havering currently has 419 Early Years Providers, which includes Private, Voluntary and Independent settings, Schools with Nursery Classes, Childminders, Out of School Clubs and Holiday Play schemes. Excluding Out of School and Play schemes, the number of Providers delivering the Early Education Entitlement is 146. Ofsted Inspection Data as at 31 March 2014 shows that 12% of these were rated as Outstanding, 64% as Good, 23% as Satisfactory, and only 1% as Inadequate (Ofsted, 2014).
- Availability of childcare on a Borough wide basis continues to outstrip the number of 3 and 4 year olds. However, with the increasing population of under 5s, housing developments, and with Government extending Early Education Entitlement to about 40% of the two-year-olds nationally (around 1,130 2 year olds expected to qualify in Havering), pressure is increasing on place availability. Mawneys, Hylands, Harold Wood, Gooshays, Rainham & Wennington, Brooklands, Romford Town, Cranham wards are already experiencing increased provision need, with South Hornchurch and Havering Park wards expected to require further provision by 2020. The most common issue cited by current and prospecting developers is identifying proper sites where noise and increased parking/traffic would not cause a nuisance to existing residents. A lot of Providers, particularly sessional pre-schools, operate from hired facilities such as Church Halls, Community Halls and School sites.
- Havering has six children's centres. The centres work are paired into locality hubs, providing universal and early help services to three reach areas (north, central and southern Havering). Four children's centres were rated as having good overall effectiveness and two were graded as requiring improvement by Ofsted as at February 2014.
- In 2013 there were 37,602 pupils in Havering's 90 schools (DfE, 2013). 1.7% of these had a Statement of Special Educational Needs and a further 12.7% required special training through School Action programme.

- Of Havering's state funded schools, 59 are Primary, 18 are Secondary and 3 are Special Schools. There are also 6 Independent Schools and 4 Pupil referral units (DfE, 2013)
- Projected need for reception school places by 2015/16 is for 3,169, and 3,557 by 2020/21. Current capacity stands at 3,140 reception places per year, meaning there will be need for a further 196 places by 2015 and 604 by 2020 to maintain a +5% capacity. Since 2013/14 Havering has implemented an additional 12 forms of entry (FE) of primary school places, with a further 5 FE confirmed for future years. Furthermore, 810 places have been made available in additional bulge classes in order to meet the current demand for places. The Romford and Harold Hill primary planning areas are experiencing the greatest increase in demand for school places.
- Although Havering retains a statutory duty to ensure that there are enough school places available in the borough to accommodate all children who live here and might require one, it no longer has the powers to open new maintained schools. Thus, all new schools will need to be academies/free schools. Where the requirement for a new school in order to meet basic need is identified, the Local Authority will have to fund the purchase of any site and construction of a building to accommodate a free school.
- Demand for new secondary school places by 2015/16 is expected to be around 15,075, and grow to 17,070 by 2020/21. Current secondary capacity stands at 16,086 places, meaning that although there is a surplus of spaces for the short term, there will be a further 1,900 places needed by 2020 to maintain a +5% capacity.
- School travel planning updates show modal shift away from the car in 31 of the 90 primary schools in 2013 compared to 2012, but 20 schools showed increase in car use over the same period.
- 78.6% of pupils in Havering achieved 5 or more A\*-C GCSEs at the end of Key Stage 4, in 2013. This is slightly below the London average of 84.6% and England average of 81.1% (ONS, 2013).
- NVQ qualification Level 2 was attained by 21.2% of the population over 16 years old in 2011, 21.9% in 2012. This is an increase from 2006 value of 17.9% (ONS 2013).

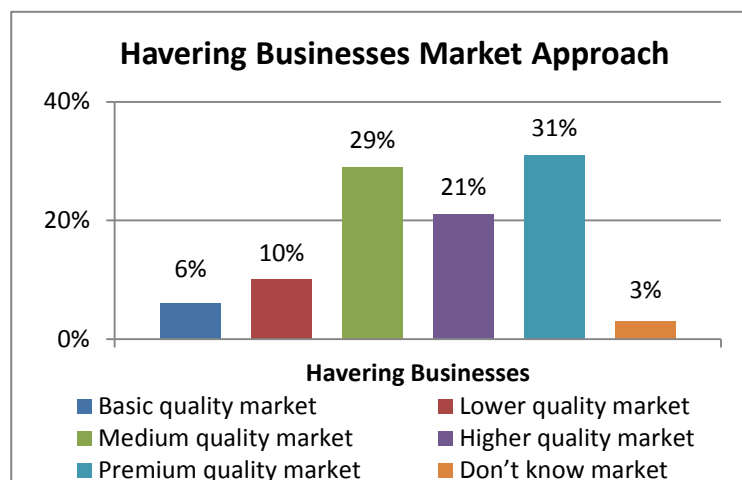


- Qualifications of Level 4 and above were achieved by only 19.4% of the population over 16 years in 2011, compared with 37.7% for London, and 27.3% for England. In 2013, this rate grew to 24.7% for Havering, 49.1% for London, and 35.0% for England (APS 2014).
- 26.4% of Havering's population over 16 years had no qualifications in 2011. By comparison, 17.6% of London's population over 16 had no qualifications (22.4% in England) in 2011 (Census 2011).
- For the period of 2011/12, in Havering, of the 1,880 students finishing KS5, 66% were looking to continue their education, with 56% targeting Higher Education Institutions, 6% Further Education Colleges, and 1% Sixth Form College, and 3% going for other training options (DfE 2012).
- Further education is provided in Havering through 'Havering College of Further and Higher Education', 'Havering Adult College' and 'Manor Park College', as well as a series of libraries and other centres. HAVCO, the local Council for Voluntary Services, provides free IT skills, employability and customer service training.
- On the job training is provided by 56% of employers (NESS 2013)
- Almost three quarters of the adult population have either no qualifications or Level 1 or 2, with less than a quarter having attained degrees. The no qualification level is heavily skewed by the 50-64 population, but there are relatively low levels of Level 4 and above qualified residents across all age brackets (HSES, 2014).
- There is a historically significant issue of early school leaving (16 or under) with over 50% of the adult population having left full-time education aged 16 or under. There has been a change somewhat in the percentage of those leaving education aged 16 or under over the last 4 years (2008-2012). However this trend is not wholly positive as it has been influenced by an increase in proportion of adults leaving education aged 17-19. The long term trend, however, means that Havering

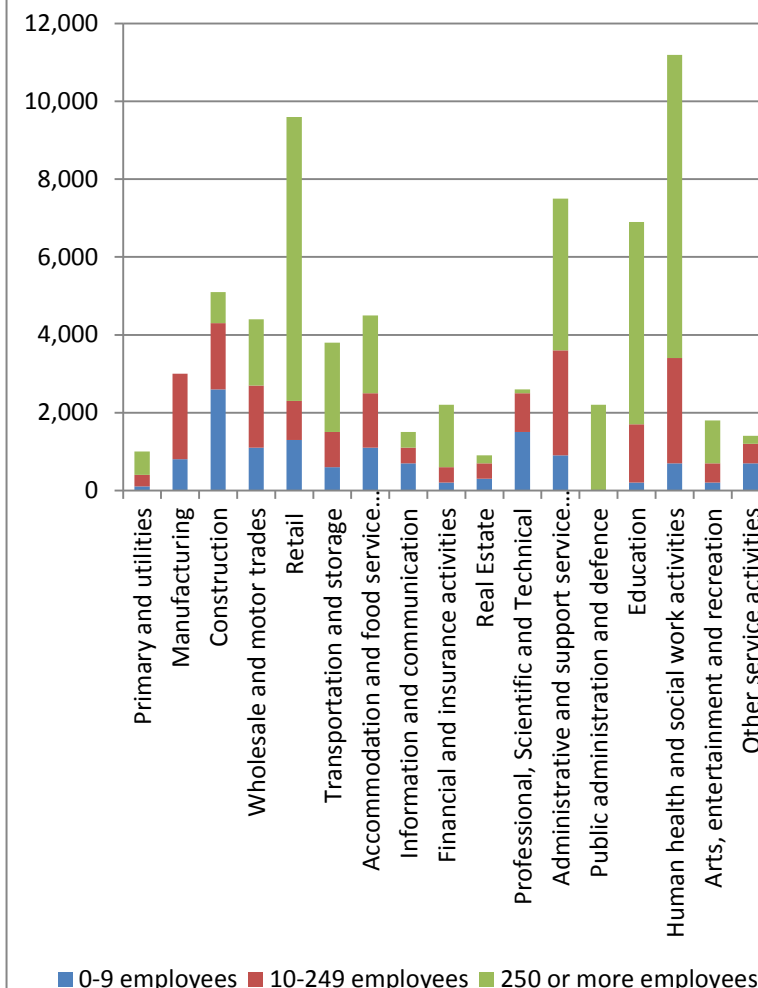
still has the highest proportion of adult population that left education aged 16 or under compared with neighbouring boroughs (Barking and Dagenham, Redbridge) and is significantly above the London average (24%) (HSES, 2014)

### Businesses and Employment:

- In 2012 there were 8,390 active businesses in Havering, up from 7975 in 2008 (IDBR 2013). Of these, 2760 were active for more than 10 years and 1,885 were active for 4-9 years. 13.8% were not registered for VAT, compared to 16.26% of London businesses and 18.0% of England businesses (IDBR 2013).
- There were 1,085 births in 2012, an 8% increase since the previous year's 1,005 births (IDBR 2013). There were 975 deaths of businesses in Havering in 2012, compared with 840 in 2011, a 16% increase (IDBR 2013).
- 480 (5.72%) units had a turnover between £1mil and £4.99mil, while 125 (1.48%) had a turnover above £5mil (IDBR 2013).
- By size of workforce, 70.97% of businesses in Havering have 0-4 employees, 14.00% have 5-9 employees, 7.23% have 10-19 employees, and 4.84% have 20 to 49 employees. There are 20 businesses with 250 to 499 employees and 15 with over 500 employees (IDBR 2013).
- Employment market size (including self-employed) in Havering has fallen from around 75,000 jobs in 2006 to around 69,700 in 2011 (ONS 2012), but is projected to rise to 71,000 by 2026 and 72,000 by 2031 (GLA 2013). The self-employed market has decreased as well from 16,000 in 2006 to 12,000 in 2011 (ONS 2012), with a projected comeback to 2006 levels by 2026 and increase to 17,000 by 2031 (GLA, 2013).
- The Employer Skills Survey 2013 indicates that local businesses see themselves as highly competitive, with 31% of consider they are competing in a market for premium quality products or services and 21% considering they are competing in a higher quality market.
- The main employment sectors in Havering are Human Health and Social Care Work Activities, Retail, Administrative and



### Number of Employees by Industry and Enterprise Size



Support Service Activities, Education and Construction. When looked at by enterprise size, the main industries for small unites (up to 9 employees) are Construction, Professional Scientific and Technical, and Retail; for medium units (10 to 249 employees) the main sectors are Human Health and Social Work Activities, Administrative and Support Service Activities, and Manufacturing; large enterprises (over 250 employees) operate mainly in Human Health and Social Work Activities, Retail, and Education (IDBR 2013).

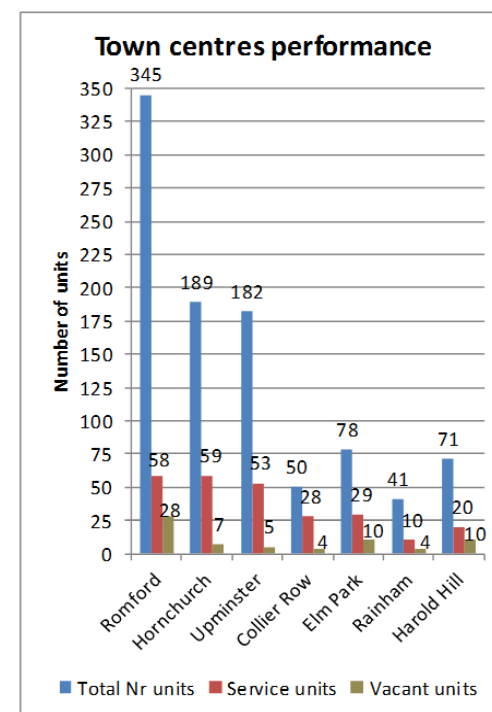
- London is a global city and is highly attractive for businesses. The Index of employee growth showed an increase of 3% in 2012/13, compared with 1.2% for South East Region and 1.3% for the whole of the UK. -GLA estimates the largest growth in the London's jobs market over the next two decades to be in the following sectors: Professions, Real Estate, Scientific and Technical Activities; Information and Technology; Accommodation and Food Services Activities; and Administrative and Support Service Activities. Some growth is anticipated in Education, Health, Retail, Arts Entertainment and Recreation, and Other Services, while considerable reductions would be expected in Manufacturing and Primary & Utilities sectors (GLA 2013).
- Jobs density in 2011 was 0.6, in line with Outer London average value, but lower than London value of 0.9 and national value of 0.8 (ONS 2013).
- The Annual Population Survey (APS) for 2012/13 found that 71.2% of Havering's working age population are employed with a further 7.4% being economically active (though not in employment). 21.4% of the population is therefore economically inactive. This is in comparison to 73% employed in 2011/12 a further 6% being economically active and 21% economically inactive. Workless households grew from 16.1% in 2011 to 17.1% in 2012, and are in line with London rate of 17.5%, but higher than Outer London rate of 15.1% (ONS 2013).
- Of the economically inactive in 2011, 49.31% were retired, 16.92% were looking after home or family, 16.05% were students, and 10.92% were long term sick or disabled (Census 2011).
- Of Havering's working age population, 16.8% are disabled, with 9.4% being both DDA and work-limiting disabled (ONS 2013). Of these, 58.5% are economically active (52.8% in employment), 8.9% are unemployed, with the remaining 41.5% being economically inactive.
- Long term unemployment and non-working is lower in Havering (4.7%) than Outer London (7.6%) and London (8.3%) averages. As of November 2013, 2.5% of working age residents were on Jobseekers' Allowance which is a lower rate than national (2.8%) or London averages (3.1%) (ONS 2014).
- Young people (16-18 year olds) not in employment, education or training rate was 4.3% in 2013, down from 4.5% in 2011 (DfE, 2014).
- The National Employer Skills Survey 2013 identified around 6% of businesses in Havering have at least one vacancy that is hard to fill (0.6% of vacancies), and 5% are reporting a skills shortage vacancy (0.5% of vacancies).
- Average number of vacancies per business unit in Havering is 1.6, and vacancy density (vacancies as % of current staff) of 30% or more are reported by 8% of businesses (NESS 2013).
- Of the hard to fill vacancies, 53.6% are for Professional Occupations, 10.7% in the Skilled Trades Occupations, 10.8% in Sales and Customer Services; only 3.2% hard to fill managerial vacancies. Of the reasons why a vacancy is hard to fill in Havering, the top most cited are: Low number of applicants with the required skills (56%), Lack of work experience the company demands (54%), Low number of applicants generally (19%), Lack of qualifications the company demands (18%), and Poor terms and conditions (e.g. pay) offered for post (18%) (NESS 2013).
- The main reasons cited for a skills gap in current workforce are: staff training is currently only partial (67%), workers new to the role (65%), introduction of new working practice (46%), worker lack of motivation (33%), staff have not received the appropriate training (32%), introduction of new technologies (30%). Workers

inability to improve after receiving training was cited by 29% of employers, and inability to recruit staff with the required skills was a problem for 20% of employers (NESS 2013).

- In the case of 16 year olds employed, 74% of businesses report no skills gap, compared to the England average of 64%, and for 17 and 18 year olds 85% of employers were happy with their skills (compared to 71% for England). The main skills gap identified for these age groups are poor attitude and motivation, and lack of working world/life experience or maturity, with a few reporting lack of required skills or competencies (NESS 2013).
- Businesses reported high satisfaction with higher educated employees, with 95% of people hired from university or higher education being well to very well prepared, higher than England average of 83%. However, the number staff with level 4 qualifications as proportion of all staff was 50% or more for only 27% of businesses in Havering, and 46% businesses had less than 20% of staff with level 4 qualifications (NESS 2013).
- Median weekly earnings for Havering residents increased between 2006 and 2011 from £424 to £505, but the value for 2013 stood at £490. When considering full time and part time separately, the trend shows constant growth in both sectors, meaning the decrease for 2013 median value is due to more people working part time (ONS 2013). The London median weekly earnings in 2011 were £517 and grew to £523 by 2013; England average earnings grew to £419 in 2013.
- Equality of pay between males and females (in full time employment) is better in Havering than London and England, and the gap has been decreasing from about £48 in 2011 to females earning roughly the same as males in 2013 (ONS 2013).

#### Town Centres:

- The London Plan 2011 identifies Romford as one of London's 12 Metropolitan centres, and Collier Row, Elm Park, Harold Hill, Hornchurch, Rainham and Upminster as Havering's six District centres. In addition to this, Havering has a network of 79 major and minor local centres, providing amenities that are conveniently located for day-to-day needs, less mobile, disabled and older residents.
- The classification of the Harold Hill, Rainham and Elm Park as District Centres is subject to Monitoring by the GLA.
- The main retail competition is Lakeside shopping centre in Thurrock, Bluewater in Kent, and more recently, Westfield Stratford City – the largest urban shopping centre in Europe, which is 10-20 minutes from Romford by train.
- Romford town centre also contains the Romford Conservation Area that is considered at risk and is under monitoring.
- Havering's other town centres, together with Romford, serve an important role in providing leisure activities, along with retail and services. The largest concentration of leisure uses is in Hornchurch, with 58 units accounting for 30.7% of total units in this centre (LDC, October 2014). Romford has 66 leisure units, representing 17.6% of total units (LDC, October 2014). Upminster is also an important leisure hub, with 46 leisure units representing 25.8% of the centre's total units (LDC, October 2014).



### Task 3: Identified Sustainability Issues

The following key sustainability issues have been identified, drawing on the context review and baseline data presented above.

Theme	Key Issues
1. SOCIAL DIMENSION	
Population Growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population will grow, with younger (0 to 15) and older (over 65) groups seeing the largest increase, which means there is a need to consider appropriate housing and infrastructure developments to meet the needs of these groups.</li> <li>Population is diversifying, which may give rise to different cultural needs – social infrastructure must be flexible enough to accommodate change.</li> </ul>
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>More people turning to Private Renting Sector following the revision of the Council's Allocation Policy</li> <li>Less affordability of homes elsewhere in London is driving in-migration.</li> <li>Homelessness in the borough.</li> <li>The housing mix (tenure, size and services) should reflect identified need and demand.</li> <li>Affordability of housing for local residents</li> <li>Growth of the Private Rented Sector, its quality and affordability.</li> <li>Appropriate provision and accessibility to supported housing to meet needs and mitigate costly alternatives.</li> </ul>

Health and Wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An increasing and aging population and appropriate provision of health and social care services in accessible locations.</li> <li>• Accessibility to public transport, services and employment.</li> <li>• Low participation in sports in the borough.</li> <li>• Access to open space and nature.</li> </ul>
Culture and Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some residents are not satisfied with their local area.</li> <li>• Changing demographics and the impact on community facilities</li> </ul>
Education, Skills and Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The growth in population under 16 years means there is an increasing pressure to provide additional places for Early Years, Primary and Secondary education, with Primary level being the hardest affected.</li> <li>• Access to higher education</li> <li>• Low level of adult qualifications and impact on employment opportunities.</li> </ul>
Deprivation, Poverty and Crime	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The borough is largely affluent but has some areas of deprivation at South Hornchurch and Harold Hill, and around Romford</li> <li>• 18.6% of the population is claiming benefits, with 2.5% claiming Income Support Benefits.</li> <li>• The overall crime rate is falling, but some types of violent crime remain a concern and a few wards have higher crime rate than the borough average.</li> </ul>

2. ECONOMIC DIMENSIONS	
Businesses and Employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provision of jobs for local people within the borough</li> <li>• Diversity of the local economy</li> <li>• Long term unemployment and lack of skills.</li> <li>• Some businesses have difficulties filling vacancies due to problems of access to properly qualified workforce.</li> <li>• Havering is a net exporter of employees and only about half the jobs available within Havering are held by local residents.</li> </ul>
Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Some areas of the borough are not well served by access to rail.</li> <li>• North to south public transport links in the borough are poor</li> <li>• Public transport accessibility for people with mobility concerns</li> <li>• Bus service provision and reliability in parts of the Borough</li> <li>• As an outer London borough, there is greater reliance on the car as a means of transport.</li> </ul>
Town Centres	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elm Park, Harold Hill and Rainham are under monitoring by the GLA.</li> <li>• Harold Hill has high vacancy rates.</li> <li>• Protecting and enhancing Romford's character and performance as a metropolitan centre and its role as the economic hub of the Borough.</li> <li>• Competition from other centres outside of the Borough such as Bluewater, Westfield Stratford City and Lakeside.</li> <li>• Town centres' ability to satisfy the need for leisure and cultural activities.</li> </ul>

3. ENVIRONMENTAL DIMENSIONS	
Biodiversity and Geodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection and enhancement of green infrastructure and biodiversity</li> <li>• Protection of protected habitats and species</li> <li>• Management of water quality of Havering's rivers, in line with existing and emerging plans.</li> </ul>
Open and Green Spaces	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection and enhancement of appropriate parks and open spaces throughout the borough.</li> <li>• Support for Thames Chase Community Forest and All London Green Grid</li> <li>• Protection of Metropolitan Green Belt</li> <li>• Improve access to open space and nature for people</li> <li>• Increasing pressures on land for different uses to meet the needs on of an increasing population</li> <li>• Securing the continued work of open space and nature conservation charities in the borough.</li> </ul>
Heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection and enhancement of Heritage assets.</li> <li>• Heritage assets at risk from neglect or decay, as identified by the heritage at risk register</li> <li>• Heritage assets at risk from development pressures, particularly Romford Conservation Area</li> <li>• Securing the continued work of heritage management groups such as charities, civic societies and other voluntary groups.</li> </ul>
Natural Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protection of natural resources</li> <li>• Aggregate extraction targets</li> </ul>
Climate Change and Flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy efficiency and reduction of energy consumption</li> <li>• Management of demand for water</li> <li>• Large parts of the borough are at risk of flooding and more severe flooding incidences, potential heatwaves and water shortages are anticipated in London due to climate change.</li> <li>• Need to raise tidal flood defences, safeguard land for future flood defence works and improve fluvial flood defences to protect the borough from the increased risk of flooding as a result of climate change</li> <li>• Insufficient flood storage areas' capacity</li> <li>• Increased risk of surface water flooding</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Traffic related emissions are high along A-roads and the section of M25 that passes through the borough, and around town centres.</li></ul>
Pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Havering's rivers are typically of poor water quality</li><li>• The whole of the borough is designated as an Air Quality Management Area.</li><li>• The main sources of pollution are road transport and construction related activities.</li><li>• Development of possibly contaminated lands released from industrial use.</li></ul>
Waste and Recycling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Over a third of all household waste is recycled, re-used or composted</li><li>• 30% of waste contracted by the East London Waste Authorities (ELWA) is sent to landfills.</li><li>• Increasing population and the impact on waste generation and management, in both financial and environmental terms</li></ul>

