

# **BOROUGH COUNCIL OF KING'S LYNN & WEST NORFOLK**

## **LOCAL PLAN REVIEW**



## **SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL SCOPING REPORT REVIEW**

**2017**

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## Executive Summary

This report comprises an update to the 2006 Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Scoping Report. The Scoping Report forms the first step in the process of preparing the Review of the Local Plan.

SAs are a requirement of the Local Planning process. Para 165 of the National Planning Policy Framework states:

*“A sustainability appraisal which meets the requirements of the European Directive on strategic environmental assessment should be an integral part of the plan preparation process, and should consider all the likely significant effects on the environment, economic and social factors”.*

The aim of the Scoping Report is to:

1. Identify sustainability issues and problems
2. Develop the sustainability appraisal framework
3. Consult the sustainability consultation bodies on the scope of the sustainability appraisal report.

The first part of the report (Part A) provides an introduction to the SA process and sets the context for the review. The key elements of the Scoping Report are divided into two sections. Part B is a comprehensive review of relevant plans, policies, programmes and sustainability objectives (chapter 6 and appendix 1). Part C is a detailed analysis of baseline data (chapters 7-12).

The summary of the review of the scoping exercise is provided in Part D under the following headings:

- Land and water resources
- Climate change and pollution
- Biodiversity
- Landscape, townscape and archaeology
- Healthy communities
- Inclusive communities
- Economic activity

Through considering the results of the scoping exercise it is possible to formulate sustainability objectives. These objectives are designed to address the identified sustainability issues and conform to the identified relevant international, national and local plans, policies and programmes. The results of this scoping exercise are not vastly different from the sustainability issues identified in the original 2006 Scoping Report. However, some sustainability issues have increased in importance. Changes are particularly evident in relation to the latest national government policy but also cooperative working between local councils in Norfolk has placed greater emphasis on resolving joint issues.

The changes or increased policy emphases, arising since the original 2006 Scoping Report was produced are summarised under the following themes:

- Shifting power to the local level
- Planning for low carbon electricity in addition to renewable energy
- Preparing for more extreme weather events
- Managing change on the coast
- Understanding visitor pressure on European Sites
- Planning for an aging population
- Protecting dark skies
- Raising educational attainment
- New Anglia Local Economic Partnership Targets

For the most part, the majority of plans, policies and the baseline data present more of a continuation of a theme than fundamental change to the wider policy framework and local sustainability issues. The wording of the Borough's Sustainability Objectives was originally formulated in the 2006 Scoping Report. Most of the original SA objectives were developed to be sufficiently broad to ensure that the main sustainability issues could be addressed by 20 key objectives. This provides a manageable framework of objectives for which to measure and rate future planning policies against.

In considering the new policy framework and sustainability issues in chapter 14, it was determined that identified sustainability issues can largely be addressed by the original Sustainability Objectives with a few changes suggested by the statutory consultees. The original 20 Sustainability Objectives have been reduced to 19 by merging the previous two that related to waste (numbers 2 and 10). The complete list of SA objectives is provided below and will be used to assess new policies developed in the Local Plan:

### **King's Lynn and West Norfolk Sustainability Appraisal Objectives**

1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped Greenfield land, agricultural (Best Most Versatile Grade 1-3) land and productive agricultural holdings.
2. Limit water consumption to levels supportable by natural processes and storage systems.
3. Maintain, restore and enhance the natural environment and sites designated for biological and geological interest.
4. Maintain and enhance the range, functionality and connectivity of characteristic habitats and species.

- 5.** Avoid damage to protected sites and historic buildings.
- 6.** Maintain and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character.
- 7.** Create places, spaces and buildings that work well, wear well and look good.
- 8.** Reduce pollution that affects the quality of land, air, water or soils, including emissions of greenhouse gasses, noise, light and vibrations.
- 9.** Minimise waste production, reduce the use of non-renewable energy sources and support the recycling of waste products.
- 10.** Minimise vulnerability and provide resilience and adaptation to climate change, taking account of flood risk and coastal change.
- 11.** Maintain and enhance human health.
- 12.** Reduce and prevent crime, and reduce the fear of crime.
- 13.** Improve the quantity and quality of Green Infrastructure, publicly accessible open space, Public Rights of Way and access.
- 14.** Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities).
- 15.** Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.
- 16.** Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing.
- 17.** Encourage and enable the active involvement of local people in community activities.
- 18.** Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.
- 19.** Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.

## Part A Context

### 1. Introduction

- 1.1. This report comprises the first stage of the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) process of the emerging Local Plan Review for King's Lynn & West Norfolk. The Local Plan Review will consist of one document that will replace the Core Strategy (CS) (2011) and parts of the Site Allocations and Development Management Policies Document (SADMP) in setting out policies and proposals to guide the future development of the area. The Local Plan Review will amalgamate local planning policy into one Development Plan Document.
- 1.2. The SA is a systematic process undertaken during the preparation of a plan or programme. The role of the SA is to assess the extent to which the emerging policies and proposals will help to achieve relevant environmental, social and economic objectives. In doing so, it will provide an opportunity to consider ways in which the plan or strategy can contribute to improvements in environmental, social and economic conditions, as well as a means of identifying and addressing any adverse effects that draft policies and proposals may have.
- 1.3. Two adopted documents form the Borough's Local Plan. These are the CS (2011) and the SADMP (2016). Due to the CS being adopted prior to the publication of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2012), there is now an imperative to update the Local Plan. A commitment was made to reviewing the Local Plan during the examination of the SADMP document. It is envisaged that the final Local Plan will form one document and that the process of producing the plan will follow two set consultation stages before submission of the plan for examination.
- 1.4. The original Scoping Report was published in 2006 to support the production of the CS and was subsequently utilised for the SADMP document. The document provided an in depth appraisal of the context of the Borough and sustainability issues. The broad issues, topics and objectives for the Borough are unlikely to have substantially altered since this time. However, the evidence that these were drawn from; the baseline data and existing plans and policies will have changed. The review of the Local Plan provides the opportunity to update the SA Scoping Report to reflect current data, plans, policies and programmes.
- 1.5. The purpose of this document is to update the baseline data and relevant plans and policies to determine whether the original SA objectives continue to

be appropriate for use in the Local Plan Review. The initial chapter sets the context for the review and outlines the stages of the SA process and linkages with the Local Plan Review process.

## **2. Background**

- 2.1. Under the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, an SA is a mandatory evidence based document which supports the Local Plan. When preparing Local Plan documents, planning authorities must also conduct an environmental assessment in accordance with the requirements of European Directive 2001/42/EC on the 'assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment' (the 'strategic environmental assessment' or SEA Directive). The requirement to carry out an SA and a SEA are distinct. However, Government guidance states that it is possible to satisfy both through a single appraisal process. This is the approach the Borough Council intends to take with respect to the Local Plan Review.
- 2.2. The overall aim of the appraisal process is to help ensure that the Local Plan makes an effective contribution to the pursuit of 'sustainable development'. The most widely used definition of this concept is 'Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.' (World Commission of Environment and Development, 1987). Another is to see sustainable development as "ensuring a better quality of life for everyone, now and for future generations".

## **3. Relationship to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive**

- 3.1. The SEA Directive requires an 'environmental assessment' of plans and programmes prepared by public authorities that are likely to have a significant effect upon the environment. This process is referred to as 'strategic environmental assessment' (SEA) and covers relevant plans and programmes.
- 3.2. The Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires SA of all emerging Local Plan documents. As the guidance explaining this requirement makes clear, SA and SEA are similar processes that involve a comparable series of stages. If there is a difference between them, it lies in the fact that SEA focuses on environmental effects whereas SA is concerned with the full range of environmental, social and economic matters.
- 3.3. The Scoping Report uses an approach that addresses the requirements of the SEA and SA simultaneously, by giving full consideration to environmental issues whilst also addressing the spectrum of socio-economic concerns. In terms of the specific requirements of the Directive, the Scoping Report and

the relevant Final Appraisal Report will together meet the need for an 'Environmental Report' setting out the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing the proposals (and the reasonable alternatives that have been considered).

#### **4. Sustainability Appraisal Process**

4.1. The Scoping Report forms the first stage in the process of SA. The scoping exercise involves reviewing baseline data relating to the Borough in a wide variety of topics in addition to considering relevant plans and policies which must be taken into account when formulating local planning policies. This evidence provides a picture of the Borough, setting the current context and identifying the issues facing West Norfolk. This report is divided into 2 key parts: the analysis of baseline data (chapters 7-12) and the review of relevant plans, policies, programmes and sustainability objectives (appendix 1). These two parts of the scoping exercise are brought together in a final summary table in Part D of this report.

4.2. Following this 'scoping' exercise, a set of sustainability objectives can be drawn. These objectives are then used to assess the sustainability of emerging local planning policies. It is particularly useful in the instance where there is more than one policy option, as the objectives can be used to appraise all options to identify which would result in the most sustainable outcome. Because the scoping exercise was already undertaken and this report provides an update, it may be that the underlying sustainability issues have not changed significantly and in this case there is no need to change the original sustainability objectives.

4.3. The SA begins with the scoping exercise but continues until the end of the plan making process. This report marks the first stage which sets the overall sustainability objectives which are then used to assess the sustainability of policies in the Local Plan at each stage of development, usually marked by set consultation stages. The stages of SA and relationship to Local Plan preparation are illustrated in Figure 1 below.

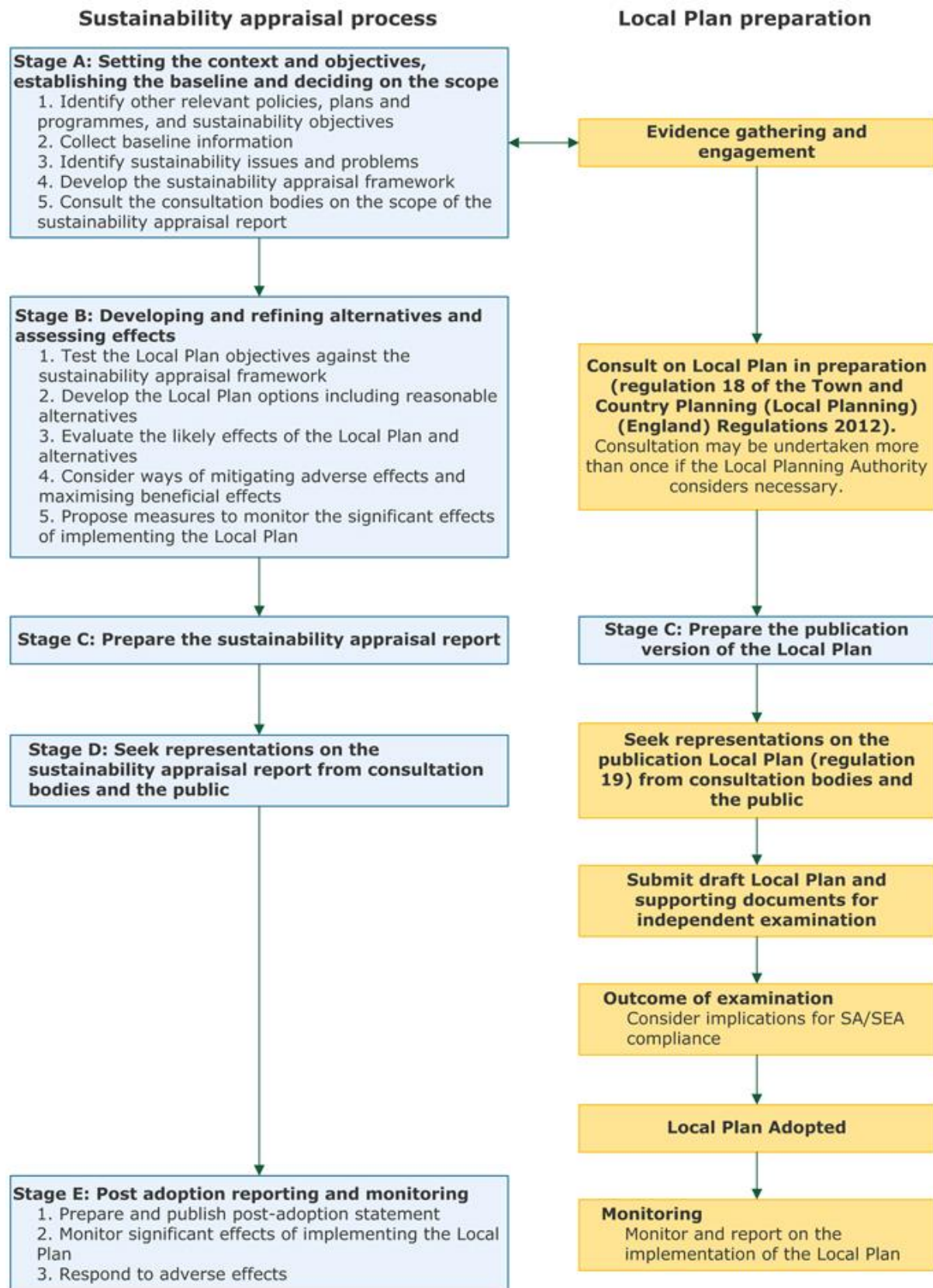
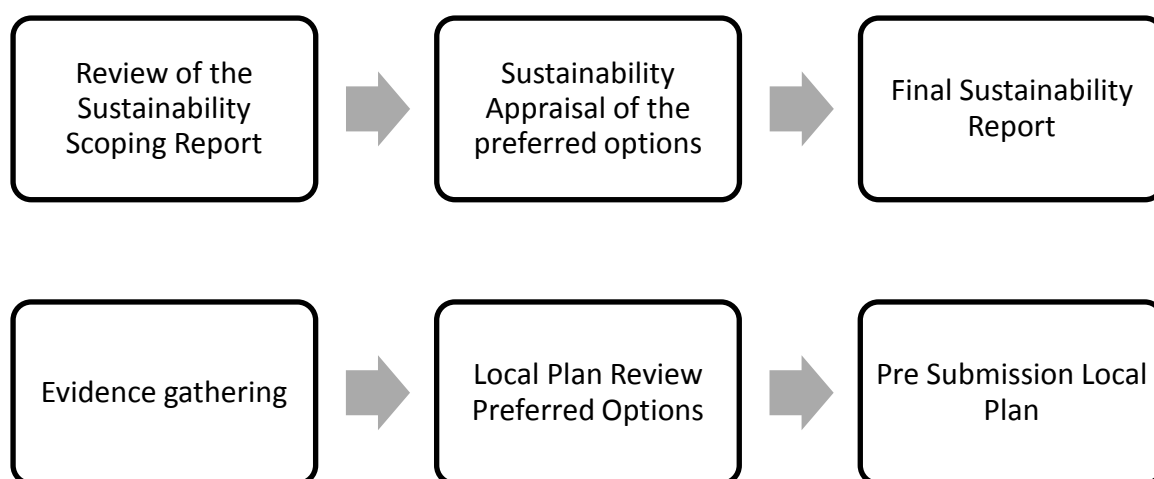


Figure 1 Sustainability Appraisal Process

Source: [www.planningpracticeguidance.gov.uk](http://www.planningpracticeguidance.gov.uk)

## 5. Stages of the Sustainability Appraisal for the Local Plan Review

5.1. The production of SA documents is interlinked with the consultation stages of the Local Plan Review. Three SA reports will be produced to support each stage of the Local Plan Review process as illustrated in Figure 2. Following the scoping stage, the second report will appraise the policy options presented in the Local Plan Review Preferred Options document. The final Sustainability Report will contain a full assessment of the policies presented in the Pre-Submission Local Plan. Following submission of the Local Plan for examination, further revisions of the SA may be required where additional modifications to the Local Plan are proposed.



**Figure 2 Stages of the Sustainability Appraisal**

## Part B Review of relevant plans, policies, programmes and sustainability objectives

### 6. Context for the review

- 6.1. Local planning does not operate in isolation but must reflect the wider framework of plans, policies and programmes at the international, national and regional level. The original Scoping Report undertook a wide review of relevant documents but focused primarily on national and regional planning policy objectives. A number of documents which were reviewed in 2006 in detail have since been superseded or revoked. Of particular significance are the substantial changes to the planning system. At national level change has resulted from the Localism Act (2011), Neighbourhood Planning Regulations (2012), the Housing and Planning Act (2016) and replacement of Planning Policy Statements (PPS) with the NPPF (2012). At regional level, substantial changes were made to revoke the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) and to remove the regional tier of planning governance. PPS and the RSS formed a significant part of the original review which is no longer relevant.
- 6.2. Due to the extensive changes to plans, policies, programmes and sustainability objectives since 2006 it is necessary to update the list provided in the original Scoping Report to remove references to documents or legislation which are no longer in use and to gain a greater understanding of current plans, policies, programmes and sustainability objectives.
- 6.3. Table 1 sets out a list of plans, programmes and sustainability objectives that will be relevant to the sustainability appraisal of plans and policies in the Borough. Such a list cannot be completely comprehensive. This review does not cover every single document that might have some connection with the Local Plan (an impractical task given the range of material potentially involved). Rather, the focus was the key plans and programmes that are relevant in setting the context for the Local Plan. Appendix 1 provides a more in depth review of the plans listed below and includes an analysis of the linkages to the Local Plan and to the Sustainability Objectives.

**Table 1 List of relevant plans and programmes**

INTERNATIONAL
European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) (1953)
Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of international importance, especially waterfowl habitat (1971)
Kyoto Protocol and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, (1992)

European Water Framework Directive, EC Directive 2000/60/EC (2002)
Europe Landscape Convention (Florence, 1992)
2008 ambient air quality directive (2008/50/EC)
European Drinking Water Directive (98/83/EC)
EU Bathing Water Directive (2006/7/EC)
EU Council Directive on the Conservation of Habitats of Wild Flora and Fauna (92/43/EC)
European Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (2001/42/EC)
European Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (2001/42/EC)
Paris climate conference (COP21) (December 2015)
EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 (2011)
<b>NATIONAL</b>
Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000
Securing the Future - UK Sustainable Development Strategy (March 2005)
Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006
Climate Change Act (2008)
UK Renewable Energy Strategy (2009)
River Basin Management Plan Anglian River Basin District (2009)
Flood and Water Management Act (2010)
The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010
National Planning Policy Framework (2012)
Planning our electric future: a White Paper for secure, affordable and low carbon electricity (2011)
Natural Environment White Paper – The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature (2011)
The Plan for Growth (2011)
Safeguarding our Soils – A Strategy for England (2011)
Localism Act (2011)
Neighbourhood Planning Regulations (2012)
National Planning Policy for Waste (2014)
Self Build and Custom House Building Act, 2015
Towards a one nation economy: A 10-point plan for boosting rural productivity, August 2015
Housing and Planning Act 2016
<b>REGIONAL</b>
Norfolk Rural Development Strategy 2013-2020
Norfolk Minerals and Waste Development Framework
Shoreline Management Plan 4 Gibraltar Point to Hunstanton (2010)
Shoreline Management Plan 5 Hunstanton to Kelling Hard (2010)
Site Improvement Plan: The Wash and North Norfolk Coast
Site Improvement Plan: Breckland SPA
Site Improvement Plan: Ouse Washes SAC/SPA
Site Improvement Plan: Norfolk Valley Fens SAC
Site Improvement Plan: Roydon Common and Dersingham Bog
Norfolk Geodiversity Action Plan (GAP) (2010)

New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership for Norfolk and Suffolk Sector Growth Strategy 2013
Norfolk Biodiversity Partnership Habitat and Species Action Plans
Norfolk Infrastructure Plan 2014
Local Transport Plan LTP3 2011-2026
The Wash East Coastal Management Strategy 2015
North Norfolk Coast AONB Management Plan 2014-2019
Norfolk's Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2006-2017
WNNCEMS Annual Report 2015
National Character Area Profiles
<b>LOCAL</b>
Urban Development Strategy 2006
Hunstanton Town Centre and Southern Seafront Masterplan 2008
Affordable Housing Policy 2011
Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) Update 2014
Assessing King's Lynn and West Norfolk's Housing Requirement 2015
Conservation Area Character Statements
Neighbourhood Plans
Coastal access plans
Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment update (GTANA)
Local Plan and CIL Viability Study (incorporating Affordable Housing Rate Review)
King's Lynn Area Transport Strategy Update
Wisbech Traffic Model, Strategic Development Sites
Green Infrastructure Strategy 2009/2010
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment 2009
Landscape Character Assessment 2007
Employment Land Study 2007
King's Lynn and West Norfolk Settlements Surface Water Management Plan 2012
Natura 2000 Sites Monitoring and Mitigation Strategy 2016
West Norfolk Clinical Commissioning Group, Evidence for Change
New Anglia Strategic Economic Plan, New Anglia Local Economic Partnership 2012
New Anglia Health and Social Care Sector Skills Plan, New Anglia LEP 2016

## Part C Baseline Assessment

### 7. Introduction

#### 7.1. Environmental, Economic and Social Characteristics

7.1.1 This baseline review draws upon a wide range of reports and studies. It seeks, with the aid of both qualitative and quantitative data, to provide a snapshot picture of the current environmental, economic and social characteristics of King's Lynn & West Norfolk. It covers approximately 550

square miles (142,877 hectares); and is essentially rural in nature, with the two market towns of King's Lynn & Downham Market, and the Victorian coastal town of Hunstanton. The Borough also has more than one hundred villages of varying sizes. It is located about 100 miles north of London and stretches from the north Norfolk coast, along the eastern side of The Wash, through the Marshland, Fens and Brecks to the borders of Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire and Suffolk. The Borough is the tenth largest district council area in England and Wales.

## **8. Land, soil and water resources**

### **8.1. Land Use Characteristics**

8.1.1. The 1991 census indicated 57,500 dwellings in the Borough. By 2001 this had increased to approximately 60,000. The latest census records 73,962 dwellings (2011 ONS) and this will have continued to grow in the interim to 2016. The major urban area is King's Lynn with approximately 16,000 dwellings. As outlined above the remainder of the population is located in the towns of Hunstanton and Downham Market and the rural hinterland. Most of the employment is centred in and around King's Lynn but with a lesser employment centre in Downham Market. The uses are predominantly office, light industrial, warehouse, and distribution with some moderately sized chemical related industries bounding the River Great Ouse in King's Lynn. Overall the Borough can be viewed as rural and agricultural beyond the main settlements.

### **8.2. Agricultural Land Quality**

8.2.1. Around 76% of the land in the East of England region is currently used for agriculture. This means that farmers play an essential role in managing our countryside. Due to the low lying and high quality land found within the East of England the type of agriculture is mainly arable farming and areas such as The Fens support intensive farming and horticulture. This region is very flat which makes it easy to cultivate. The Region has 58% of the country's resource of grades 1 and 2 land and only 10% of grades 4 and 5.

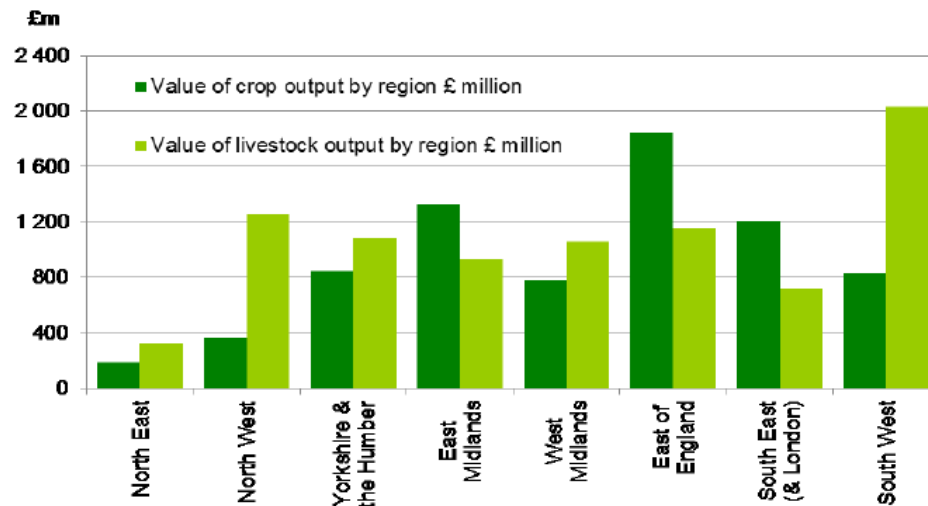


Figure 3 Value of crop and livestock production by region (DEFRA 2015)

8.2.2. Figure 3 shows that the value of crop production in the East of England far exceeds any other region in England. The region contributed almost a quarter of the total income from farming for England in 2015.

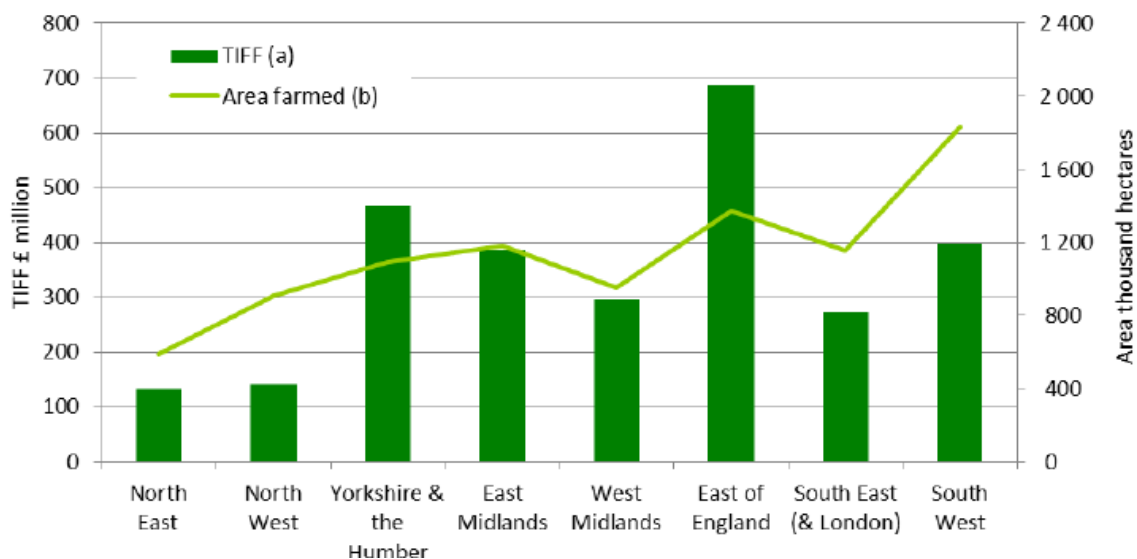
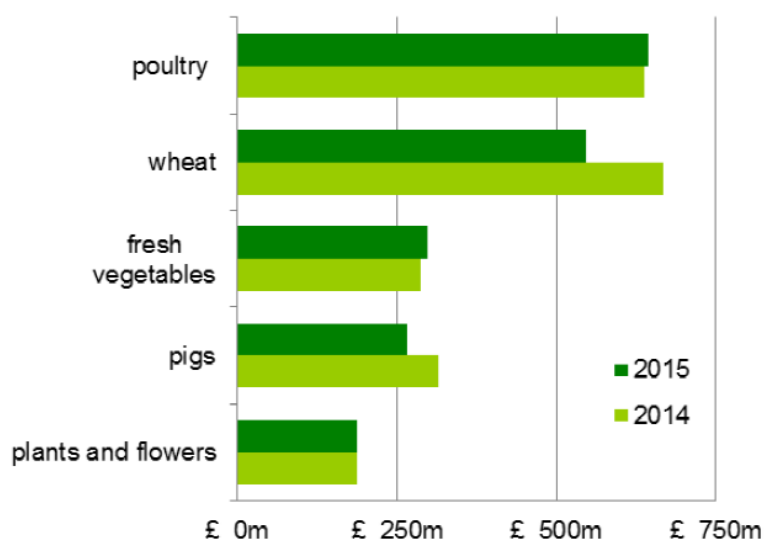


Figure 4 Total Income from Farming (TIFF) and area farmed by English Region

8.2.3. In 2013, East of England agriculture employed 1.35% of the workforce and the area farmed was 1.4 million hectares. This was mostly wheat (31%) and other cereals (13%), permanent grass (13%) and oilseed rape (12%). In 2014, East of England agriculture contributed 1.06% to the economy<sup>1</sup>. Figure 5 shows that poultry production at £644 million re-

<sup>1</sup> DEFRA (2015) Agriculture in the English regions First estimate for 2015  
[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/529687/regional\\_stats\\_notice\\_16\\_jun\\_16.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/529687/regional_stats_notice_16_jun_16.pdf)

placed wheat production as the greatest contributor to the total value of output in 2015. The total Income from farming in the East of England region is estimated to have fallen to £687 million, a decrease of £269 million.



**Figure 5 East of England productivity selected outputs (DEFRA 2015)**

8.2.4. The dominance of arable farming in the East of England creates specific challenges with regard to water resources and land quality that need to be dealt with carefully whilst ensuring that both the environment and the production of food for the country is protected.

### 8.3. Soil

8.3.1. The Agricultural Land Classification system classifies land into five grades, with Grade 3 subdivided into Sub-grades 3a and 3b. The best and most versatile land (BMV) is defined as Grades 1, 2 and 3a and is the land which is most flexible, productive and efficient in response to inputs and which can best deliver food and non-food crops for future generations. The Borough has a high proportion of agricultural land categorised as BMV Grades 1, 2, and 3, particularly in the lower lying fen area in the south and west.

8.3.2. The NPPF expects local planning authorities to take into account the economic and other benefits of the best and most versatile agricultural land. This is particularly important in plan making when decisions are made on which land should be allocated for development. Where signifi-

cant development of agricultural land is demonstrated to be necessary, local planning authorities should seek to use areas of poorer quality land in preference to that of a higher quality. The Agricultural Land Classification provides a method for assessing the quality of farmland to enable informed choices to be made about its future use within the planning system.

- 8.3.3. Early consultation with Natural England has identified that soils are a key element to consider in the SA. They state that soil is a finite resource and as a component of the natural environment, it is important that soils are protected and used sustainably. Development causes soil sealing which has a major, and usually irreversible, adverse impact on soils. Mitigation should aim to minimise soil disturbance and to retain as many ecosystem services as possible through careful soil management during the construction process. Soils of high environmental value (e.g. wetland and carbon stores such as peatland) should be considered as part of ecological connectivity. The current Local Plan already assessed sites against the agricultural land classifications to avoid developing on BMV land, where possible. Existing plan policies also set conditions for reusing mineral resources on-site, where possible. Plan policies should also refer to the DEFRA Code of Practice for the Sustainable Use of Soils on Construction Sites<sup>2</sup>.

## **8.4. Contaminated Land**

- 8.4.1. Sites which have been inspected and determined as contaminated land are placed on the Contaminated Land Register which details particulars of the site and action taken. To date no sites have been formerly determined as contaminated land in the Borough, although there are two sites under investigation, which in case of contamination have to be accessed and any necessary remediation and subsequent management measures have to be taken into account for future developments.

## **8.5. Geology**

- 8.5.1. The topography of the Borough reflects the underlying geology and consists of two main features namely the flat Fen deposits, which lie west of a line drawn south from King's Lynn through Downham Market and the chalk "uplands" to the east. The former are characterised by a flat peaty landscape at or below sea level which were deposited under changing conditions since the last Ice Age and the latter by gently rolling hills which

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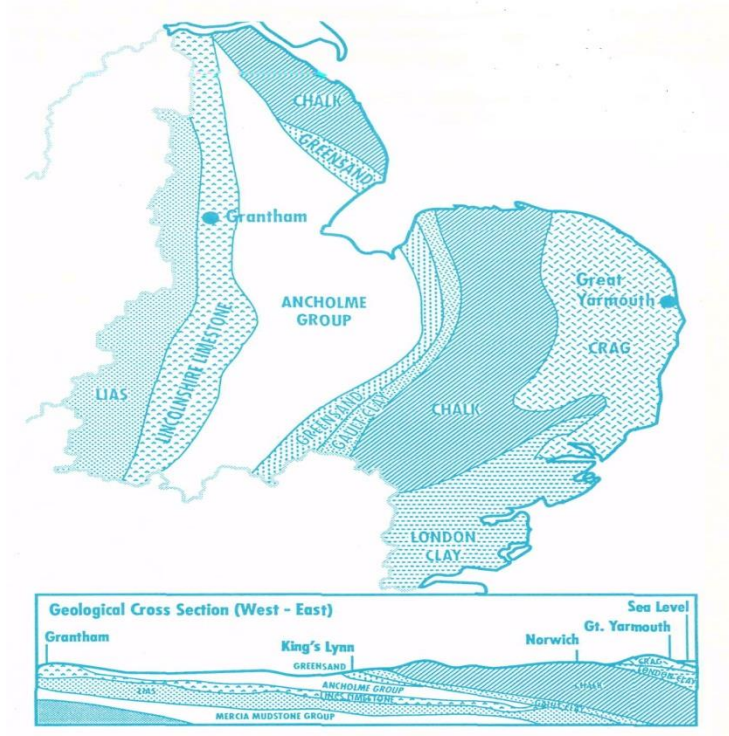
<sup>2</sup> DEFRA 2011 Code of practice for the sustainable use of soils on construction sites  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/code-of-practice-for-the-sustainable-use-of-soils-on-construction-sites>

were laid down in the Cretaceous period. At no point does the topography exceed 100 m above sea level. Superficial deposits overlay the chalk, taking the form of glacial till. Where glacial sands and gravel form the surface, wide and comparatively flat areas of heathland occur.

8.5.2. Such areas are extracted for the comparatively fine sand. Some areas constitute valuable nature reserves. At the edge of the chalk running in a line roughly between Hunstanton to the north and Downham Market to the south are exposed deposits of quartz, Lower Greensand and Neocomian and clay deposits deriving from the Cretaceous and Jurassic periods. The Fen deposits are characterised by peat, estuarine silt and clay. In general the Fen deposits support intensive agricultural activity particularly in the growing of vegetables and the superficial deposits on the chalk support cereal and sugar beet cultivation. A schematic detail of the solid geology of the area is given as Figure 6.

8.5.3. With a low lying aspect the Fens were subject to major drainage works in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century which still form the backbone of water control in this area. A sophisticated network of sluices, relief channels and drainage ditches ensure that water levels within the Fen area are managed and controlled. In general in this area the water table is comparatively close to the surface and much of the land lies below sea level. In contrast the chalk uplands are drained by small streams and rivers, which flow in a general east to west direction towards The Wash, many of which are of a high quality. The water table lies within the chalk and is generally found at a greater depth than the Fens. Generally the chalk is a “major aquifer” with associated abstraction for potable water. The other Cretaceous and Jurassic deposits are most often viewed as “minor aquifer”, where there is some abstraction from bore holes and surface waters for drinking water purposes and agricultural usage. The Fen area is classified as a non-aquifer and the ground water can in certain localities be brackish. Limited abstraction for agricultural purposes occurs.

8.5.4. Although West Norfolk is generally regarded as part of lowland England its physical geography is extremely varied.



**Figure 6 Geology of King's Lynn and West Norfolk, BCKLWN**

8.5.5. In the west and south of the Borough, areas of level rich, brown silt of the Marshland area and black peat Fenland are deposited over the Ancholme group. These level plains of Marshland and Fen are not completely flat; in fact this area has some local, gentle variety of relief, albeit almost impossible to distinguish on the ground. The basic sequence of silt and marine deposits show that the southern area is largely peat fen, the extreme west and north, including the Wash Margins is of silt whilst southern Marshland is of silty-clay. While much of the peat fen lies below sea level there is a general rise in level from south to north, from the silty-clay lands to the Wash Sea bank. The fact that this is some of the best and most versatile agricultural land is demonstrated by the fact that it is mostly Grades 1 and 2 in the Agricultural Land Classification.

8.5.6. Marshland is of a calcareous, estuarine silt and clay, mostly reclaimed from the Wash since the 17th century. The soils have a large water storage capacity and support the most extensive, intensively farmed arable land in the country. Moving from the West of the Borough eastwards there is a marked contrast on reaching the edge of the flat fen as the upland rises dramatically. The upland part of West Norfolk, in the east and north of the Borough, with the presence of Chalk being most obvious when exposed on the cliffs at Hunstanton, the white appearance of ploughed upland fields, traditional local building and walling construction material, and significance for hydrology. While the underlying geology of the upland gives it character and variety so has the impact of glaciation.

Much of the relief of the upland has been curved, gorged, smoothed and rounded as a result of this influence although West Norfolk is not heavily covered by the boulder clay so common in central Norfolk. The river valleys that spring from the chalk in the east and flow westwards to the Wash e.g. the Nar, Esk, Babingley, Ingol and Heacham Rivers seem far larger features than the size of today's streams warrant and that of the Nar is perhaps the most significant feature in the West Norfolk countryside after The Wash and North Coast.

8.5.7. The area of West Norfolk has a considerable distribution of peaty and bog type deposits with some petrological deposits, which may give rise to natural levels of hydrocarbon compounds and soil methane and/or carbon dioxide gas emissions. The area of the Fens is a significant agricultural produce area characterised by a strong market gardening industry.

8.5.8. Geological Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), notified under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, are located within the Borough. E.g. Hunstanton Park Esker SSSI, Holkham Brick Pit SSSI, Bawsey SSSI, Blackborough End Pit SSSI, Wretton SSSI and Wiggenhall St Germans SSSI.

## **8.6. Minerals**

8.6.1. Mineral extraction has historically occurred within the Borough principally for aggregates including sand, gravel, carstone and chalk, and the scarce silica sand resource. Whilst there are reserves and extraction sites for largely sand and gravel dispersed across the Borough there are principally four working sites where major mineral extraction; Leziate, Blackborough End, Pentney and Tottenhill.

8.6.2. Norfolk County Council has responsibility for minerals and waste planning for the county. The Core Strategy and Minerals and Waste Development Management Policies Development Plan Document 2010-2026 was adopted in September 2011 and two separate site allocations plans for minerals and waste were adopted in 2013. These plans safeguarded a number of locations within the Borough for minerals workings and waste facilities.

8.6.3. Norfolk is one of the most important sources of silica sand in Britain, accounting for over 10 per cent of total output and a much larger proportion of glass sand production. The majority of the resources of silica sand are to the east of King's Lynn from upper Sandringham to the west of Hunstanton, southwards to Ryston (near Downham Market) in south-

west Norfolk. At present, there is only one company (Sibelco) extracting silica sand in Norfolk. This operation is located at a site in Leziate, east of King's Lynn, which includes plant for initial processing and a rail head to export the mineral from the county for advanced processing elsewhere. It is estimated that the site at Leziate has a current production rate of over 750,000 tonnes per year<sup>3</sup>.

8.6.4. Carstone is a type of sandstone that is quarried in west Norfolk. It has traditionally been used as a vernacular building material, although it is no longer used to any significant degree. Although it is classed as a 'hard rock', it is not used as a hard rock (e.g. road dressing) – instead, it is used primarily as fill (to raise the levels of land prior to construction) or hoggin (in embankments and as fill); therefore, it is often used in the construction of roads.

8.6.5. Norfolk County Council has produced a further Silica Sand Single Issue Review document which entirely focuses on the silica sand resource in West Norfolk. The document is not yet adopted but current plans seek to safeguard one minerals site at Bawsey and six further large Areas of Search around existing mineral working areas and a further Area of Search in Snettisham. This plan would increase the output of silica sand extraction in the Borough by 2.61 million tonnes over the plan period, if adopted.

## **8.7. Water resources and quality**

8.7.1. The rivers of West Norfolk are a significant local geographic feature. King's Lynn is at a strategic location at the mouth of the River Great Ouse, giving access to the Rivers Cam and Nene with the ability to reach far inland using various linked waterway systems. West Norfolk has been much influenced by major draining and reclaiming projects of the past. The current system for ensuring a wide area of Marshland and Fenland are protected from flooding, was designed and constructed by the Dutch engineer Vermuyden in the mid-17th century, including the excavation of a pair of straight parallel channels (the Old and New Bedford Rivers) bypassing the original course of the river through Ely. His work still forms the basis of the river system in this area, including the major fen drainage works carried out east of Ely during the 1950s and 1960s with the construction of the Relief Channel and Cut-off Channel.

8.7.2. A consequence of the nature of our rivers is that background water quality appears worse than in fast-flowing streams. The growth of algae

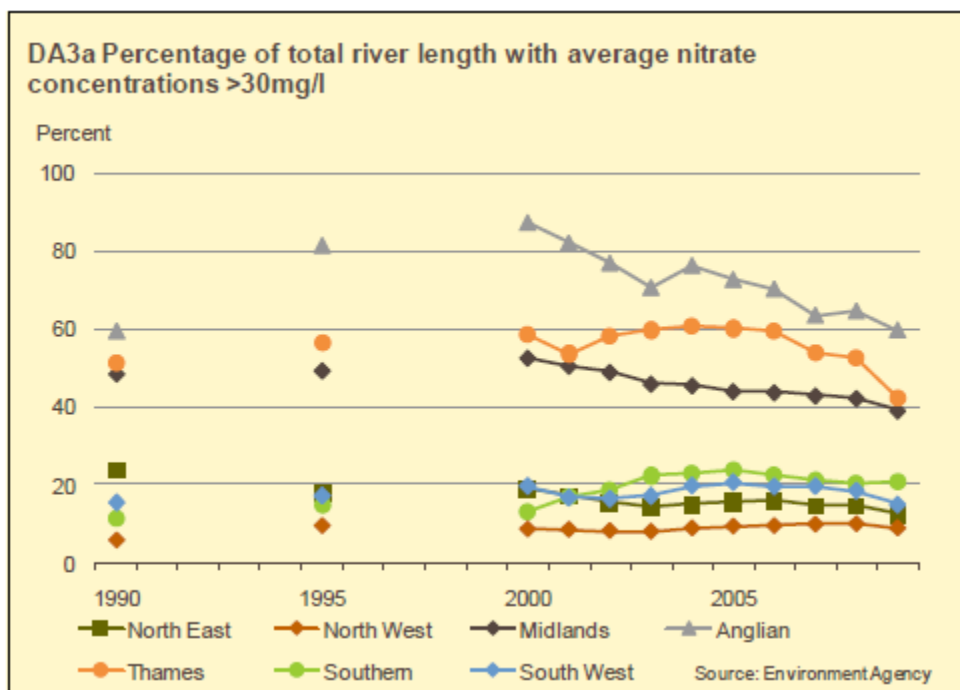
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<sup>3</sup> Norfolk County Council (2011) Minerals and Waste Core Strategy 2010 – 2026 source: [www.norfolk.gov.uk](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk)

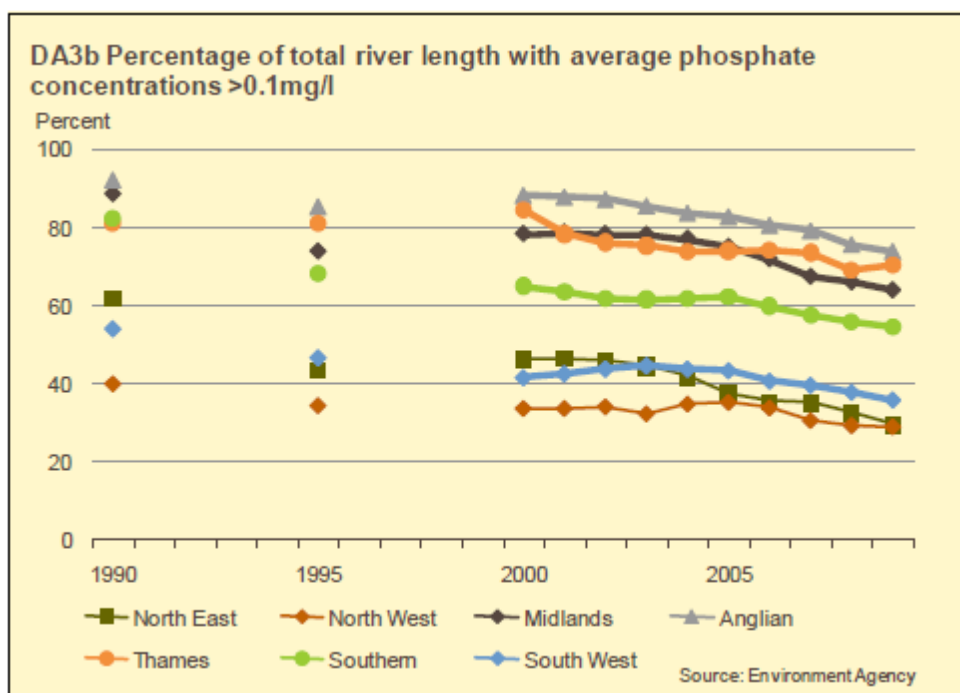
is encouraged by the nutrient rich, slow-moving flow and this can lead to spurious, elevated results which give a pessimistic chemical grade in some cases. However, since 1990 the East of England has seen major investment in effluent treatment works and sewer overflows. Cleaner discharges have improved river and estuary quality.

8.7.3. Stemming from the EU Water Framework Directive legislation 2000, DEFRA and the Environment Agency have produced River Basin Management Catchment Plans to monitor and to improve the quality of water over an entire river system. The Anglian river basin district covers 27,900km<sup>2</sup> and extends from Lincolnshire in the north to Essex in the south and from Northamptonshire in the west to the East Anglian coast.

8.7.4. Historically the Environment Agency published data on the general nitrate quality of rivers in the East of England. This showed nutrient concentrations in the East to be generally higher than in other parts of the country. Whilst nitrate and phosphate concentrations in rivers have reduced substantially since 2000, the Anglian region continues to have the highest proportion of river length exceeding 30mg/l of nitrates (see Figures 7 and 8).



**Figure 7 nitrate concentrations.** Source: Environment Agency (2012) [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/162164/defra-stats-observatory-indicators-da3-120224.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/162164/defra-stats-observatory-indicators-da3-120224.pdf)



**Figure 8 phosphate concentrations.** Source: Environment Agency (2012) [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/162164/defra-stats-observatory-indicators-da3-120224.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/162164/defra-stats-observatory-indicators-da3-120224.pdf)

8.7.5. High concentrations of nutrients can threaten some of our unique habitats. Our river catchments are generally low-lying and largely rural, with intensive arable farming in many places and a few large urban settlements.

8.7.6. Sewage treatment works and other discharges, if not properly regulated, can cause poor water quality and increase nutrient concentrations. Fertiliser applied to farmland may wash into rivers and elevate nutrient concentrations. To add to the threat, abstraction of water, for both public water supply and crop irrigation, reduces flows and water levels in the rivers.

8.7.7. The area of high chalk upland to the east of King's Lynn is an important local source of groundwater public supply and a major aquifer with high vulnerability soil classes. Boreholes and other sources provide local water supplies with 13 water zones currently monitored across the Borough for microbiological contaminants. Monitoring illustrates that drinking water from main supply meets the standards set by legislation, contributed to by the recent installation of de-nitrification plants within the main supply. There are 61-recorded private water supplies known to the Council which in the main draw water from the chalk, and possess high nitrate levels.

There are a number of high quality chalk streams, which support important ecosystems.

Water body categories	Natural	Artificial	Heavily modified	Total
Rivers, canals and surface water transfers	189	44	293	526
Lake	10	19	17	46
Coastal	4	1	8	13
Estuarine	3	0	15	18
Groundwater	31	0	0	31
Total	237	64	333	634

**Figure 9 Number of water bodies in the river basin district, Source: DEFRA and EA <https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/river-basin-management-plans-2015>**

8.7.8. The Anglian River Management Catchment Plan is the key resource which collates data on inland waterways. Figure 9 is an extract from the plan showing the number of water bodies in the river basin district. It shows whether these are natural, artificial (such as canals and reservoirs) or have been modified ('heavily modified') for particular uses.

8.7.9. The Water Framework Directive indicator of the health of the water environment is whether a water body is at good status or potential. This is an assessment of a range of quality elements relating to the biology and chemical quality of surface waters and quantitative and chemical quality of groundwater. A high level of investment has been undertaken since the last RMCP's in 2009 to enable a wider range of data to be recorded for each water body.

8.7.10. To achieve good ecological status or potential, good chemical status or good groundwater status every single element assessed must be at good status or better. If one element is marginally below its threshold for good status, then the whole water body's status is classed as less than good. Surface water bodies can be classed as high, good, moderate, poor or bad status. A description of each of those status classes is provided in Appendix 2.

No. of water bodies	Ecological status or potential					Chemical status	
	Bad	Poor	Mod	Good	High	Fail	Good
603	13	106	419	65	0	7	596

**Figure 10 Ecological and chemical 2015 classification for surface waters (Anglian Region), Source: DEFRA and EA**  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/river-basin-management-plans-2015>

No. of water bodies	Quantitative status		Chemical status	
	Poor	Good	Poor	Good
31	16	15	15	16

**Figure 11 Chemical and quantitative 2015 classification for groundwaters (Anglian Region), Source: DEFRA and EA**  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/river-basin-management-plans-2015>

- 8.7.11. Aiming to achieve good status or potential by 2021 is the default objective for the plan. By the time that the scoping report is next subject to review, comparable data should be available to determine whether water quality has improved in the Anglian region. This data shows that out of 603 water bodies only 7 fail in terms of chemical status. The data shows that the majority of water bodies are rated moderate for ecological status or potential. There is therefore scope for improvement for the majority of water bodies in the Eastern region.
- 8.7.12. The Bathing Water Directive 2006/7/EC replaces the former Directive 76/160/EC. It applies to surface waters that can be used for bathing except for swimming pools and spa pools, confined waters subject to treatment or used for therapeutic purposes and confined waters artificially separated from surface water and groundwater.
- 8.7.13. The European Drinking Water Directive ensures that water quality is controlled, to ensure monitoring, assessment and enforcement of drinking water quality to provide consumers with adequate, timely and appropriate information. Moreover, it is worth to mention the Shellfish Waters in the Wash as well as the River Nar surface water Safeguard zone.
- 8.7.14. There are three points in the Borough where water is sampled: Heacham, Hunstanton main beach and Hunstanton (Old Hunstanton). In 2015 all three areas received ratings of 'good' for their bathing water quality.

## 8.8. Waste

8.8.1. Norfolk County Council compiles data on waste in Norfolk in Annual Monitoring Reports. The 2016 report covering the period 2014 – 2015 recorded that the total amount of Local Authority Collected Municipal Waste increased slightly in the year 2014/15 compared to 2013/14, however waste input into non-hazardous landfill sites in 2014/15 was 346,000 tonnes, a decrease of approximately 4% on the 2013/14 figure.

8.8.2. The key trend in Norfolk over the past decade is the overall increase in household recycling and overall decrease and stabilisation in the amount of non-hazardous waste being taken to landfill sites. The graphs below illustrate the trends and are an extract from Norfolk County Council's Waste Annual Monitoring Report 2016.

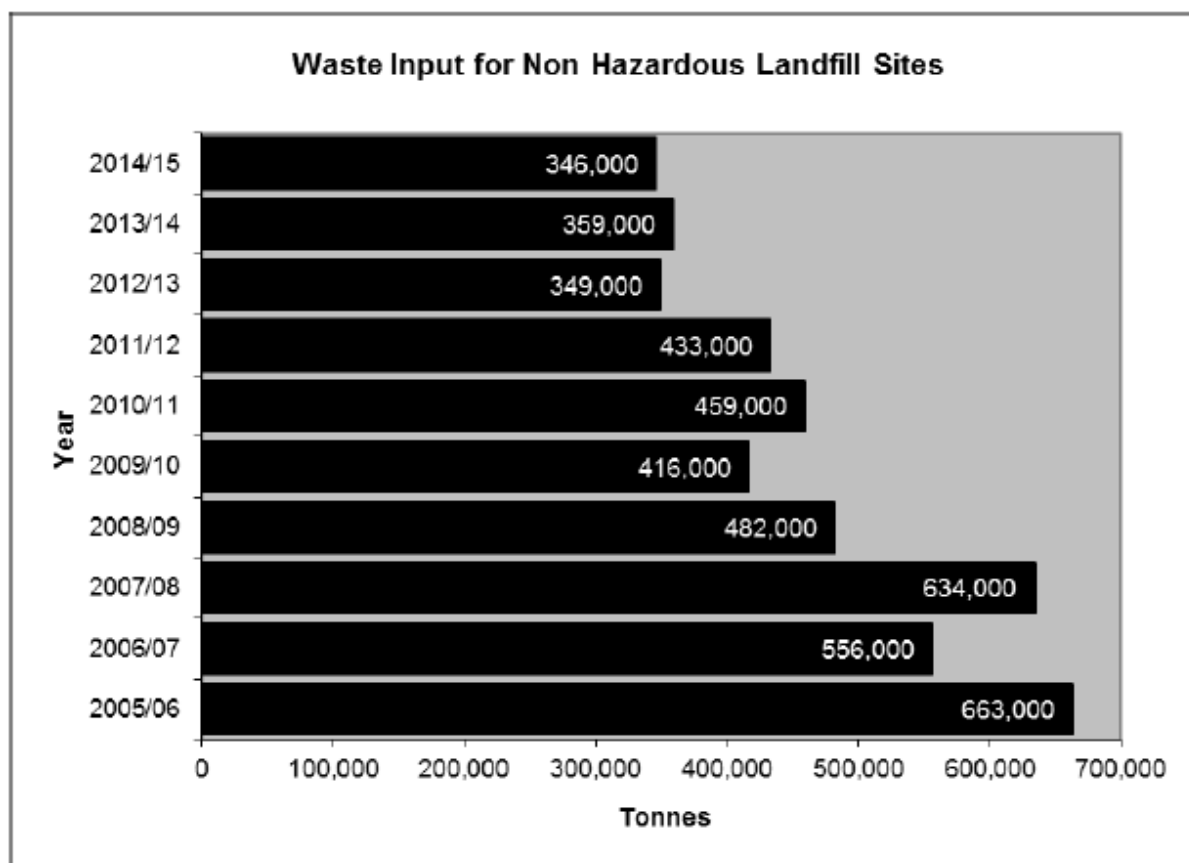
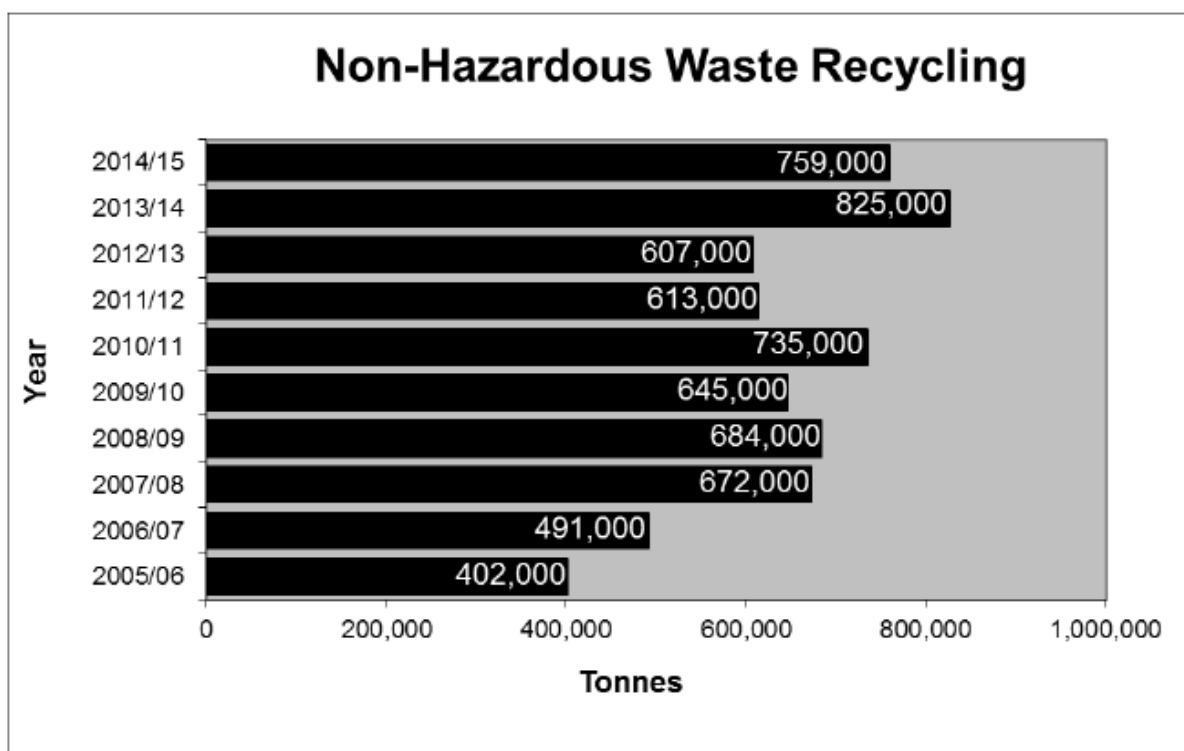


Figure 12 Waste input for non-hazardous landfill sites, Source: Norfolk County Council <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/policy-performance-and-partnerships/policies-and-strategies/minerals-and-waste-planning/annual-monitoring-reports>



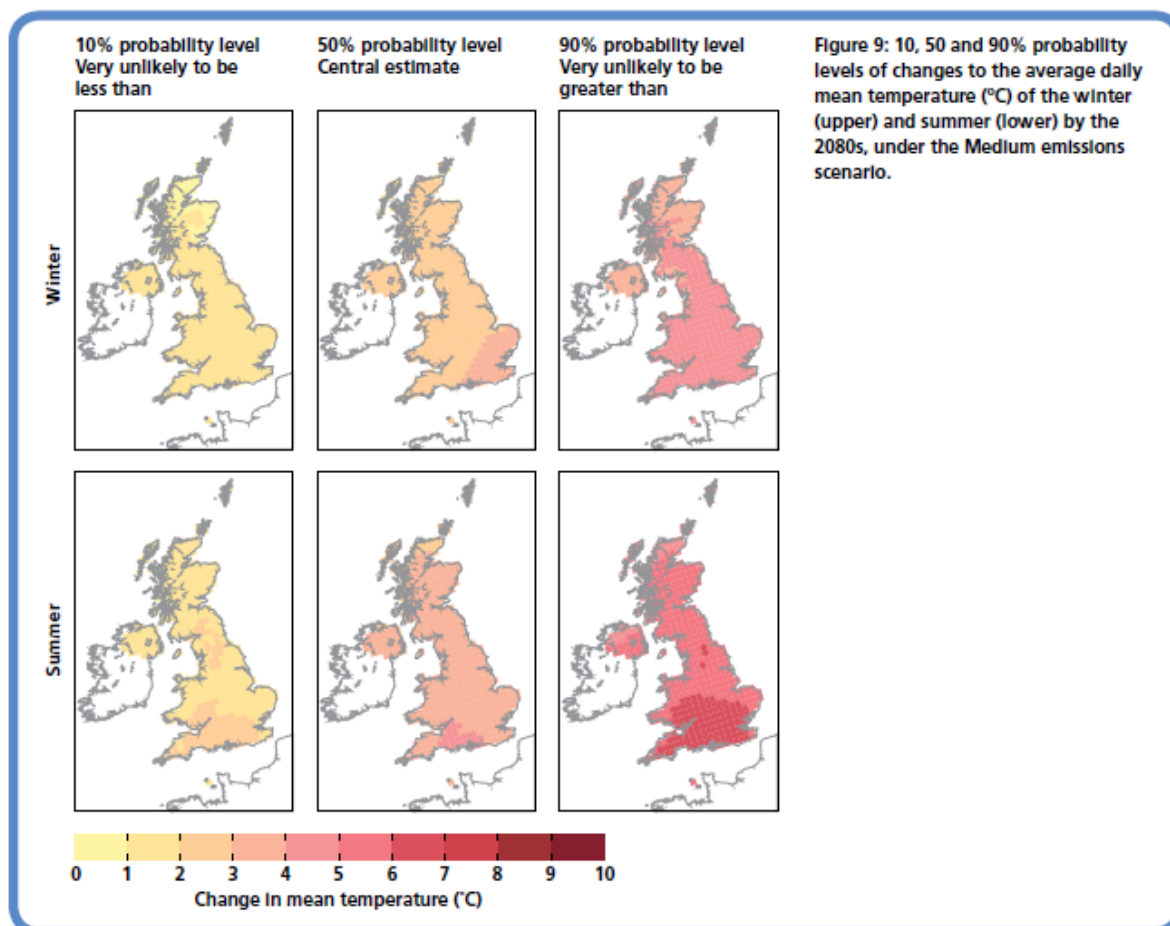
**Figure 13 Non-hazardous waste recycling**, Source: Norfolk County Council, <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/policy-performance-and-partnerships/policies-and-strategies/minerals-and-waste-planning/annual-monitoring-reports>

## 9. Climate Change and Air Pollution

### 9.1. Context

9.1.1. A vast body of research has been undertaken which supports the theory of climate change and that human activity has contributed to global warming. The UK Climate Projections (UKCPO9) undertaken in 2009 show 3 main projections which differ according to the level of emissions produced. The projections of change in mean temperature show that in winter, the central estimates of change are between 2 and 3 degrees Celsius with slightly larger changes in the south east of the country. In summer a more pronounced north to south gradient exists with changes in southern England being just over 4 degrees Celsius, and Northern Scotland about 2.5 degrees Celsius.

9.1.2. Climate change includes not only changes in mean climate but also in weather extremes. A study published in Nature Climate Change<sup>4</sup> suggests global warming over the last century means heat extremes that previously only occurred once every 1,000 days are happening four to five times more often. In the last few years there have been notable extreme flood events including a tidal storm surge in 2013 which affected communities in the Borough and caused dramatic changes to the coast-line.



**Figure 14 Probability levels of changes to the average daily mean temperature,** <http://ukclimateprojections.metoffice.gov.uk/21678> Source: Met Office

9.1.3. The Climate Change Act established a target for the UK to reduce its emissions by at least 80% from 1990 levels by 2050. This target represents an appropriate UK contribution to global emission reductions consistent with limiting global temperature rise to as little as possible above 2°C. The target is further broken down into five yearly carbon budgets.

<sup>4</sup> Fischer, E.M and Knutti, (2015) 'Anthropogenic contribution to global occurrence of heavy-precipitation and high-temperature extremes' Nature Climate Change 5,560–564 Source: <http://www.nature.com/nclimate/journal/v5/n6/full/nclimate2617.html>

9.1.4. The NPPF includes policy to address climate change stating in paragraphs 93 and 94; “Planning plays a key role in helping shape places to secure radical reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, minimising vulnerability and providing resilience to the impacts of climate change, and supporting the delivery of renewable and low carbon energy and associated infrastructure. This is central to the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. Local planning authorities should adopt proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change, taking full account of flood risk, coastal change and water supply and demand considerations”.

## 9.2. Emissions

9.2.1. The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (DBEIS) monitor Local Authority emissions and produce estimates, the last of which was for the period 2005 – 2013. Figure 15 is an extract from the report which shows that the Borough had the third largest increase in emissions of all Local Authorities over the time period<sup>5</sup>. The report also notes that the emission increase is under the scope of influence of the authority meaning that the increase in emissions was within the control of the authority; the likely source is authorised development such as the Palm Paper Factory at King’s Lynn.

**Figure 15 Local Authorities that had the largest increases in emissions between 2005 and 2013**

Local Authority	Percentage increase	Sub-sector most responsible for increases in that area
Neath Port Talbot	14%	Large industrial installations
Slough	13%	Industry and commercial electricity
King’s Lynn and West Norfolk	8%	Industry and commercial gas
Limavady	2%	LULUCF
Craigavon	1%	Industry and commercial gas

<sup>5</sup> Department of Energy and Climate Change (June 2015) ‘2005 to 2013 UK local and regional CO2 emissions: statistical release’ <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2013>

### **9.3. Flood Risk**

9.3.1. The Borough encompasses a wide variety of landforms, from relatively narrow stream valleys in the chalk uplands in the north east of the district, through the broader and relatively flat river valleys of the Nar and Wissey south east of King's Lynn, to the extensive areas of Fenland west of the Great Ouse and the Southery and Methwold fens in the south east of the district. Flooding in such a diverse area can therefore occur in a number of different ways including overflowing of Watercourses; Breaching of Embankments; Mechanical, Structural or Operational Failure of defences.

9.3.2. The Environment Agency publishes flood maps and provides regular updates which are used by Local Authorities in land use planning. The Council published a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment in 2007. The Environment Agency has subsequently updated local flood maps (although there are minimal variations from the original mapping) and have additionally produced tidal hazard mapping based on breach modelling in the event that tidal inundation overtopped existing flood defences. The tidal breach scenario would particularly affect low lying communities in the Borough adjacent to the River Great Ouse. Figure 16 provides an extract of the flood map for part of the Borough showing the extent of high risk flood areas in the Borough (blue areas).



**Figure 16 Extract of map showing flood risk in the Borough. Full maps available in the Council's Strategic Flood Risk Assessment or from the Environment Agency website Source: Environment Agency 2016 website**

9.3.3. In 2015 Norfolk County Council published the Norfolk Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. The Strategy identifies the potential risk of flooding from local sources such as surface water, groundwater and ordinary water courses. Figure 17 illustrates the extent of flood risk zones 2 and 3 in West Norfolk which, aside from the Broads, is the greatest area at risk of flooding in Norfolk. The Strategy contains a list of settlements in the Borough and the number of properties at risk from local sources of flooding. The top five in the list are King's Lynn (850 properties), Burnham Market (420), Feltwell (330), Terrington St Clement (250) and Dersingham (190).

9.3.4. The varied topography of the Borough greatly influences the nature of flood risk which is present. Tidal flood risk is a dominant threat due to the low-lying land in the south and west of the Borough and the vulnerability of coastal settlements to tidal surges from the North Sea.

9.3.5. Fluvial flood risk is of equal importance given that the Borough is located downstream from the River Great Ouse: the rivers Nar, Wissey Little Ouse, Gaywood, Babingley and the Old Bedford, along with many small drainage channels. Understanding of fluvial flood risk from ordinary wa-

tercourses is limited and further investigation of the risk associated with these smaller watercourses is required.

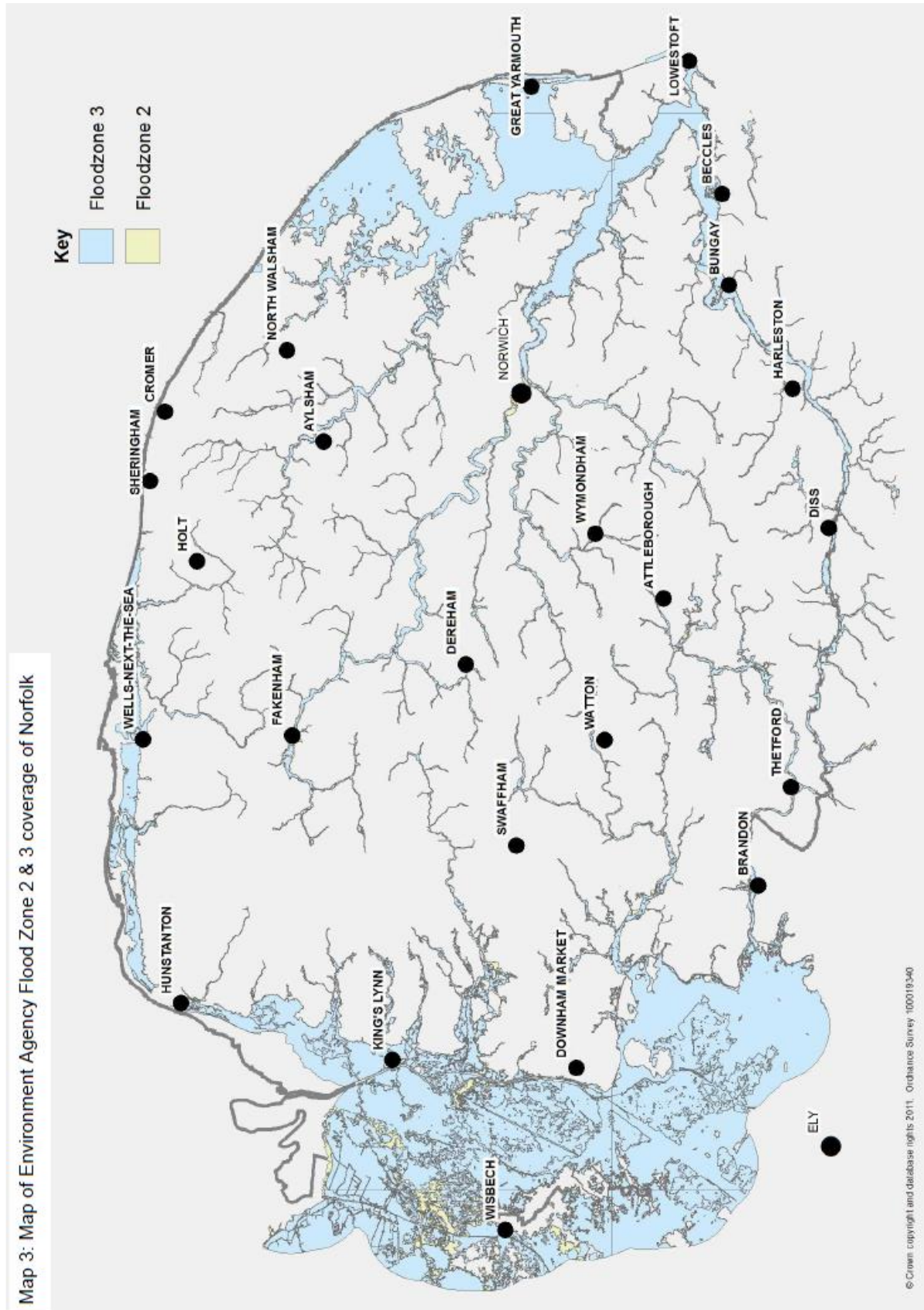
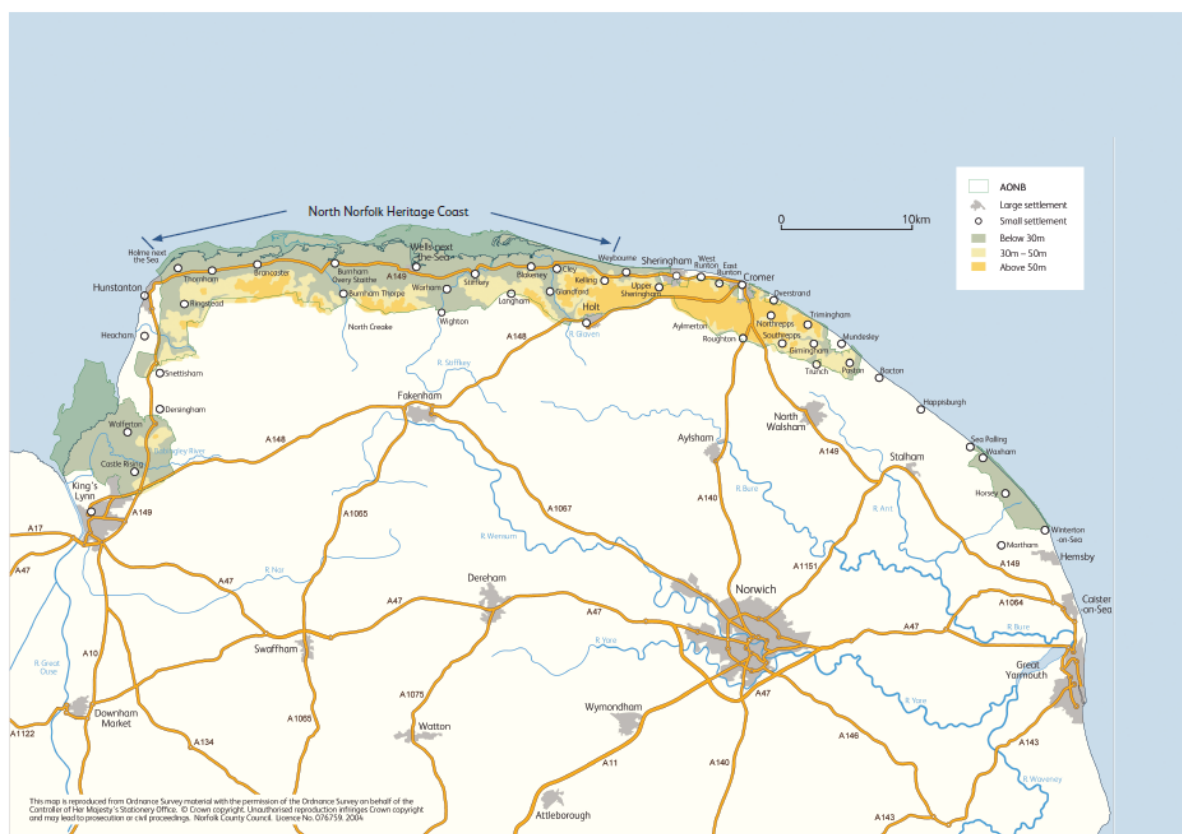


Figure 17 Map of EA Flood Zones 2 and 3 in Norfolk, Source: Norfolk County Council Local Flood Risk Management Strategy <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/policy-performance->

[and-partnerships/policies-and-strategies/flood-and-water-management/local-flood-risk-management-strategy](#)

#### **9.4. Climate change and the coast**

- 9.4.1. Shoreline Management Plans determine the best ways to manage the risks of flooding and coastal erosion in a sustainable way for the next 100 years. They are significant in land use planning as these plans determine the areas where the coast will not be defended and therefore would be unsuitable for further development. Led by the Environment Agency with a partnership of fourteen organisations, the East Anglia Coastal Group has developed 5 SMPs which cover the Anglia region. The coastline of the Borough is included in SMP 4 Gibraltar Point to Old Hunstanton (2010) and SMP 5 Hunstanton to Kelling Hard (2010).
- 9.4.2. SMP 4 specifies that for the Wash area from Gibraltar Point to Hunstanton the short and medium term policy is to hold the line of existing defence. The plan specifies no active intervention at the area of Hunstanton Cliffs. In the long term this will threaten the historic lighthouse, recreational area and coastal road. From Snettisham coastline to Hunstanton there is a high number of properties which would be highly vulnerable to flood events because they are predominantly caravans and less permanent structures. A policy in the Council's SADMP seeks to protect the area from further development and creates occupancy restrictions.
- 9.4.3. SMP 5 states that the dunes at Old Hunstanton and Holme will initially be maintained and then allowed to develop naturally. In Thornham the footpath will be maintained but the sea bank will not, and at Titchwell village the frontage will continue to develop naturally. At Titchwell nature reserve and between the Royal Norfolk Golf Club and Brancaster Staithe private owners must provide or maintain defences. Defences will be maintained between Scolt Head Island and Burnham Overy Staithe until at least 2055. Development pressure in North Norfolk is often from private owners seeking to expand tourist facilities or renovate or redevelop private homes and plots. There is additional pressure from developers because of the high land value and demand for second homes. Policies in The Local Plan and neighbourhood plans should seek to limit growth in vulnerable areas.



**Figure 18 Norfolk Coast AONB, Source: Norfolk Coast Partnership**  
<http://www.norfolkcoastaonb.org.uk/partnership/designation-maps/1072>

9.4.4. A significant area in the north and north east part of the Borough is designated part of the North Norfolk Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) (Figure 18). The Norfolk Coast Partnership (NCP) comprises a group of community representatives, local authorities (including the Borough Council), relevant organisations and a dedicated team with responsibility for managing the area and producing the AONB Management Plan. The current management plan 2014-19 highlights the potential impact of climate change; “in the longer term, climate change is likely to be a very significant driver of change for the area’s current characteristics of natural beauty”.

9.4.5. NCP commissioned a study in 2013 on the implications of climate change for characteristic species and habitats. This helped to inform baseline data and objectives in the AONB Management Plan. In order to address objectives in the Management Plan the NCP is currently undertaking a project to consider the impact of predicted effects arising from global climate change on various aspects of the Norfolk Coast. One of the key projects currently under formulation is the importance of protecting Norfolk’s significant areas of dark skies from light pollution resulting from new development. Figure 19 illustrates the extent of light pollution over urban areas in the Borough including King’s Lynn, west coastal set-

tlements, Docketing and Downham Market in particular. The map has been produced at a national level and from that perspective it is clear that the North Norfolk Coast is one area that is low in light pollution but is also subject to high house values and increasing pressure for development, potentially resulting in more light pollution, unless it is protected.

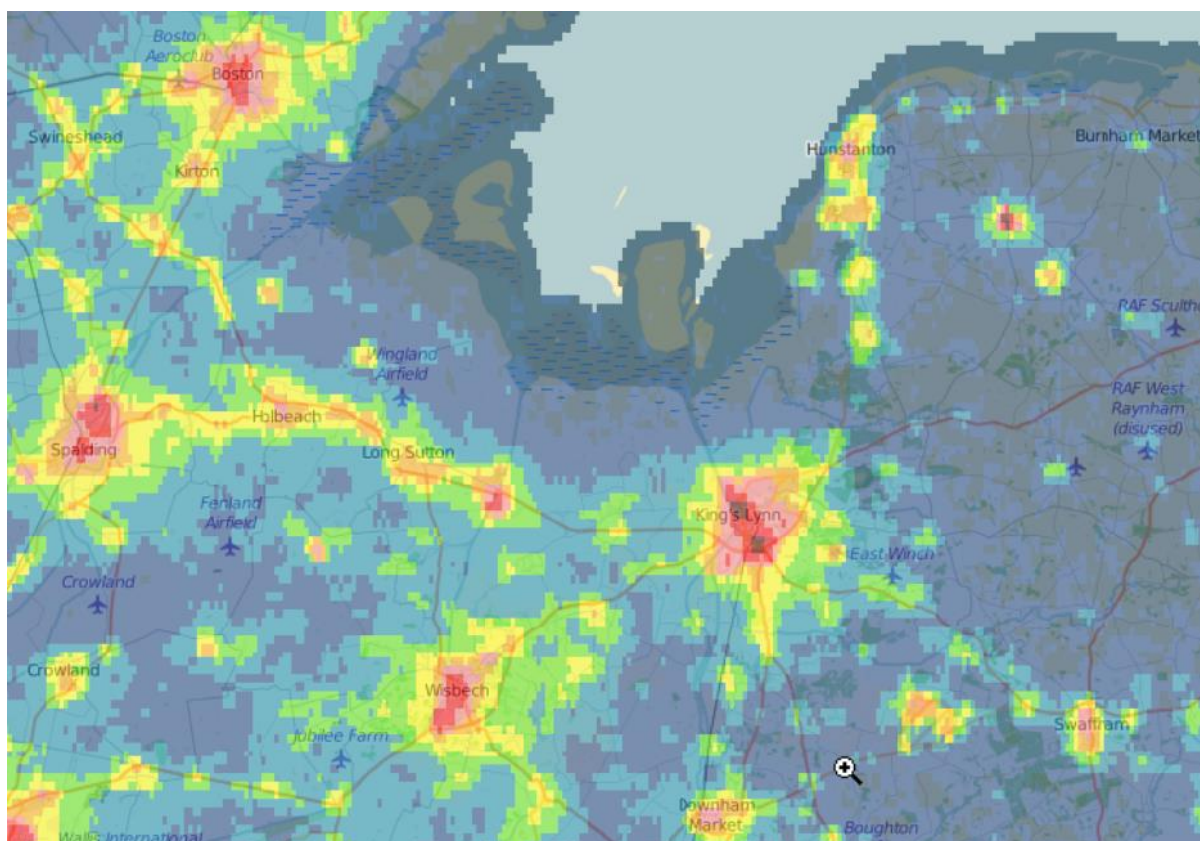


Figure 15 Map illustrating the extent of light pollution over urban area source: CPRE, 2015 <http://nightblight.cpre.org.uk/>

## 9.5. Air Quality

9.5.1. The Environment Act 1995 introduced the Local Air Quality Management System, which requires local authorities to undertake regular review and assessment of air quality, with respect to the standards and objectives set in the Air Quality Strategy, and enacted through the Air Quality Regulations in 1997, 2000 and 2002. In areas where an air quality objective is predicted not to be met by the required date, local authorities are required to establish Air Quality Management Areas and implement action plans to improve air quality.

9.5.2. There are various sources of air pollution in the UK. These can include transport (mainly road transport), the use and production of energy, commercial / industrial premises and natural sources.

9.5.3. Agriculture and forestry are the second largest source of greenhouse gases in the UK - accounting for 7% of the UK's total emissions. Nitrous oxide and methane are the most significant greenhouse gases for farmers. Agriculture is responsible for 66% of the UK's nitrous oxide emissions and 46% of UK methane emissions. The Borough has a number of intensive pig and poultry farms which can cause air pollution by ammonia. It is important that agricultural uses adjacent to protected areas for wildlife and habitat are limited where it would risk air quality issues.

9.5.4. The Air Quality Standards Regulations (2010) transpose into English law the requirements of Directives 2008/50/EC and 2004/107/EC on ambient air quality. The Government has previously identified 8 key pollutants for which health-based limit values/ targets are defined in the National Air Quality Strategy (NAQS):

- Nitrogen Dioxide;
- PM10 particulates;
- Benzene;
- 1,3 – butadiene;
- Lead;
- Sulphur Dioxide;
- Carbon Monoxide; and
- Ozone.

9.5.5. The Borough Council monitors air quality and identifies the most polluted areas. There are currently two air quality management areas within King's Lynn where the level of Nitrogen Dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) is above the annual mean air quality standard of 40 ug/m<sup>3</sup> (Figure 20 and 21). The main source of the NO<sub>2</sub> is from road traffic.

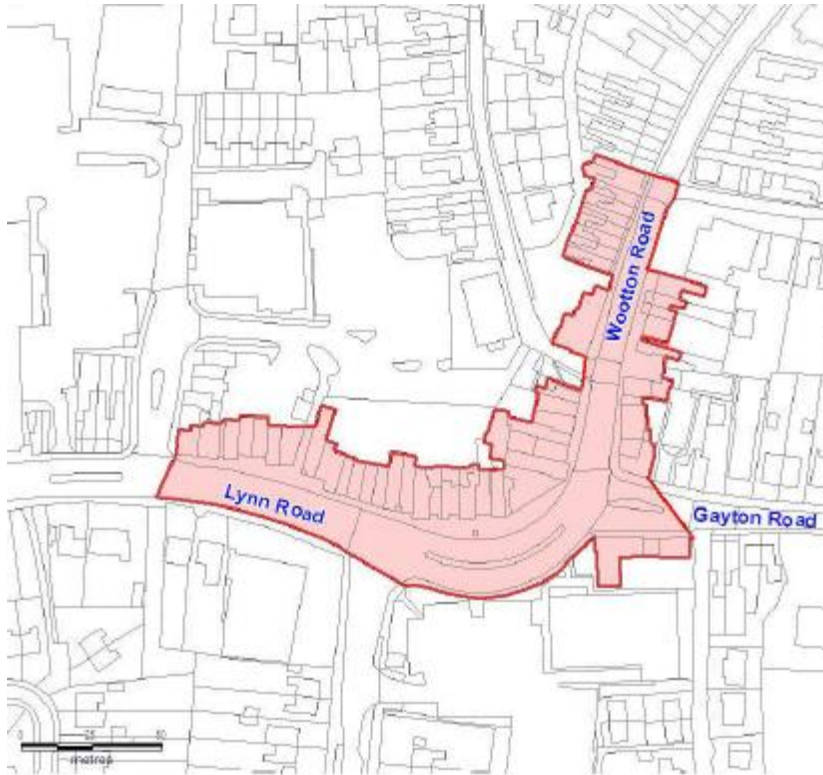
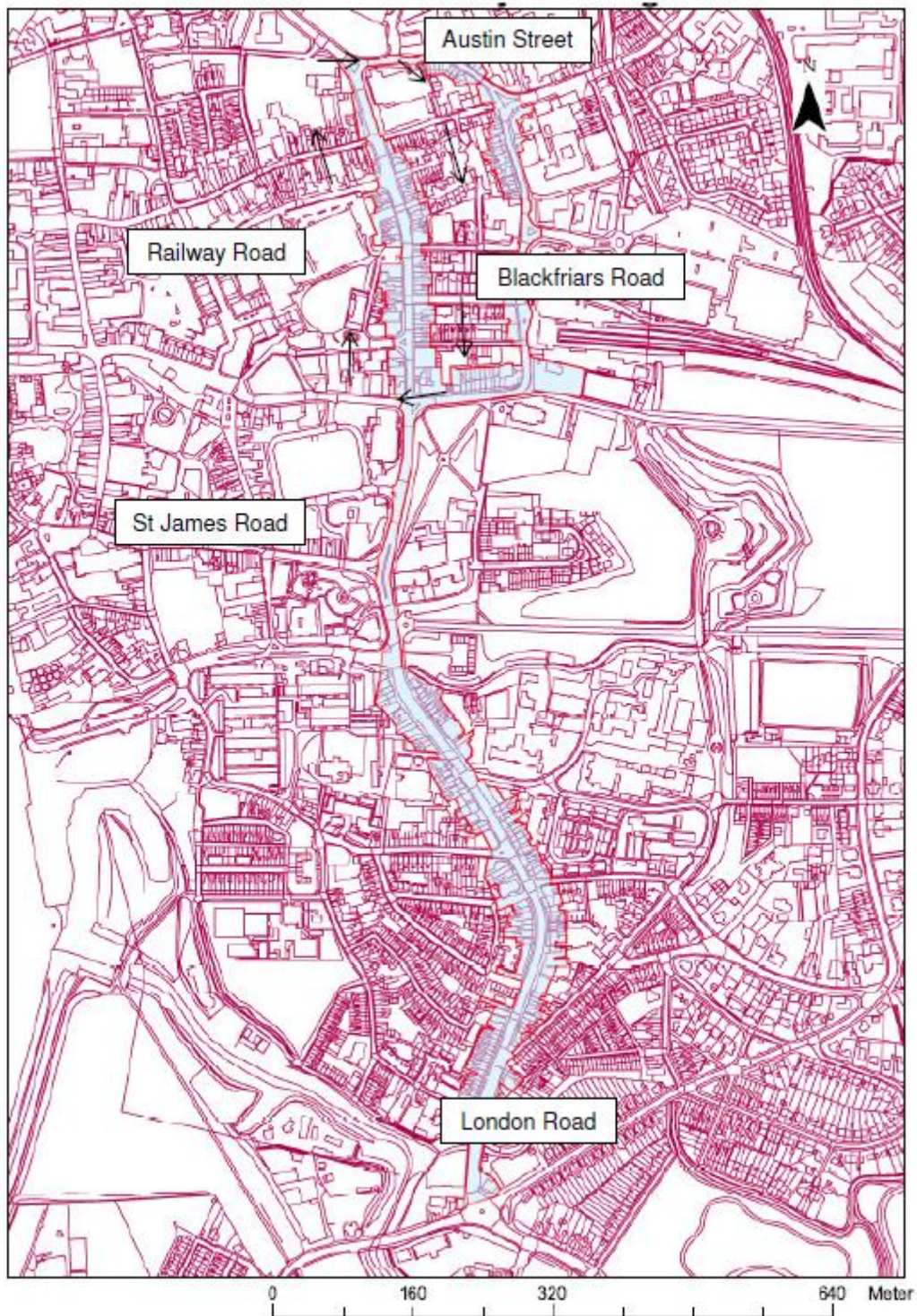


Figure 20 Gaywood Clock AQMA, Source: BCKLWN <http://www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=27440>



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Figure 16 King's Lynn Town Centre AQMA. Source: BCKLWN <http://www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=27440>

9.5.6. The plan aimed to reduce transport emissions in the AQMAs by around 9% by 2015. It is anticipated that a reduction of this scale will lead to the achievement of the annual mean NO<sub>2</sub> air quality objective (40µg/m<sup>3</sup>) at sensitive receptors in the AQMAs in future years. A monitoring report will need to be prepared to detail whether this target has been met.

## 10. Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna

10.1. The Borough is renowned for its landscape and natural resources. There are 37 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). These include a number of National Nature Reserves (NNR's), Rural Areas (RA's), Special Protection Area's (SPA's), Special Areas of Conservation (SAC's) under the EC Birds and Habitats Directive, and the Wash and North Norfolk Ramsar Sites. Moreover, about 25 km off the coast, at the entrance of the Wash, the designation of a Marine Conservation Zone was suggested<sup>6</sup>. A number of NNR's have also been designated Biosphere Reserves by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO). There are also 23 ancient woodlands. These designations acknowledge that the areas require protection, monitoring and enhancement to maintain their significance. There is a clear hierarchy afforded to protected sites according to their international, national or local designation.

10.2. Due to the position of Norfolk and the diversity of habits in the county it is considered to be rich in flora and fauna. Around 16000 species have been identified in the County since 1670, 2367 of these species are considered 'species of conservation concern'<sup>7</sup>. The amount of endangered species and high number of areas designated for their natural significance highlights the rich biodiversity of the Borough.

10.3. The need for new development poses a threat to protected sites. Where impacts are unavoidable, proposals must seek to mitigate and as a last resort compensate for any adverse impact on biodiversity and geodiversity. Figure 22 shows the key SPAs, SACs and RAMSAR sites in relation to allocated housing sites proposed in the SADMP. New housing is likely to generate a higher number of visitors to designated sites for recreation. Until recently it has been difficult to understand the level of visitor pressure resulting from local housing growth and a general increase in visitor numbers due to tourists visiting from the wider area.

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<sup>6</sup> Wildlife Trust (undated) Wash Approach Recommended Marine Conservation Zone. Source: <http://www.wildlifetrusts.org/MCZ/wash-approach>

<sup>7</sup> Norfolk Biodiversity Trust (2016) State of the Natural Environment in Norfolk. Source: <http://www.nbis.org.uk/reports-publications>

- 10.4. In 2015, a report on visitor surveys at European Protected sites across Norfolk was commissioned by Norfolk County Council and the Norfolk Biodiversity Partnership in conjunction with other Norfolk local authorities. The results of the study indicate a 14% increase in access by Norfolk residents to the sites surveyed (in the absence of any mitigation), as a result of new housing during the current plan period<sup>8</sup>. The study surveyed visitors at a number of different sites with notably different results. There is a predicted 15% increase in visitors to Roydon Common and Dersingham Bog over the plan period in contrast to 6% in other coastal sites around The Wash. At Roydon, the large proportion visiting for less than 30 minutes (36%) whereas visits to coastal sites are typically much longer with some exceeding 4 hours. By area the highest numbers of people recorded from tallies was for the North Coast and Wash sites. Lowest median values were at the three areas of the Brecks, Roydon & Dersingham, and the Valley Fens, with typically 8 people per hour. At these three sites the range of visitor numbers recorded by survey point was relatively small (excluding the High Lodge outlier).
- 10.5. The data from the report on visitor surveys indicates the importance of providing suitable alternative natural green space (SANG) for new residents to reduce the impact on designated sites but also to understand the existing green infrastructure provision on offer. The Borough Council commissioned a Green Infrastructure (GI) Study in 2009/10. GI comprises a strategically planned and delivered network of green spaces and natural environmental features which provide a multifunctional resource to the community it serves. Part 1 of the Study identified the existing GI in the Borough and Part 2 developed a strategy to improve the network including an action plan and GI policies. Figure 22 illustrates the Strategic GI Network for the Borough. It is likely further work on GI will arise as the result of the Local Plan Review and the coordinated work resulting from the Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) and Policy DM19 of the SADMP document.
- 10.6. Between 2006 and 2007, the Norfolk Wildlife Trust undertook an ecological network mapping project on behalf of the Biodiversity Partnership. The maps produced by the project identify the most important existing biodiversity areas in Norfolk as well as opportunities for enhancing, creating and linking habitats. Figure 23 shows the diversity of the ecological network within the Borough which influences the management strategies for the area (map key shown in figure 24).

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<sup>8</sup> Footprint Ecology (2016) Visitor surveys at European protected sites across Norfolk during 2015 & 2016. Source: Norfolk County Council and Norfolk Biodiversity Partnership

10.7. In addition to increased recreational pressure, the original Scoping Report notes the following pressures on the natural environment, all of which are still relevant today:

- Development and road building;
- Insufficient water for wetlands;
- Decline in water quality;
- Lack of appropriate management;
- Agricultural intensification.

10.8. The Borough Council developed a HRA Monitoring and Mitigation Strategy in 2015 to ensure that growth facilitated by the Local Plan would safeguard the integrity of Natura 2000 designated sites. Part of the legacy of the SADMP plan has been the creation of a HRA Monitoring & Mitigation and GI Panel comprising representatives from a number of organisations with an interest in designated sites including the RSPB, Natural England, the Norfolk Coast Partnership, National Farmers Union, Internal Drainage Board, Norfolk County Council, the National Trust, Forestry Commission, King's Lynn Civic Society and is chaired by the Borough Council's Environment Portfolio Holder. The implementation of the HRA Monitoring and Mitigation Strategy will continue during the review of the Local Plan.

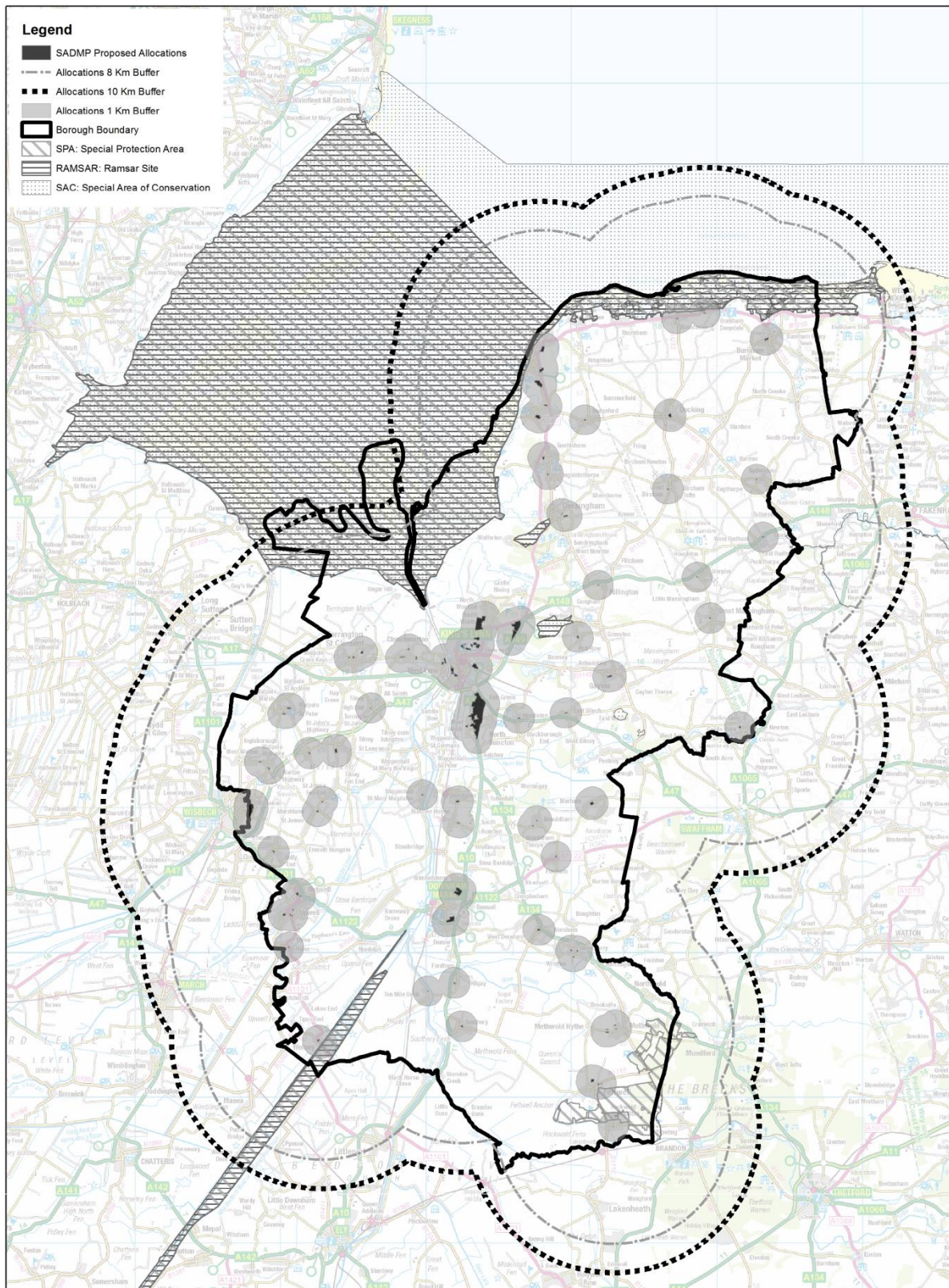
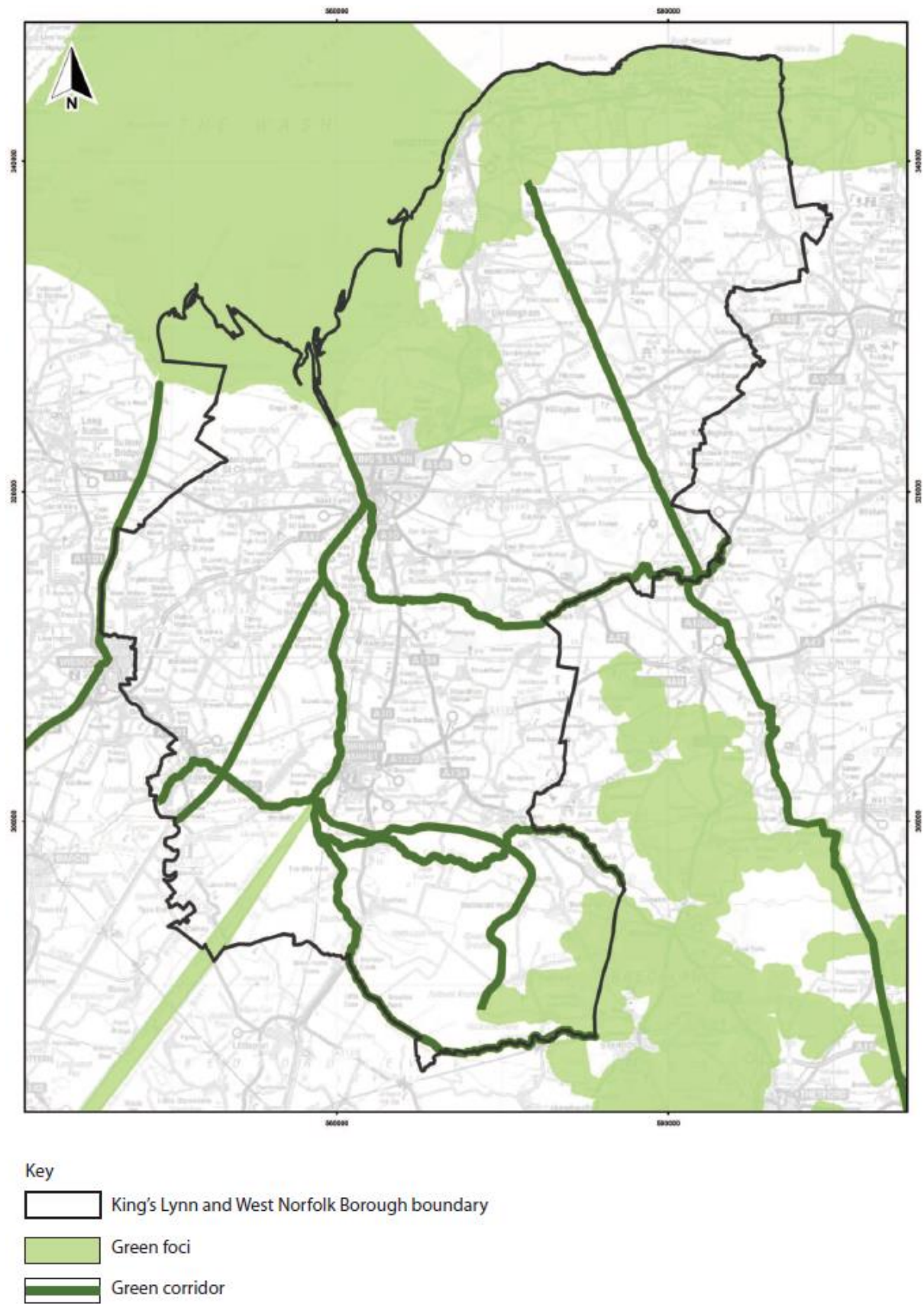


Figure 22 Map showing housing allocations from the SADMP in relation to designated sites. Source: BCKLWN 2015



**Figure 23 Strategic GI Network, Source: BCKLWN Green Infrastructure Strategy** <http://www.west-norfolk.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=24526>

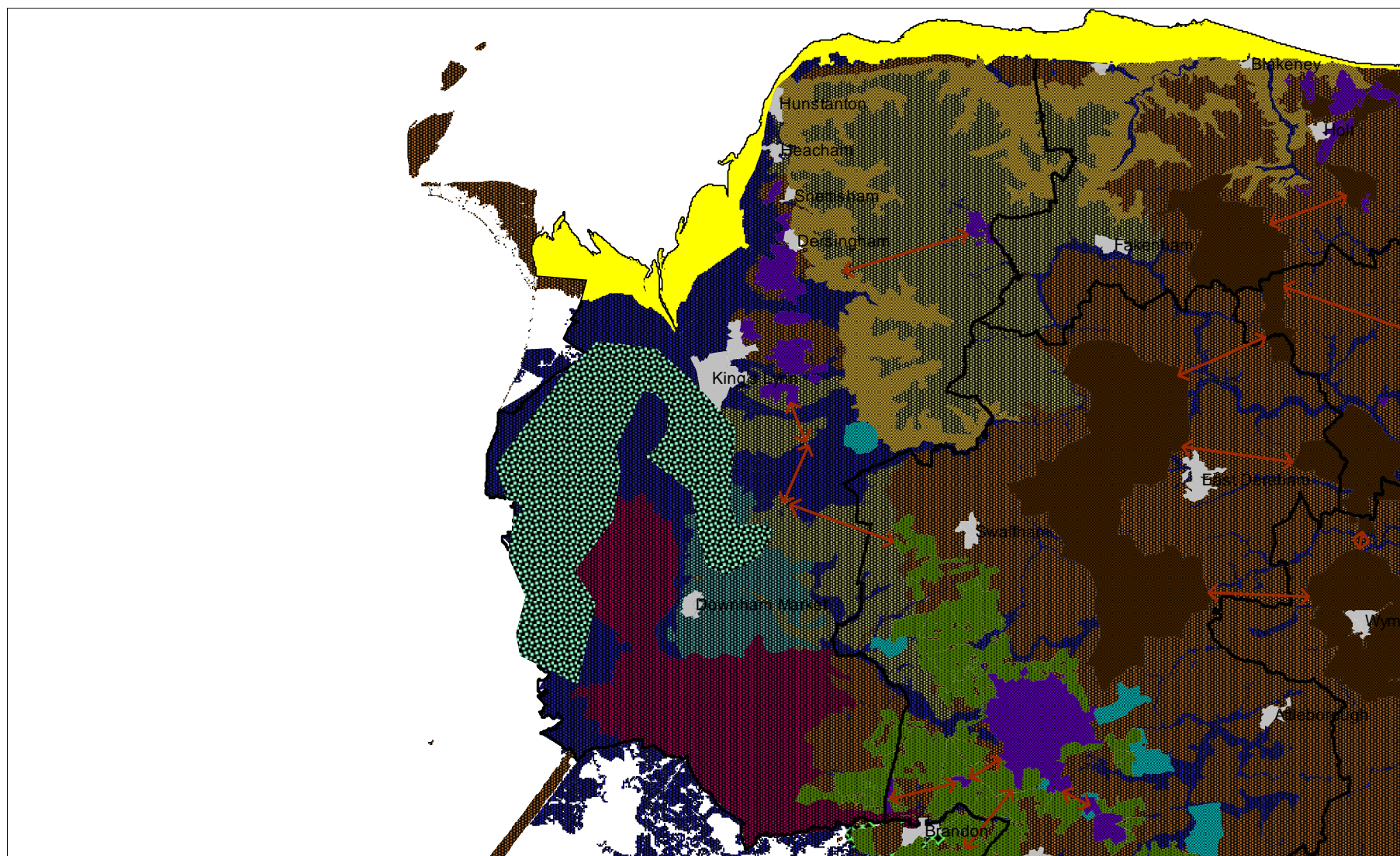


Figure 24 Norfolk County Council 2007 'West Norfolk Ecological Map'. Source: Norfolk Biodiversity Partnership  
<http://www.norfolkbiodiversity.org/ecologicalnetworks/>

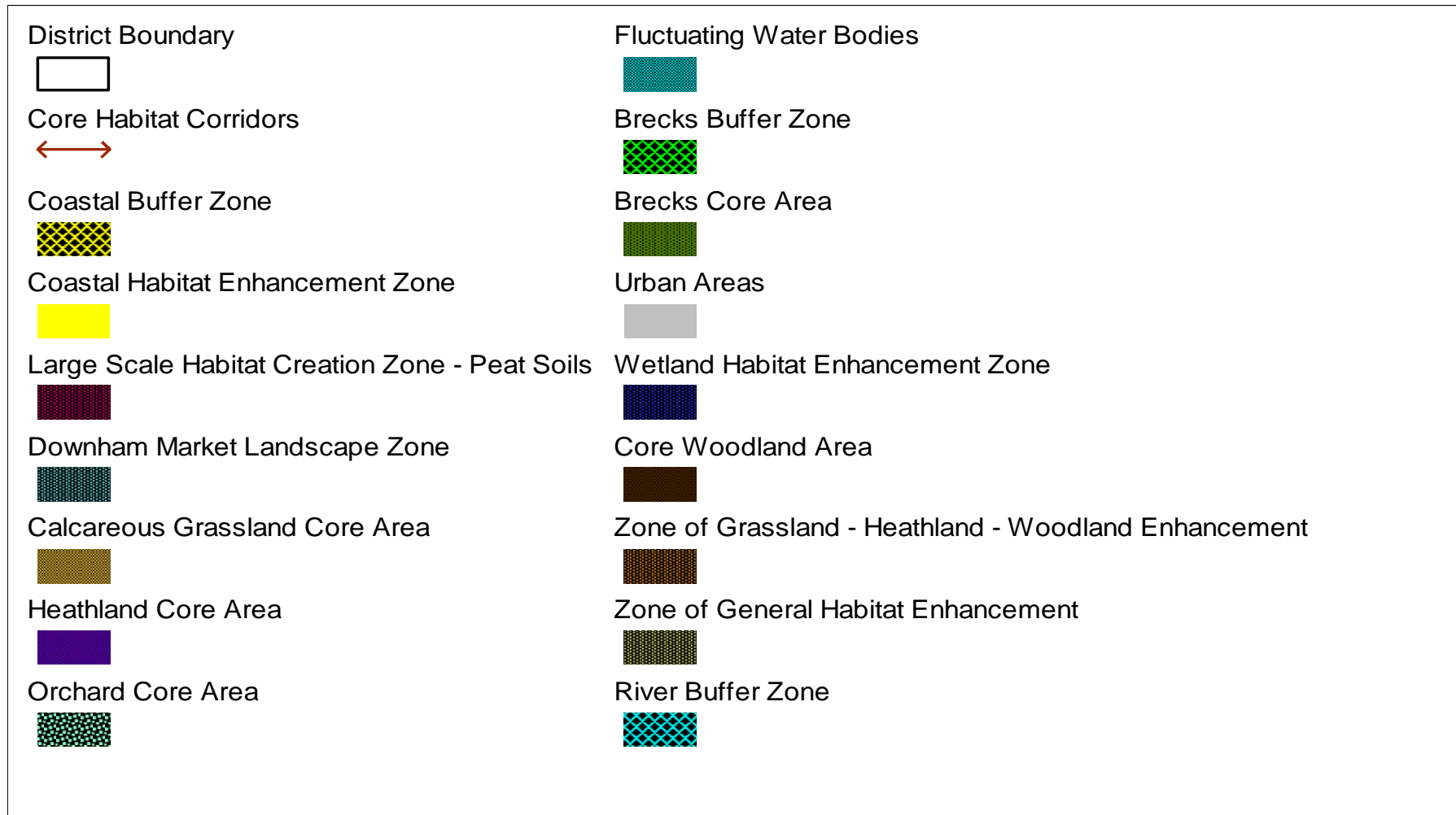


Figure 17 Key to West Norfolk Ecological Network Map



## **11. Cultural Heritage and Landscape**

### **11.1. Current and Past Industrial History**

11.1.1. The history of King's Lynn as a port goes back many centuries. Much of the industry found along the banks of the River Great Ouse in and around King's Lynn has derived from the strong trading links with the outside world. In particular the chemical and petroleum storage industries are located in close proximity to the port in central King's Lynn. As with other towns, gas works served the main settlements and there is evidence of industry such as foundries and other historical industrial land uses. It is thought that most industrial activity was limited to King's Lynn and to a lesser extent the smaller satellite towns. The rural area was subject to little industrial activity although potential contaminated uses associated with light industry, agriculture and petroleum storage are to be expected in common with other similar locations across the country.

11.1.2. Railway lines served not only King's Lynn but also the north east of the Borough to Hunstanton, which remains a popular seaside resort. After the War (and particularly following the London overspill agreement in the 1950s) significant population growth occurred such that municipal housing and private residential development skirts much of King's Lynn. Industrial estates also line the approaches to King's Lynn town centre, built on the low-lying Fen deposits. Population growth has also occurred around The Wash coast at Hunstanton, Heacham, Dersingham, etc. and to the south at Downham Market. Such development has in the main been "green field" with a sizeable retirement community.

### **11.2. Built Heritage**

11.2.1. The importance of the built history of West Norfolk can be measured by the 44 Conservation Areas, some 1900 Listed Buildings, over 110 Ancient Monuments designated in the Borough, 5 Historic Parks and Gardens listed on the English Heritage Register and 23 Ancient Woodlands. A survey of Conservation Areas has been conducted through the production of Conservation Area Character Statements for the Borough, which identify priorities for enhancement schemes and concentration on the future positive use and conservation of historic buildings is assessed.

11.2.2. Protection of the historic environment continually evolves and since the 2006 Scoping Report, a further Conservation Area for Dersing-

ham was designated in the Borough. A draft proposal for a new conservation area in Stanhoe is also being considered.

- 11.2.3. The rich history of the Borough is a draw to visitors and therefore it is vitally important to the tourism economy and the construction sector. King's Lynn ranked as the third most important port in England during the 14th Century, and as the town grew a wealth of buildings, monuments and features developed, those of which survive today provide a significant link to the towns maritime past. The smaller rural settlements of the Borough are also attractive to tourists for their impressive churches and local architecture, including traditional cottages built with local flint and carrstone. The Queen's residence at Sandringham is a major heritage asset in the Borough and is a nationally important visitor destination, as is Branodunum, the remains of one of nine Saxon shore forts on the east coast of Norfolk in Brancaster and Castle Acre Priory one of the largest and best preserved monastic sites in England dating back to 1090.

### **11.3. The Wash**

- 11.3.1. The Wash plays a significant part in the history and heritage of West Norfolk and its communities. The Wash and its hinterland are made up of many metres of sediments that have been gradually deposited since Mesolithic times (from around 5400 BC) due to a combination of estuarine and freshwater conditions reflecting periodic sea level rise and fall across the original dry, wooded basin landscape. Across and within the deposits of the fens lies a record of human history, showing evidence of Neolithic, Bronze Age, Iron Age and Roman habitation, industry and communications. Archaeological treasures include pottery, flints and ceremonial monuments of Neolithic age (4500-2000 BC) and Bronze Age field systems, settlements and round burial barrows. During the Iron Age a salt production industry developed around The Wash.
- 11.3.2. There is still evidence today of both the Car Dyke and the Fen Causeway which were built by the Romans, who were also responsible for extensively cultivating the fens. There is evidence of renewed colonisation of the fens from the Middle Saxon period (from around 650 AD). The earliest sea defence – The Sea Bank is thought to be of Late Saxon date. By the Middle Ages the wetland resources of the fens were widely utilised and were a centre of productivity for fishing, wildfowling, grazing, peat extraction and salt production.

- 11.3.3. There is a rich and diverse cultural heritage associated with The Wash. Past and present characters and activities all add to the wonderful mix that provides The Wash and its people with a strong identity that they are proud of. There are various industries, activities and lifestyles that are attributed to this area and one of the earliest is that of harvesting salt. The industry began towards the end of the Bronze Age and then declined in the sixteenth century.

## **11.4. The Landscape**

- 11.4.1. This Borough Council commissioned a Landscape Character Assessment in 2007. The assessment confirmed the diversity of West Norfolk's landscapes, identifying 11 different types of landscape within 550 square miles. This diversity is represented by the variety of coastal, fenland, estate and farmland landscapes. Within the context of this diversity of landscape types, the assessment has identified 61 areas of distinctive landscape character. These areas reflect distinct and recognisable patterns of different natural and cultural elements that combine to create a particular experience or unique 'sense of place'.

- 11.4.2. Eleven Landscape Character Types are defined within the Borough. These are shown in Figure 25 and listed below:

- Open Coastal Marshes (Type A)
- Drained Coastal Marshes (Type B)
- Coastal Slopes (Type C)
- The Fens: Settled Inland Marshes (Type D)
- The Fens: Open Inland Marshes (Type E)
- Wooded Slopes with Estate Land (Type F)
- Farmland with Woodland and Wetland (Type G)
- Settled Farmland with Plantations (Type H)
- Rolling Open Farmland (Type I)
- Plateau Farmland (Type J)
- The Brecks – Plantations (Type K).

- 11.4.3. The diversity in the landscape influences different management strategies. The assessment concludes by stating that the diversity and local distinctiveness of the Borough's landscapes are considered to be a major environmental asset, making a significant contribution to the quality of life for West Norfolk's communities. Protecting landscape features and patterns that contribute to landscape diversity, including enhancing their

quality, character and function where necessary, should be a key aim for planning and land management policy in West Norfolk.

11.4.4. The assessment summarises the key issues in relation to development planning:

- Built development
- Infrastructure
- Small scale and incremental change
- Settlements in their landscape setting
- Recreation and tourism
- Climate change

11.4.5. The landscape to the north of the Borough is offered the highest level of protection due to the AONB designation. The Norfolk AONB Management Plan sets a range of policies to ensure the protection of landscape and built and natural environment. The NCP monitor change in the landscape using fixed point photography which is reviewed on a 5 yearly basis.

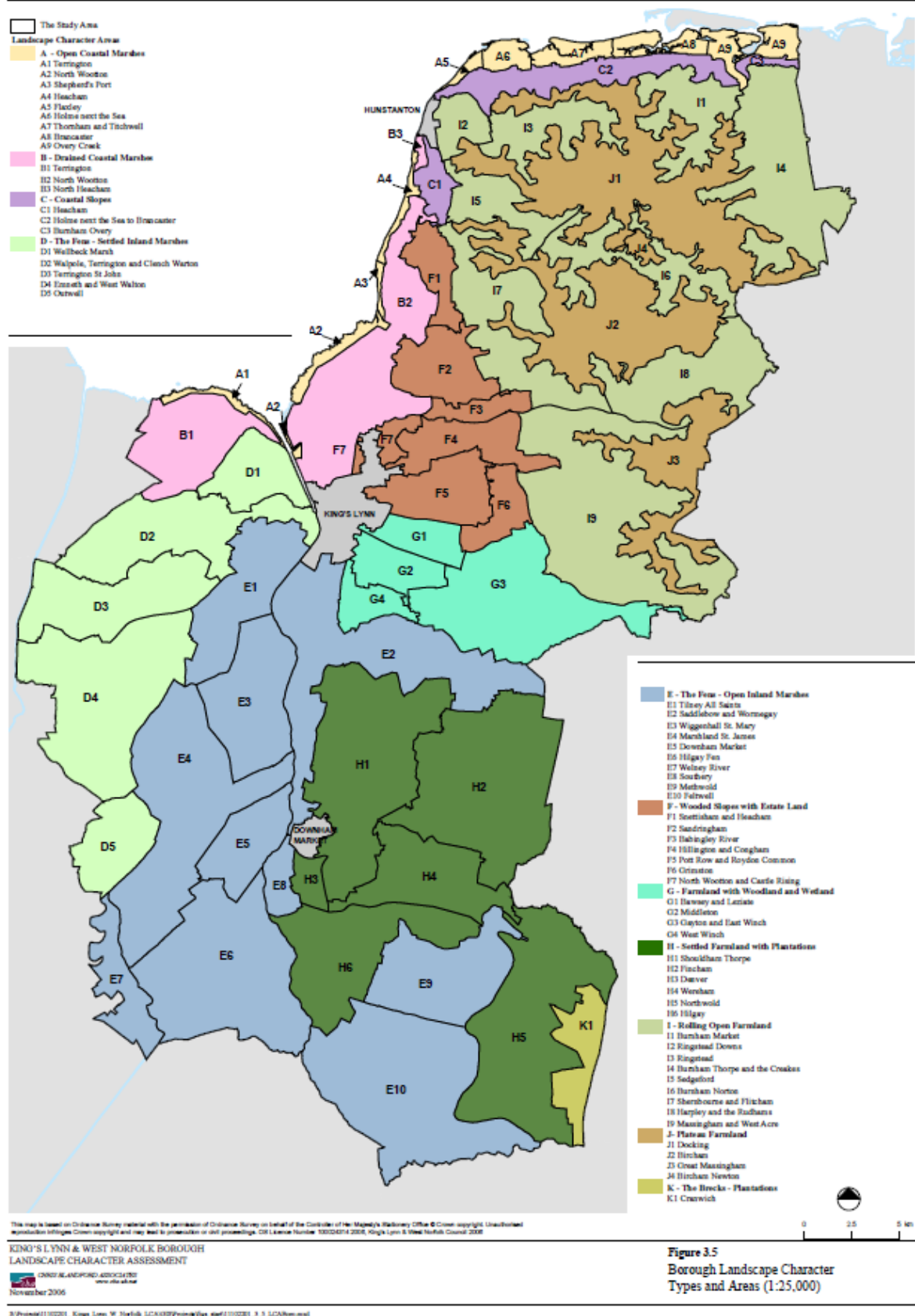


Figure 18 Landscape Character Areas, source: BCKLWN

## 12. Population

12.1.1. New census data was published in 2011. The previous Scoping Report relied on data from the 2001 Census. The table below represents key statistics about the Borough published by the Office for National Statistics.

12.1.2. The population in 2011 was recorded as 147,451 people, which is an increase of 12,200 people since 2001. This was the second highest increase in population of the districts in Norfolk in that time period below South Norfolk.

12.1.3. Whilst the table below details recorded data from the census, mid-year estimates are also produced annually and are used to inform the calculation of objectively assessed housing need (OAN). The current estimate for the Borough's population is 151,000 (ONS 2015).

**Table 2 2011 Census Data - Key Statistics. Source: Office of National Statistics**

	King's Lynn and West Norfolk	East of England	England
	Non-Metropolitan District	Region	Country
2011 Population: All Usual Residents	147,451	5,846,965	53,012,456
2011 Population: Males	72,053	2,875,807	26,069,148
2011 Population: Females	75,398	2,971,158	26,943,308
2011 Density (number of persons per hectare)	1	3.1	4.1
All Households	62,977	2,423,035	22,063,368
All households who owned their accommodation outright	39.6	32.9	30.6
All households who owned their accommodation with a mortgage or loan	29.9	34.7	32.8
Very Good Health	40.9	47.2	47.2
Good Health	37.1	35.2	34.2
Day-to-Day Activities Limited a Lot	9.8	7.4	8.3
Economically Active; Employee; Full-Time	36.5	40	38.6
Economically Active; Employee; Part-Time	14.6	14.3	13.7
Economically Active; Self-Employed	10.3	10.5	9.8
Economically Active; Unemployed	3.7	3.8	4.4
People aged 16 and over with 5 or more GCSEs grade A-C, or equivalent	16.2	16.2	15.2
People aged 16 and over with no formal qualifications	29.3	22.5	22.5

## **12.2. Population Density**

- 12.2.1. The Borough is the 12<sup>th</sup> largest of the English Districts in area measuring 552 square miles and is sparsely populated with a density of 1.0 in comparison to 3.1 in the East of England and 4.1 in England. The Borough remains very rural in character as a result of the low population density.

## **12.3. Household Composition**

- 12.3.1. With an average household size of 2.31 people, the Borough is ranked 216 out of 376 districts on the average household size, placing the area in the middle 20% of districts nationally. The proportion of one person households was 27.18% in 2011, which is low by national standards, with the Borough ranking in the bottom 40% of districts. By comparison, the Norfolk average was 29.33% and the national figure was 30.25%.
- 12.3.2. The proportion of households with married couples but no dependent children was 27.57% in 2011, which is very high by national standards, with the Borough ranking in the top 20% of districts. By comparison, the Norfolk average was 26.58% and the national figure was 23.75%. The higher rates of married couples with no dependent children the data is likely to reflect the age profile of the Borough which comprises a high proportion of older residents.
- 12.3.3. The proportion of households with married couples and dependent children was 18.31% in 2011, which is low by national standards, with the Borough ranking in the bottom 40% of districts. By comparison, the Norfolk average was 17.93% and the national figure was 19.29%.
- 12.3.4. The proportion of lone parent households was 7.72% in 2011, which is very low by national standards, with the Borough ranking in the bottom 20% of districts. By comparison, the Norfolk average was 8.5% and the national figure was 10.65%.

## **12.4. Ethnicity**

- 12.4.1. The Borough is ranked 251 out of 376 districts on the proportion of its population classified as Non-White, placing the area in the lowest

40% of districts nationally. The proportion of the population classified as White was 97.26%, which is high by national standards, with the Borough ranking in the top 40% of districts. By comparison, the Norfolk average was 96.52% and the national figure was 85.97%.

## **12.5. Migration**

12.5.1. The proportion of the working age population who were overseas nationals registered for National Insurance in the Borough was 1.98% in 2009. This measure is a proxy for the proportion of the workforce who are economic migrants from overseas which aids determination of the level of in-migration from outside of the UK. For the Borough, this reflected a very high level of immigration by national standards, with the area ranking in the top 20% of districts. By comparison, the Norfolk figure was 1.33%, the East of England figure was 1.5% and the national figure was 1.8%. The figure is likely to reflect the high level of jobs in agriculture in the Borough, largely seasonal or short term. However, there is no more recent data available and the picture may have changed in the interim.

## **12.6. Economic Activity**

12.6.1. The number of economically active people in the Borough is 74.9% which is lower than the figures for Norfolk (77.1%) for England (77.7%). The size of the Borough's working age population (aged 16 to 64) is 1.6% smaller than the figure for Norfolk and 5.2% smaller than the figure for England. The difference could be attributed to the size of the over 65 population in the Borough.

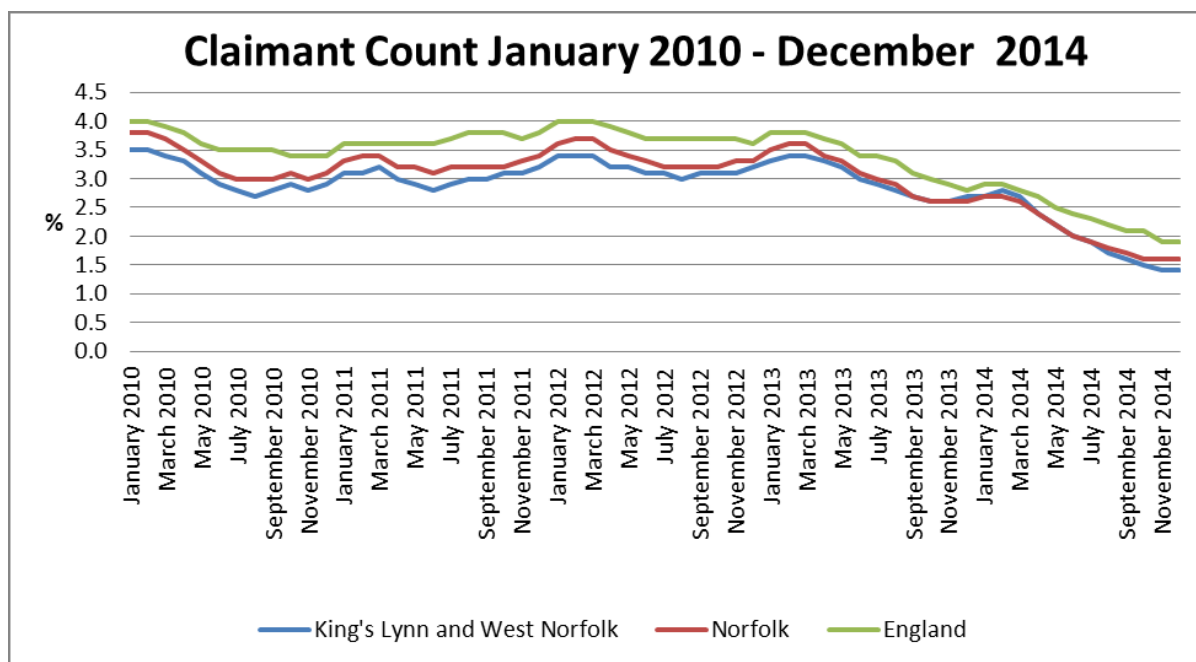
12.6.2. A smaller percentage of people in the Borough in employment are in managerial and professional/technical occupations (35.0%) when compared with the figures for Norfolk (38.9%) and England (44.9%). Conversely more people are employed as process, plant and machine operatives and in elementary occupations in the Borough (23.2%) than in Norfolk (19.5%) and in England (16.8%).

12.6.3. Statistics for the agricultural workforce in the Borough are very similar to the Norfolk average. However, the number of people employed as casual workers is high in comparison with Norfolk and England averages: 1160 people (33% in comparison to 19.8% in Norfolk and 13.3% in England).

- 12.6.4. The percentage of people unemployed between October 2013 and September 2014 in the Borough was 4.3% which was below the figures for Norfolk (4.8%) and England (6.5%). Figure 26 shows the number of claimants for job seekers allowance has dropped since the period of recession in 2010.
- 12.6.5. Average weekly gross pay for all Norfolk residents was £465.20 in 2011. This is lower than both the regional average of £528.50 and national average of £507.60. The inequality in pay has remained broadly consistent with the East since 2009 but narrowed slightly against England over the same period.
- 12.6.6. The Borough has a long history as a quality arable farming area. As well as being a direct employer, the industry supports a wide range of associated industries from food processing to engineering, seed technology and agri-tech, as well as specialist food related companies covering aspects such as precision engineering, software design and packaging. The area has sector strengths in advanced engineering and manufacturing, electronics, materials sciences, and medical technologies.
- 12.6.7. New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) was established by Government in 2010 and is one of 39 LEP's established across the country. The LEP forms a business-led collaboration between the private, public and education sectors across Norfolk and Suffolk with the aim to drive economic growth and transform the local economy into a global centre for talent and innovation. The New Anglia LEP's Strategic Economic Plan sets out plans to create 95,000 more jobs, 10,000 new businesses and 117,000 more homes by 2026. The Borough is also part of the Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough LEP.
- 12.6.8. Whilst Norfolk is traditionally linked to an economy based on agriculture, The LEP cites the Health and Social Care sector as one of the fundamental foundations of the Norfolk and Suffolk economy. It is the largest sector in New Anglia in employment terms and plays an essential role in tackling poverty, driving employment and thus productivity. The sector covers services delivered by the NHS and private providers including hospitals, GP services, residential care homes, day services, homecare and care in the community<sup>9</sup>.

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<sup>9</sup> New Anglia LEP (2016) 'New Anglia Health and Social Care Sector Skills Plan' <http://www.newanglia.co.uk>



**Figure 19 Job Seekers Allowance Claimants, ONS claimant count December 2014**

## 12.7. Educational attainment

12.7.1. Historically the Borough is an area which has been characterised by lower educational attainment than the national average which reflects the profile for Norfolk as a county. In the 2011 census pupils achieving 5+ A\* - C GCSEs or equivalent, including English and Mathematics equated to 45.1% in the Borough which is significantly less than the East of England (57%) and England totals (56.6%). There has been a drive collectively for those in positions of responsibility to improve attainment and increase the proportion of good and outstanding schools in the county – and more than half of Norfolk's schools have reported a boost in GCSE performance<sup>10</sup>.

12.7.2. In the Borough 22.8% of the working age population have higher level qualifications (NVQ 4 and above) which is below the figures for Norfolk (29.9%) and England (35.0%). 11.7% of the working age population in the Borough have no qualifications compared with 9.0% for Norfolk and 9.1% for England.

12.7.3. The profile of Norfolk undertaken by Norfolk County Council highlights that the fastest growing occupations in England generally de-

<sup>10</sup> Norfolk County Council (2014) Norfolk's Story, [www.norfolkinsight.org.uk](http://www.norfolkinsight.org.uk)

mand NVQ level 4 qualifications while the fastest declining occupations are those requiring NVQ level 2 and lower qualifications. Although low skilled jobs are expected to persist and will remain important as a labour market entry point for many groups, such as those seeking to move out of unemployment, it is likely that these jobs will have to be up-skilled in order to make improvements in service and product quality and to meet changes in consumer demand.

## 12.8. Health

12.8.1. The Borough has lower rates of people with very good health (40.9%) but higher rates of good health (37.1%) than the East of England (47.2% and 35.2% respectively) and England (47.2% and 34.2%) (ONS 2011). There are higher rates of bad health (4.8%) in the Borough than in the East of England (3.6%) or England (4.2%).

12.8.2. Life expectancy at birth for males (79.3) and females (82.8) is almost the same as the England average (78.3 and 82.3 respectively).

12.8.3. The age distribution of the resident population in a Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) is likely to impact on both the overall level of demand for health services, and the type of health services required. Areas with a large percentage of older people (particularly ages 75 and over) in their population are likely to have different demands on health services than those with a predominantly younger population. In 2015, the Government pledged that pensioners over the age of 75 would be guaranteed same-day access to a family doctor.

12.8.4. In mid-2014, 8.1% of the population of England were aged 75 or over. By comparison, 11.7% of the population in NHS West Norfolk were aged 75 or over ranking 8<sup>th</sup> of all 211 CCG's in England (Table 3). All of the CCGs shown in Table 3 are coastal areas.

**Table 3 CCG's with the highest percentage of population age 75 and over (mid 2014 estimate)**

Rank	Clinical Commissioning Group	% aged 75+
1	NHS Eastbourne, Hailsham and Seaford	13.4
2	NHS North Norfolk	13.1
3	NHS Southport and Formby	

		12.9
4	NHS Coastal West Sussex	12.6
5	NHS Fylde and Wyre	12.6
6	NHS South Devon and Torbay	11.9
7	NHS Isle of Wight	11.8
8	NHS West Norfolk	11.7
9	NHS Hastings and Rother	11.7
10	NHS Dorset	11.7
Source: Office for National Statistics		

12.8.5. In February 2015 West Norfolk CCG released a review of health services in the area entitled 'evidence for change'<sup>11</sup>. The report summarises the key sustainability issues in terms of health for West Norfolk:

- We have a high proportion of elderly people.
- Our population is spread thinly across a wide, rural area with poor transport links.
- Our local hospital is struggling with money.
- We have a high proportion of people with chronic conditions such as diabetes, lung disease and obesity.
- It's difficult to recruit health and social care staff in West Norfolk.

12.8.6. In addition to initiatives by West Norfolk CCG to improve the health of older residents in the Borough, Norfolk County Council are developing programmes to improve health in the county such as SAIL (Staying Active and Independent for Longer) which aims to create accessible recreational routes and guides aimed at improving opportunities for daily recreation in the local area. The Borough Council has its own pro-

<sup>11</sup> West Norfolk CCG (2015) West Norfolk Health Services Review 'Evidence for change'  
<http://www.westnorfolkccg.nhs.uk/>

gramme known as Lily (Living Independently in Later Years) and is seeking to develop further knowledge of the need for specialist housing to accommodate an aging population and hope to work with other local authorities in Norfolk to assess the need for housing with care and care homes in the near future.

## 12.9. Crime

**Table 4 Total recorded crime. Source: ONS Statistical Tables 2014**

<b>Total recorded crime, by number and rate per 1,000 residents for Norfolk by local authority area, 2012/13 and 2013/14</b>	<b>2012/13</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>Change to 2013/14</b>	<b>Recorded crime rate per 1,000 population, 2013/14</b>
<b>Local authority area</b>				
Breckland	5,069	4,865	-204	36.9
Broadland	2,983	3,112	129	24.9
Great Yarmouth	5,721	5,654	-67	57.9
<b>King's Lynn &amp; West Norfolk</b>	<b>5,953</b>	<b>5,986</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>40.3</b>
North Norfolk	2,834	2,765	-69	27.2
Norwich	11,927	11,891	-36	88.6
South Norfolk	3,704	3,787	83	30.1
Norfolk	38,191	38,060	-131	44.0
East of England	-	-	-	51.7
England	-	-	-	61.4

12.9.1. Norfolk is characterised as an area with one of the lowest crime rates in Britain. Table 4 shows that the rate of crime in the Borough has slightly increased since 2012/2013. The rate of crime per 1000 population is 40.3 which is significantly lower than the East of England (51.7) and England (61.4).

12.9.2. The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner for Norfolk publishes a wide range of data about crime in Norfolk. The latest Annual Monitoring Report notes that Anti-Social Behaviour crimes have reduced by 11.4% in Norfolk since 2013/2014 and that reoffending rates have been reduced but the amount of traffic collisions increased to 370 collisions recorded in 2014/15 compared to 336 in 2013/14. In general it is still noted that Norfolk has a low crime rate in comparison to most parts of Britain and that The Constabulary achieved an 'outstanding' rating

from Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) in November 2014<sup>12</sup>.

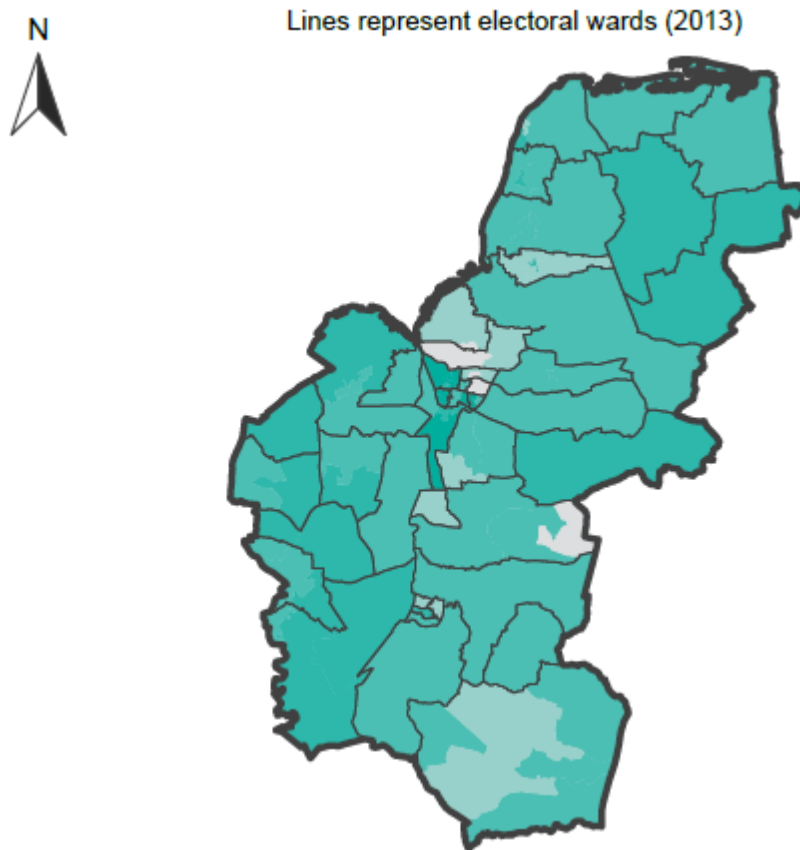
## **12.10. Deprivation**

- 12.10.1. The Government's standard measure of deprivation and inequality in England is the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD). Local Futures produced a report in 2013 which provided a profile of the Borough and analysed information on deprivation<sup>13</sup>. The deprivation profile assessed conditions within the Borough according to a number of aspects of deprivation, including disadvantage in education; income; employment; health; and housing.
- 12.10.2. The Local Futures inequality indicator is designed to highlight any large differences in deprivation; this can illuminate pockets of deprivation at the small area level within the wider area. The inequality indicator is measured as the difference between the highest and lowest ranking super output area (SOA) at each geographical level.
- 12.10.3. The Borough is ranked 132 out of 354 districts on our deprivation score, putting it in the 40% most deprived districts nationally. With a score of 98.02, the Borough is in the 40% most deprived of districts and is in a sub region that is in the middle 20% of sub regions nationally.

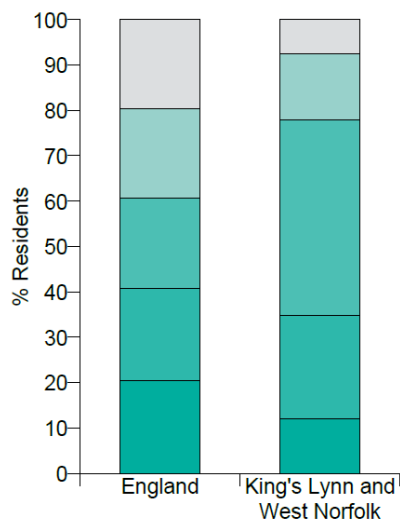
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<sup>12</sup> The Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (2015) Norfolk PCC ANNUAL REPORT 2014/15  
<http://www.norfolk-pcc.gov.uk>

<sup>13</sup> Local Futures (2013) Place Profiles 'District Profile: An Economic, Social and Environmental Summary Profile of King's Lynn and West Norfolk'  
<http://www.westnorfolk.gov.uk/pdf/Place%20Profile%20of%20King's%20Lynn.pdf>



**Figure 20 Map of the Borough depicting deprived areas (shown in darker colours) Contains OS data © Crown copyright and database rights 2015, Public Health England 2015.**



**Figure 21 Chart showing the percentage of the population who live at each area of deprivation comparing the national averages to the Borough, Public Health England, 2015)**

12.10.4. Figure 27 shows differences in deprivation in the Borough based on national comparisons, using quintiles (fifths) of the Index of Multiple

Deprivation 2010, shown by lower super output area. The darkest coloured areas are some of the most deprived neighbourhoods in England<sup>14</sup>. Figure 28 illustrates that in the Borough there is a lower level of the population in the most deprived and least deprived categories than the national average.

12.10.5. The inequality score highlights pockets of deprivation by calculating the difference between the highest and lowest scoring SOAs within the district. A higher score indicates higher levels of inequality. In summary:

- The inequality score for the Borough is average by national standards, with the district ranking in the middle 20% of districts on inequality.
- The employment domain score is high by national standards, with the Borough ranking in the 40% most deprived districts.
- The education domain score is very high by national standards, with the Borough ranking in the 20% most deprived districts.
- For the income domain score, the Borough is ranked in the 40% most deprived districts.
- The housing domain score is high by national standards, with the Borough ranking in the 40% most deprived districts.
- The crime domain score is very low by national standards, with the Borough ranking in the 20% least deprived districts.
- For the health domain score, the Borough is ranked in the 40% most deprived districts.

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<sup>14</sup> Public Health England 2015 'King's Lynn and West Norfolk District Health Profile 2015'  
file:///homeserver/Users\$/jmarch/Downloads/HealthProfile2015KingsLynnandWestNorfolk33UE.pdf

## **Part D Analysis and Identification of Sustainability Objectives**

### **13. Summary of Sustainability Issues**

- 13.1. The sustainability issues can be summarised under the 7 sustainability appraisal topics. Table 5 below contains columns summarising the key findings from the analysis of baseline data outlined in chapters 7 to 12 together with a column containing references to relevant plans, policies, programmes and sustainability objectives which have been reviewed in detail in appendix 1. Through considering the results of the Scoping exercise it is possible to formulate sustainability objectives which aim to address the identified sustainability issues and conform to the identified relevant international, national and local plans, policies and programmes. The wording of the Borough's Sustainability Objectives was originally formulated in the 2006 Scoping Report. The final discussion outlines the justification for retaining the original sustainability objectives.

**Table 5 Summary of Scoping Report and identification of Sustainability Objectives**

Sustainability Appraisal Topic	Summary of sustainability issues identified using baseline data	Reference to relevant plan, policy or programme resulting from the comprehensive review (appendix 1)	Sustainability Appraisal Objective
Land and water resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing population – more land required to house population. Pressure to use Greenfield sites.</li> <li>Maintaining best and most versatile agricultural land for its economic value, nationally significant arable output and to feed a growing population.</li> <li>Minimise soil disturbance and retain soils of high environmental value.</li> <li>Protecting the Boroughs rich geodiversity whilst making the best use of nationally significant deposits of minerals, particularly silica sand to support the local economy.</li> <li>Improving water quality in local water bodies. Reducing nitrate and phosphate concentrations in water bodies as a result of intensive agriculture.</li> <li>Monitoring water abstraction, to prevent water shortages in periods of drought.</li> <li>Maintain bathing water quality in Heacham and Hunstanton to promote tourism and ecological benefit.</li> <li>Overall increase in household recy-</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>European Water Framework Directive, EC Directive 200/60/EC (2002)</li> <li>Securing the Future - UK Sustainable Development Strategy (March 2005)</li> <li>National Planning Policy Framework (2011)</li> <li>The Plan for Growth (2011)</li> <li>Localism Act 2011</li> <li>National Planning Policy for Waste, 2014</li> <li>Self Build and Custom House Building Act, 2015</li> <li>Housing and Planning Act 2016</li> <li>Norfolk Minerals and Waste Development Framework</li> <li>Norfolk Geodiversity Action Plan (GAP) (2010)</li> <li>Norfolk Infrastructure Plan (2014)</li> <li>Local Transport Plan LTP3 2011-2026</li> <li>Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) Update 2014</li> <li>Assessing King's Lynn and West Norfolk's Housing Requirement 2015</li> </ul>	<p><b>1.</b> Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped Greenfield land, agricultural (Best Most Versatile Grade 1-3) land and productive agricultural holdings.</p> <p><b>2.</b> Limit water consumption to levels supportable by natural processes and storage systems.</p> <p><b>9.</b> Minimise waste production, reduce the use of non-renewable energy sources and support the recycling of waste products.</p>

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Sustainability Appraisal Topic	Summary of sustainability issues identified using baseline data	Reference to relevant plan, policy or programme resulting from the comprehensive review (appendix 1)	Sustainability Appraisal Objective
	<p>cling and overall decrease and stabilisation in the amount of non-hazardous waste being taken to landfill sites.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Local Plan and CIL Viability Study (incorporating Affordable Housing Rate Review)</li> <li>King's Lynn Area Transport Strategy Update</li> <li>Wisbech Traffic Model, Strategic Development Sites</li> </ul>	
Climate change and pollution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased mean temperature</li> <li>Increased extreme weather events leading to the possibility locally of more tidal storm surge events affecting the borough and flooding.</li> <li>Coastal change could be more rapid due to extreme weather events.</li> <li>Sharp rise in emissions within the Borough since 2005.</li> <li>Significant area of Borough vulnerable to flooding. Low lying land and coastal locations designated fluvial and/or tidal flood risk with potential for extreme flood events arising from tidal surges in The Wash and breaches of key flood defences on The River Great Ouse.</li> <li>Vulnerable properties such as caravans located directly adjacent to the coast with greatest risk to loss of life in flood events.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kyoto Protocol and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, (1992)</li> <li>2008 Ambient Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC)</li> <li>Paris climate conference (COP21) (December 2015)</li> <li>Climate Change Act (2008)</li> <li>UK Renewable Energy Strategy (2009)</li> <li>Flood and Water Management Act 2010</li> <li>National Planning Policy Framework (2011)</li> <li>Planning our electric future: a White Paper for secure, affordable and low carbon electricity (2011)</li> <li>Strategic Flood Risk Assessment 2009</li> <li>King's Lynn and West Norfolk Settlements Surface Water Manage-</li> </ul>	<p><b>8.</b> Reduce pollution that affects the quality of land, air, water or soils, including emissions of greenhouse gasses, noise, light and vibrations.</p> <p><b>10.</b> Minimise vulnerability and provide resilience and adaptation to climate change, taking account of flood risk and coastal change.</p>

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Sustainability Appraisal Topic	Summary of sustainability issues identified using baseline data	Reference to relevant plan, policy or programme resulting from the comprehensive review (appendix 1)	Sustainability Appraisal Objective
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not all coastal areas will be subject to continued protection and therefore erosion may result in the loss of land, buildings and roads in the long term.</li> <li>Protection of dark skies</li> <li>Poor air quality in 2 areas of central King's Lynn.</li> </ul>	ment Plan 2012	
Biodiversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Borough has a high proportion of internationally and nationally designated sites protected for their rich biodiversity, habitats and features of interest.</li> <li>Norfolk has a large number of species designated for their conservation concern.</li> <li>The Wash is significant for migrating birds in addition to Welney Washes. The Brecks contain significant forest and heathland habitats. Dersingham Bog and Roydon Common comprise distinct habitats.</li> <li>A 14% increase in access to designated sites by Norfolk residents to the sites surveyed (in the absence of any mitigation), as a result of new housing during the current plan period</li> </ul> <p>Of sites surveyed in and adjacent to</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of international importance, especially waterfowl habitat (1971)</li> <li>European Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (2001/42/EC)</li> <li>EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 (2011)</li> <li>National Planning Policy Framework (2011)</li> <li>Norfolk Biodiversity Partnership Habitat and Species Action Plans</li> <li>Wash East Coast Management Strategy 2015</li> <li>WNNCEMS Annual Report</li> </ul>	<p><b>3.</b> Maintain, restore and enhance the natural environment and sites designated for biological and geological interest.</p> <p><b>4.</b> Maintain and enhance the range, functionality and connectivity of characteristic habitats and species.</p> <p><b>13.</b> Improve the quantity and quality of Green Infrastructure, including green belt, publicly accessible open space, Public Rights of Way and access.</p>

Sustainability Appraisal Topic	Summary of sustainability issues identified using baseline data	Reference to relevant plan, policy or programme resulting from the comprehensive review (appendix 1)	Sustainability Appraisal Objective
	<p>the Borough, the impact of growth locally is most significant in The Brecks and at Roydon Common and Dersingham Bog.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Recreational Pressure results in the need to enhance the Green Infrastructure Network and to continue the work of the SADMP HRA Monitoring &amp; Mitigation Strategy.</li> <li>Aside from increased recreational pressure, pressures on the natural environment remain consistent.</li> </ul>		
Landscape, townscape and archaeology	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Borough has a rich heritage comprising 43 Conservation Areas, approx. 1,900 Listed Buildings, over 110 Ancient Monuments, 5 Historic Parks and Gardens and 23 Ancient Woodlands</li> <li>One new Conservation Area designated in Dersingham and potential for another at Stanhoe.</li> <li>Link between heritage and the tourism and construction economies</li> <li>Diverse cultural heritage associated with The Wash</li> <li>11 distinct landscape character types in the Borough including coastal, fenland, estate and farmland landscapes.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Europe Landscape Convention (Florence, 1992)</li> <li>Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979</li> <li>Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990</li> <li>National Planning Policy Framework (2011)</li> <li>North Norfolk Coast AONB Management Plan 2014-2019</li> <li>Urban Development Strategy 2006</li> <li>Hunstanton Town Centre and Southern Seafront Masterplan 2008</li> <li>Conservation Area Character</li> </ul>	<p><b>5.</b> Avoid damage to protected sites and historic buildings.</p> <p><b>6.</b> Maintain and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character.</p>

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Sustainability Appraisal Topic	Summary of sustainability issues identified using baseline data	Reference to relevant plan, policy or programme resulting from the comprehensive review (appendix 1)	Sustainability Appraisal Objective
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pressure for change from built development, infrastructure, small scale and incremental change, recreation and tourism, climate change.</li> </ul>	<p>Statements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Landscape Character Assessment 2007</li> </ul>	
Healthy communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Slight variations but overall similar rates of people with good or bad health to Norfolk and national average.</li> <li>Life expectancy at birth for males (79.3) and females (82.8) is almost the same as the England average (78.3 and 82.3 respectively).</li> <li>11.7% of the population in NHS West Norfolk CCG aged 75 and over ranking one of highest in England. Knock on impact for health service demand and type of delivery.</li> <li>The local hospital QEH is struggling financially and finding it difficult to recruit health and social care staff in West Norfolk.</li> <li>Issues compounded by the sparse population over a very large rural area.</li> <li>High proportion of people in the Borough with chronic conditions such as diabetes, lung disease and obesity.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>National Planning Policy Framework (2011)</li> <li>Localism Act 2011</li> <li>Green Infrastructure Strategy 2009/2010</li> <li>West Norfolk Clinical Commissioning Group, Evidence for Change (2015)</li> </ul>	<p><b>11.</b> Maintain and enhance human health.</p> <p><b>14.</b> Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities).</p>

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Sustainability Appraisal Topic	Summary of sustainability issues identified using baseline data	Reference to relevant plan, policy or programme resulting from the comprehensive review (appendix 1)	Sustainability Appraisal Objective
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Need to increase understanding of need in planning for an aging population including assessing the future demand for specialist housing.</li> </ul>		
Inclusive communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Population increased by 12,200 people between 2001 and 2011 to 147,451 people in the Borough. Population now estimated to be 151,000.</li> <li>Sparsely populated, rural in character.</li> <li>Average household size 2.31 people, high rate of married couples with no dependent children, few lone parents.</li> <li>The Borough is ranked 251 out of 376 districts on the proportion of its population classified as Non-White, placing the area in the lowest 40% of districts nationally.</li> <li>High level of economic migrants associated with the agricultural workforce.</li> <li>Lower educational attainment than the national average in GCSE's and higher level qualifications.</li> <li>Need to raise educational attainment and help people to develop skills in order to access changing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) 1953</li> <li>National Planning Policy Framework (2011)</li> <li>Localism Act 2011</li> <li>Neighbourhood Planning Regulations (2012)</li> <li>Affordable Housing Policy 2011</li> <li>Neighbourhood Plans</li> <li>Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment update (GTANA)</li> </ul>	<p><b>7.</b> Create places, spaces and buildings that work well, wear well and look good.</p> <p><b>12.</b> Reduce and prevent crime, and reduce the fear of crime.</p> <p><b>15.</b> Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.</p> <p><b>16.</b> Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing.</p> <p><b>17.</b> Encourage and enable the active involvement of local people in community activities.</p>

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Sustainability Appraisal Topic	Summary of sustainability issues identified using baseline data	Reference to relevant plan, policy or programme resulting from the comprehensive review (appendix 1)	Sustainability Appraisal Objective
	<p>job market.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Low rates of crime in West Norfolk, however increase in traffic collisions.</li> <li>The Borough is ranked 132 out of 354 districts on our deprivation score, putting it in the 40% most deprived districts nationally. With a score of 98.02, the Borough is in the 40% most deprived of districts and is in a sub region that is in the middle 20% of sub regions nationally.</li> <li>there is a lower level of the population in the most deprived and least deprived categories than the national average</li> </ul>		
Economic activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lower level of economically active people reflecting the size of the working age population in the Borough.</li> <li>Smaller percentage of people in managerial and professional/technical occupations conversely more people are employed as process, plant and machinery operatives.</li> <li>High level of agricultural workers and casual workers.</li> <li>Low unemployment in comparison to Norfolk and national averages but</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Securing the Future - UK Sustainable Development Strategy (March 2005)</li> <li>National Planning Policy Framework (2011)</li> <li>Towards a one nation economy: A 10-point plan for boosting rural productivity, August 2015</li> <li>Norfolk Rural Development Strategy 2013-2020</li> <li>New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership for Norfolk and Suffolk Sector Growth Strategy 2013</li> <li>Employment Land Study 2007</li> </ul>	<p><b>18.</b> Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.</p> <p><b>19.</b> Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.</p>

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Sustainability Appraisal Topic	Summary of sustainability issues identified using baseline data	Reference to relevant plan, policy or programme resulting from the comprehensive review (appendix 1)	Sustainability Appraisal Objective
	<p>also lower paid on average.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agriculture is key to the local economy comprising food processing to engineering, seed technology and agri-tech, as well as specialist food related companies covering aspects such as precision engineering, software design and packaging.</li> <li>• Additional economic sector strengths in advanced engineering and manufacturing, electronics, materials sciences, and medical technologies.</li> <li>• Targets from New Anglia LEP's Strategic Economic Plan to deliver 95,000 more jobs, 10,000 new businesses and 117,000 more homes in Norfolk and Suffolk by 2026.</li> <li>• The Health and Social Care sector is the largest sector in New Anglia in employment terms.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New Anglia Strategic Economic Plan, New Anglia Local Economic Partnership 2012</li> </ul>	

## 14. Summary of changes since the 2006 Scoping Report

14.1. Whilst there has not been fundamental change in sustainability issues over the past 10 years, there are examples of shifts in policy focus for a few issues. Table 6 below is not intended to represent a summary of all fundamental sustainability issues for the Borough but to identify sustainability issues that have increased in significance over the past 10 years. It is important that these issues are addressed by the original Sustainability Objectives and if not, that new objectives are formed, or wording of objectives altered to encompass it.

**Table 6 Summary of changes since the 2006 Scoping Report**

SA Topic	change since 2006	Explanation	SA objective (chapter 15 reference number)
Land and water resource	Shifting power to the local level	The Localism Act (2011), neighbourhood planning (2012), the creation of New Anglia Local Economic Partnership (and the Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough LEP) highlights a number of measures introduced by the Conservative Government to provide more powers and financial control at the local level.	The shift in power should increase opportunities to address original SA objectives, particularly 14 (as modified), 15 and 17.
Climate change and pollution	Planning for low carbon electricity in addition to renewable energy	Acknowledgement that low carbon electricity is an important source of energy, providing an alternative to coal, gas and nuclear sources and easier to provide than large scale renewable energy projects. Production of electric cars set to increase alongside the number of charging points on public and private property.	Whilst a shift in focus, targets for non-renewable energy production are still in force and are addressed by original SA objectives 2 (now merged with 10) and 9.
Climate change and pollution	Preparing for more extreme weather events	Potential increase in extreme floods demonstrated by the tidal surge of 2013 and conversely potentially longer periods of drought due to cli-	Addressed by original SA objective (now modified) 11.

		mate change.	
Climate change and pollution	Managing change on the coast	A number of Shoreline Management Plans have been produced marking a shift from widespread coastal defence to a more targeted approach and some areas left unprotected.	Addressed by original SA objective (now modified) 11.
Biodiversity	Understanding visitor pressure on European sites	The demand for new housing is placing pressure on recreational areas which is concerning for reserve managers of European Sites. Norfolk Councils have joined together to understand the implications and ultimately mitigate against adverse impacts of growth.	Not specifically addressed in an objective, however is encompassed in original SA objectives 4 and 5 (now modified).
Landscape, townscape and archaeology	Protecting dark skies	The Norfolk Coast Partnership AONB Management Plan and CPRE seek to protect significant areas of dark skies from increasing light pollution.	Not specifically addressed in an objective, however is encompassed in original SA objective 7 and 9 (modified).
Healthy communities	Planning for an aging population	Increasing emphasis in Norfolk in response to aging population profiles. Implications for broader range of housing types to accommodate need and address future demand, provide accessible services and local, accessible green infrastructure, improve broadband provision and initiatives like LILY to help reduce social isolation, importance of the health and social care sector to Norfolk's economy.	Not specifically addressed in an objective, however is encompassed in original SA objectives 8, 12, 13, 14 (modified), 15, 16, 17 and 18.
Inclusive communities	Raising educational attainment	Improving educational standards has historically been an issue for Norfolk however there is an increased emphasis at county level and by New Anglia LEP to develop skills and qualifications to meet demand. Lower skilled jobs are pro-	Addressed by original SA objective 15.

		jected to decline in future.	
Economic activity	New Anglia LEP Targets	Ambitious targets by New Anglia LEP Strategic Economic Strategy to deliver 95,000 more jobs, 10,000 new businesses and 117,000 more homes in Norfolk and Suffolk by 2026.	Addressed by original SA objective 19 and 20.

## 15. Conclusion

15.1. This report comprises a thorough review of the original SA Scoping Report conducted in 2006. It is evident from reviewing relevant plans, policies, programmes and sustainability objectives in addition to updating the baseline data that whilst there has been change since the original scoping exercise in 2006, it is more of a continuation of a theme than fundamental change to the wider policy framework and local sustainability issues. Most of the original SA objectives were developed to be sufficiently broad to ensure that the main sustainability issues could be addressed by 20 key objectives. This provides a manageable framework of objectives for which to measure and rate future planning policies against.

15.2. In considering the new policy framework and sustainability issues in chapter 14, it was determined that identified sustainability issues can largely be addressed by the original Sustainability Objectives with a few changes suggested by the statutory consultees. The original 20 Sustainability Objectives have been reduced to 19 by merging the previous two that related to waste (numbers 2 and 10). The complete list of SA objectives is provided below and will be used to assess new policies developed in the Local Plan:

### King's Lynn and West Norfolk Sustainability Appraisal Objectives

1. Minimise the irreversible loss of undeveloped Greenfield land, agricultural (Best Most Versatile Grade 1-3) land and productive agricultural holdings.
2. Limit water consumption to levels supportable by natural processes and storage systems.
3. Maintain, restore and enhance the natural environment and sites designated for biological and geological interest.

- 4.** Maintain and enhance the range, functionality and connectivity of characteristic habitats and species.
- 5.** Avoid damage to protected sites and historic buildings.
- 6.** Maintain and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character.
- 7.** Create places, spaces and buildings that work well, wear well and look good.
- 8.** Reduce pollution that affects the quality of land, air, water or soils, including emissions of greenhouse gasses, noise, light and vibrations.
- 9.** Minimise waste production, reduce the use of non-renewable energy sources and support the recycling of waste products.
- 10.** Minimise vulnerability and provide resilience and adaptation to climate change, taking account of flood risk and coastal change.
- 11.** Maintain and enhance human health.
- 12.** Reduce and prevent crime, and reduce the fear of crime.
- 13.** Improve the quantity and quality of Green Infrastructure, publicly accessible open space, Public Rights of Way and access.
- 14.** Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities).
- 15.** Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.
- 16.** Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing.
- 17.** Encourage and enable the active involvement of local people in community activities.
- 18.** Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.
- 19.** Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.

## Appendix 1 Review of relevant plans, policies, programmes and sustainability objectives

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
<b>INTERNATIONAL</b>				
European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) 1953	Details the basic civil and political rights of individuals and nations.	Lists the rights of the individual	Create policies which promote equality	Redress inequalities related to age, gender, disability, race, faith, location and income.
Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of international importance, especially waterfowl habitat (1971)	The conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local, regional and national actions and international co-operation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world.		Mitigate the effect of growth on internationally designated sites.	Maintain, restore and enhance the natural environment and sites designated for biological and geological interest.  Maintain and enhance the range, functionality and connectivity of characteristic habitats and species.
Kyoto Protocol and the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, (1992)	A general global stabilisation of greenhouse gas output should be achieved in order to allow vital ecological adaptation, food production, and economic		Create policies which promote sustainable development	Reduce pollution that affects the quality of land, air, water or soils, including emissions of greenhouse gasses, noise, light and vibrations.

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	development to continue in the future.			
European Water Framework Directive, EC Directive 2000/60/EC (2002)	Seeks to establish a framework for the protection of inland, surface, transitional and coastal waters.		Seek to develop policies which do not impact on water resources.	Limit water consumption to levels supportable by natural processes and storage systems.
European Drinking Water Directive (98/83/EC)	Protection of human health from adverse effects of any contamination of water intended for human consumption by ensuring that it is wholesome and clean.	Part of the River Nar water safeguarding zone is located within King's Lynn & West Norfolk boundary.		Reduce pollution that affects the quality of water.  Maintain and enhance human health.
EU Bathing Water Directive (2006/7/EC)	Safeguarding public health and clean bathing waters	Monitoring and assessment of the quality of the bathing water, informing the public about bathing water quality		Reduce pollution that affects the quality of water.  Maintain and enhance human health.
EU Council Directive on the Conservation of Habitats of Wild Flora and Fauna (92/43/EC)	Conservation of a wide range of rare, threatened or endemic animal and plant species			Maintain, restore and enhance the natural environment and sites designated for biological and geological interest.

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
				Maintain and enhance the range, functionality and connectivity of characteristic habitats and species.
Europe Landscape Convention (Florence, 1992)	The Convention recognises the need for landscape management and protection across the member states to be situated in law. It also recognises the importance of stakeholder involvement in landscape management		Encourages adoption of policies and measures at local level for protecting, managing and planning landscapes.	Maintain and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character.
2008 Ambient Air Quality Directive (2008/50/EC)	Reduce outdoor air of major air pollutants that impact public health	Sets legally binding limits for concentrations in outdoor air of major air pollutants that impact public health such as particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5) and nitrogen dioxide (NO2).	Locate development in the most sustainable locations to enable walking/cycling.	Reduce pollution that affects the quality of land, air, water or soils, including emissions of greenhouse gasses, noise, light and vibrations.
European Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (2001/42/EC)	Requires assessment of the effect of certain public and private projects on the environ-		Integrate environmental considerations into the preparation of plans and programmes	Maintain, restore and enhance the natural environment and sites designated for biologi-

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
			with a view of promoting sustainable development.	cal and geological interest.  Maintain and enhance the range, functionality and connectivity of characteristic habitats and species.
Paris climate conference (COP21) (December 2015)	A global agreement on the reduction of climate change.	Climate change targets	Create policies which promote sustainable development	Minimise vulnerability and provide resilience and adaptation to climate change, taking account of flood risk and coastal change.
EU Biodiversity Strategy to 2020 (2011)	New strategy to halt the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services in the EU by 2020	The six targets cover: - Full implementation of EU nature legislation to protect biodiversity - Better protection for ecosystems, and more use of green infrastructure More sustainable agriculture and forestry - Better management of fish stocks - Tighter controls on invasive alien species - A bigger EU contribution to averting global biodi-	Ensure a comprehensive Habitats Regulation Assessment Monitoring and Mitigating Strategy is in place to understand the impact of growth on nature features and offset environmental losses	Maintain, restore and enhance the natural environment and sites designated for biological and geological interest.  Maintain and enhance the range, functionality and connectivity of characteristic habitats and species.

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
		iversity loss.		
<b>NATIONAL</b>				
Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979	Make provision for the investigation, preservation and recording of matters of archaeological or historical interest and for the regulation of operations or activities affecting such matters		Policies should seek to protect and enhance the historic environment	Avoid damage to protected sites and historic buildings.
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981	Consolidates and amends existing national legislation to implement the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats and 2009/147/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the conservation of wild birds			Maintain, restore and enhance the natural environment and sites designated for biological and geological interest.  Maintain and enhance the range, functionality and connectivity of characteristic habitats and species.
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990	Consolidates enactments relating to special controls in respect of buildings and areas of special architectural or historic interest with		Policies should seek to protect and enhance the historic environment	Avoid damage to protected sites and historic buildings.  Maintain and enhance the diversity and dis-

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	amendments			tinctiveness of landscape and townscape character.
Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000	The Act creates a new statutory right of access on foot to certain types of open land, modernises the public rights of way system, strengthens nature conservation legislation, and facilitates better management of AONBs.			<p>Improve the quantity and quality of Green Infrastructure, publicly accessible open space, Public Rights of Way and access</p> <p>Maintain, restore and enhance the natural environment and sites designated for biological and geological interest.</p> <p>Maintain and enhance the range, functionality and connectivity of characteristic habitats and species.</p>
Securing the Future - UK Sustainable Development Strategy (March 2005)	The Government has a new purpose and principles for sustainable development and new shared priorities agreed across the UK,	The strategy contains: a new integrated vision building on the 1999 strategy – with stronger international and societal dimensions:	Policies should be in accordance with the strategy.	The Sustainability Objectives are in conformity with the indicators.

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	including the Devolved Administrations.	five principles – with a more explicit focus on environmental limits; four agreed priorities – sustainable consumption and production, climate change, natural resource protection and sustainable communities, and a new indicator set, which is more outcome focused, with commitments to look at new indicators such as on wellbeing.		
Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006	Promoting nature conservation and protecting biodiversity, conserving and enhancing the landscape, securing the provision and improvement of facilities for the study, understanding and enjoyment of the natural environment, promoting access to the countryside and open spaces and encouraging			<p>Improve the quantity and quality of Green Infrastructure, publicly accessible open space, Public Rights of Way and access.</p> <p>Maintain, restore and enhance the natural environment and sites designated for biological and geological interest.</p>

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	open-air recreation, and contributing in other ways to social and economic well-being through management of the natural environment and to sustainable development			Maintain and enhance the range, functionality and connectivity of characteristic habitats and species.
Climate Change Act (2008)	Places a duty on the Government to assess the risk to the UK from the impacts of climate change and to set 5 yearly carbon budgets	legally binding target for reducing UK carbon dioxide emissions by at least 26 per cent by 2020 and at least 60 per cent by 2050, compared to 1990 levels.	Create policies which seek to minimise increase in carbon emissions.	Reduce pollution that affects the quality of land, air, water or soils, including emissions of greenhouse gasses, noise, light and vibrations.
UK Renewable Energy Strategy (2009)	Sets out a balance of different energy sources which will achieve target increase in use of renewable energy	Legally binding target to ensure 15% of our energy comes from renewable sources by 2020.	Ensure policies strike a fair balance between landscape protection and encouragement of renewable energy sources	Reduce pollution that affects the quality of land, air, water or soils, including emissions of greenhouse gasses, noise, light and vibrations.
River Basin Management Plan Anglian River Basin District (2009)	Highlights the areas of land and bodies of water that have specific uses that need special protection such as water used for drinking water, bathing, com-			Limit water consumption to levels supportable by natural processes and storage systems.

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	mercial shellfish harvesting or sustains wildlife species and habitats			
Flood and Water Management Act 2010	Provide better, more comprehensive management of flood risk for people, homes and businesses.	Sets a number of objectives such as ensuring the use of SUDs in new development	Develop the plan using the latest Flood Zones and Tidal Hazard Mapping.	Minimise vulnerability and provide resilience and adaptation to climate change, taking account of flood risk and coastal change.
The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010	<p>Provide for the designation and protection of 'European sites', the protection of 'European protected species', and the adaptation of planning and other controls for the protection of European Sites.</p> <p>Competent authorities i.e. any Minister, government department, public body, or person holding public office, have a general duty, in the exercise of any of their functions, to have regard to the EC Habi-</p>			<p>Maintain, restore and enhance the natural environment and sites designated for biological and geological interest.</p> <p>Maintain and enhance the range, functionality and connectivity of characteristic habitats and species.</p>

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	tats Directive.			
National Planning Policy Framework (2012)	Sets out the Government's requirements for the planning system with a key focus on sustainable development	No specific targets but a set of general overarching principles for planning and for Local Plan production	The Local Plan must operate in accordance with the provisions set in the NPPF. The plan must demonstrate a presumption in favour of sustainable development	Applicable to all Sustainability Appraisal objectives
Planning our electric future: a White Paper for secure, affordable and low carbon electricity (2011)	Sets out the Government's commitment to transform the UK's electricity system to ensure that our future electricity supply is secure, low-carbon and affordable.	By 2030 we will have: a flexible, smart and responsive electricity system, powered by a diverse and secure range of low-carbon sources of electricity	Consideration of the use of alternative energy sources and implications of transport systems dependant on electricity.	Reduce pollution that affects the quality of land, air, water or soils, including emissions of greenhouse gasses, noise, light and vibrations.
Natural Environment White Paper – The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature (2011)	A healthy, properly functioning natural environment is the foundation of sustained economic growth, prospering communities and personal well-being.	The Government wants this to be the first generation to leave the natural environment of England in a better state than it inherited.	Ensure policies promote access to nature and understands the value of the natural environment on the local economy.	Maintain, restore and enhance the natural environment and sites designated for biological and geological interest.  Maintain and enhance the range, functionality and connectivity of characteristic habitats and species.

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
The Plan for Growth (2011)	The Government's economic policy objective is to achieve strong, sustainable and balanced growth that is more evenly shared across the country and between industries.	To create the most competitive tax system in the G20; To make the UK one of the best places in Europe to start, finance and grow a business; To encourage investment and exports as a route to a more balanced economy; To create a more educated workforce that is the most flexible in Europe	Create strong economic policies to support growth in the Local Plan	Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy
Safeguarding our Soils – A Strategy for England (2011)	Protection for agricultural soils, protecting and enhancing stores of soil carbon. Soil protection during construction and development.		Measures for soil protection during construction and development.	Reduce pollution that affects the quality of land, air, water or soils.
Localism Act 2011	The Act devolves power from central government to local authorities and contains a number of proposals to give local authorities new freedoms and flexibility.		Closer collaboration with local communities for example through neighbourhood planning	Encourage and enable the active involvement of local people in community activities
Neighbourhood Planning	Legislation to enable		Closer collaboration	Encourage and enable

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
Regulations (2012)	communities to produce their own plans for their area.		with local communities. Ensuring general conformity with strategic policies in the Local Plan	the active involvement of local people in community activities
National Planning Policy for Waste, 2014	The Waste Management Plan for England <sup>1</sup> sets out the Government's ambition to work towards a more sustainable and efficient approach to resource use and management.	Ensuring that waste management is considered alongside other spatial planning concerns, such as housing and transport, recognising the positive contribution that waste management can make to the development of sustainable communities.	Create policies which help to minimise waste.	Minimise waste production, reduce the use of non-renewable energy sources and support the recycling of waste products.
Self Build and Custom House Building Act, 2015	Requires LPAs to compile a register of persons seeking to acquire land to build or commission their own home and to have regard to that register when carrying out their planning, housing, disposal and regeneration functions	Develop register of interested parties and register of available land for self-build	Allocate land for self-build and/or develop policy to increase amount of self build plots/custom house-building	Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing.
Towards a one nation economy: A 10-point plan for	Recognises the value to the rural economy	1. Extensive, fast and reliable broadband	Highly relevant to West Norfolk. Seek to create	Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
boosting rural productivity, August 2015	and seeks to promote growth by implementing the 10 steps.	services 2. High quality, widely available mobile communications. 3. Modern transport connections 4. Access to high quality education and training 5. Expanded apprenticeships in rural areas 6. Enterprise Zones in rural areas 7. Better regulation and improved planning for rural businesses 9. Increased availability of affordable childcare 10. Devolution of power	policies which lay the foundations from a more productive rural economy particularly focusing on housing, infrastructure, transport, and rural businesses	adaptability of the local economy.
Housing and Planning Act 2016	Duty to promote the supply of 'starter homes' when carrying out planning functions, permission in principle for housing-led development, ensure that there are sufficient serviced permissioned plots consistent with local demand for self and custom house-	LPA's must compile a register of brownfield land and planning permissions in principle	Policies in the Local Plan must deliver starter homes and must consider allocating self-build plots. Update monitoring system to reflect provisions in the Act	Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	building, provisions to speed up the neighbourhood planning process			
The Culture White Paper (2016)	Historic built environment is a unique asset making a cultural contribution to the regeneration, health and wellbeing of regions, cities, towns and villages.		Policies should seek to protect and enhance the historic environment	Avoid damage to protected sites and historic buildings.
<b>REGIONAL</b>				
Norfolk Rural Development Strategy 2013-2020	This strategy is focused on how rural areas can be developed so that the rural economy continues to grow, the community in rural Norfolk is successful and inclusive and Norfolk's high quality natural environment is maintained and enhanced.	1. Build on strengths in agri-tech, engineering and manufacturing sectors 2. Increase the quality and number of rural jobs 3. Increase the number of rural business start-ups 4. Deliver superfast broadband 5. Improve mobile phone coverage 6. Increase attainment in rural schools 7. Improve links to research and development to drive	Seek to create policies which lay the foundations from a more productive rural economy particularly focusing on housing, infrastructure, transport, and rural businesses	Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
		innovation 8. Increase the rate at which new affordable housing is developed 9. Increase private water storage capacity 10. Increase the area of land in environmental management		
Norfolk Minerals and Waste Development Framework	The Silica Sand Single Issue Review allocates a number of minerals sites in West Norfolk		Ensure conformity with adopted County Plans. Consider implications of emerging minerals applications on new residential allocations.	Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy
Shoreline Management Plan 4 Gibraltar Point to Hunstanton (2010)	Identification of the best ways to manage flood and erosion risk to people and the developed, historic and natural environment.	Reduce the threat of flooding and erosion to people and their property. Benefit the environment, society and the economy as far as possible.		Minimise vulnerability and provide resilience and adaptation to climate change, taking account of flood risk and coastal change.
Shoreline Management Plan 5 Hunstanton to Kelling Hard (2010)	Identification of the best ways to manage flood and erosion risk to people and the developed, historic and natural environment.	Reduce the threat of flooding and erosion to people and their property. Benefit the environment, society and the economy as far as possible.		Minimise vulnerability and provide resilience and adaptation to climate change, taking account of flood risk and coastal change.
Site Improvement Plan: The		Provides a high level		Maintain, restore and

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
Wash and North Norfolk Coast		overview of the issues (both current and predicted) affecting the condition of the Natura 2000 features on the site(s) and outlines the priority measures required to improve the condition of the features.		enhance the natural environment and sites designated for biological and geological interest.  Maintain and enhance the range, functionality and connectivity of characteristic habitats and species.
Site Improvement Plan: Breckland SPA		Provides a high level overview of the issues (both current and predicted) affecting the condition of the Natura 2000 features on the site(s) and outlines the priority measures required to improve the condition of the features.		Maintain, restore and enhance the natural environment and sites designated for biological and geological interest.  Maintain and enhance the range, functionality and connectivity of characteristic habitats and species.
Site Improvement Plan: Ouse Washes SAC/SPA		Provides a high level overview of the issues (both current and predicted) affecting the condition of the Natura		Maintain, restore and enhance the natural environment and sites designated for biological and geological in-

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
		2000 features on the site(s) and outlines the priority measures required to improve the condition of the features.		terest.  Maintain and enhance the range, functionality and connectivity of characteristic habitats and species.
Site Improvement Plan: Norfolk Valley Fens SAC		Provides a high level overview of the issues (both current and predicted) affecting the condition of the Natura 2000 features on the site(s) and outlines the priority measures required to improve the condition of the features.		Maintain, restore and enhance the natural environment and sites designated for biological and geological interest.  Maintain and enhance the range, functionality and connectivity of characteristic habitats and species.
Site Improvement Plan: Roydon Common and Dersingham Bog		Provides a high level overview of the issues (both current and predicted) affecting the condition of the Natura 2000 features on the site(s) and outlines the priority measures required to improve the		Maintain, restore and enhance the natural environment and sites designated for biological and geological interest.  Maintain and enhance the range, functionality

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
		condition of the features.		and connectivity of characteristic habitats and species.
Norfolk Geodiversity Action Plan (GAP) (2010)	Publication on Norfolk's Earth heritage and the need to conserve it. Provides introduction to Norfolk's geodiversity and why it is an important resource and explains the business of geo-conservation. Promotes a Geodiversity Action Plan for the county, calling for a partnership of organisations and individuals to take it forward.	Includes list of geological SSSI's	Plan should recognise the significance of Norfolk's geology and seek to preserve significant features such as SSSIs	Maintain, restore and enhance the natural environment and sites designated for biological and geological interest.  Maintain and enhance the range, functionality and connectivity of characteristic habitats and species.
New Anglia Local Enterprise Partnership for Norfolk and Suffolk Sector Growth Strategy 2013	Applies the theory of cluster or sector development to growth of industry in Norfolk and Suffolk	Details a number of key actions promoting a framework for sector growth	Under the duty to co-operate work with neighbouring authorities to strengthen economic policy to meet shared goals and promote sector growth.	Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.
Norfolk Biodiversity Partnership Habitat and Species Action Plans	Holds a number of plans on different topics which relate to key	Each Action Plan has objectives and targets – often seeking to	Develop policy which promotes biodiversity	Maintain, restore and enhance the natural environment and sites

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	habitats and species	maintain or increase the extent of or to improve habitats.		designated for biological and geological interest.  Maintain and enhance the range, functionality and connectivity of characteristic habitats and species.
Norfolk Infrastructure Plan (2014)	This plan pulls together information on key infrastructure needed to deliver economic growth in Norfolk. It is a working document that will be regularly updated as information becomes available. The Plan will help co-ordinate implementation, prioritise activity and respond to any funding opportunities.	Details a number of key infrastructure initiatives	Work with NCC to deliver strategic infrastructure initiatives. Ensure policies complement strategic plan.	Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities).
Local Transport Plan LTP3 2011-2026	Norfolk's 3rd Local Transport Plan, Connecting Norfolk, sets out the strategy and policy framework for transport up to 2026.	The strategy is accompanied by an implementation plan, setting out the measures to be delivered over the short term	Work with NCC to deliver strategic transport initiatives. Ensure policies complement strategic plan.	Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure oppor-

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA (opportunities)
	This will be used as a guide for transport investment in Norfolk as well as considered by other agencies when determining planning or delivery decisions.			
The Wash East Coastal Management Strategy 2015	The Strategy covers a 13.5km length of coastline, on the Norfolk coast of The Wash, from Hunstanton Cliffs to Wolferton Creek. It was developed from the Wash Shoreline Management Plan (SMP2). A Pathfinder project followed to evaluate options for securing contributions towards coastal management and investigate adaptation measures.	Specific projects focusing on coastal management, adaptation and flood risk strategy	Create policies which will reduce the risk of flooding and erosion.	Minimise vulnerability and provide resilience and adaptation to climate change, taking account of flood risk and coastal change.
North Norfolk Coast AONB Management Plan 2014-2019	The Management Plan is primarily for use by the members of the Norfolk Coast Partnership to inform, guide and influence their ac-	Sets themes, objectives and policies	Ensure consideration of management strategy when formulating policy which would impact coastal areas and communities	Maintain and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape character.

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	tivities within the area			
Norfolk's Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2006-2017	This is a statutory document (all Highway Authorities must produce one) which sets out the future aspirations for improving the network of local rights of way across Norfolk. The purpose of the RoWIP is to help us manage and develop the Rights of Way Network to meet the needs of residents and visitors.			Improve the quantity and quality of Green Infrastructure, publicly accessible open space, Public Rights of Way and access.
WNNCEMS Annual Report	Records the condition of the Wash Estuary and outlines management strategy	Organisations with responsibility for activities or land management in the Wash area submit data and information which forms overview of management issues	Ensure consideration of management strategy when formulating policy which would impact coastal areas and communities	Maintain, restore and enhance the natural environment and sites designated for biological and geological interest.  Maintain and enhance the range, functionality and connectivity of characteristic habitats and species.
National Character Area Profiles	NCA's are areas that share similar land-			Maintain and enhance the diversity and dis-

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	scape characteristics, and which follow natural lines in the landscape rather than administrative boundaries, making them a good decision-making framework for the natural environment. National Character Area profiles are guidance documents which can help communities to inform their decision-making about the places that they live in and care for.			tinctiveness of landscape and townscape character.
<b>LOCAL</b>				
Urban Development Strategy 2006	The Urban Development Strategy is a model which sets out the renaissance for King's Lynn. It provides the basis on which a programme of structured and other improvements can be planned and implemented.	Whilst the overarching principles are still relevant, some of the key projects have now been superseded by projects such as Nar Ouse, Major Housing Project at Lynnsport and the King's Lynn Transport Interchange	The Local Plan should link in with, and promote the latest regeneration strategies and proposals.	Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities).
Hunstanton Town Centre and	The Hunstanton mas-		The Local Plan should	Improve the quality,

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
Southern Seafront Master-plan 2008	<p>terplan sets out a vision of Hunstanton as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>an active town, expanding the existing watersports and activities offer</li> <li>a town that meets the needs of its residents and acts as a good local service centre</li> <li>a more attractive sea-side destination, where visitors return, stay longer and spend more</li> <li>a town that respects its heritage - whilst looking to the future</li> <li>a town that makes the most of its setting and natural assets, linking town and seafront and emphasising the views.</li> </ul>		link in with, and promote the latest regeneration strategies and proposals. Hunstanton should be recognised as a significant town within the Borough.	range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities).
Affordable Housing Policy 2011	Detailed explanation of the Councils affordable housing policy		Currently links to CS Policy CS09. Need to consider implications for affordable housing policy when drafting the review	Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing.
Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) Update	This study provides an update of the original		The SHMA provides the evidence to justify	Ensure all groups have access to decent, ap-

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
2014	SHMA undertaken in King's Lynn & West Norfolk in 2006 (finalised in 2007). It is required because the economic downturn has had a significant impact on housing and planning objectives and new National Planning policy has recently been published. In addition the Coalition Government have made a range of changes to the housing sector,		housing policy in the Local Plan.	propriate and affordable housing.
Assessing King's Lynn and West Norfolk's Housing Requirement 2015	This report provides an independent and objective assessment of the Borough's objectively assessed need for housing (OAN).		The Local Plan must provide housing to meet the target OAN	Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing.
Conservation Area Character Statements	highlights the special qualities which underpin the character of the Conservation Area, justifying its designation. It also seeks to increase awareness	Each of the Conservation Areas has specific Conservation Area Objectives.	Need to ensure planning policies and allocations seek to protect and enhance Conservation Areas	Avoid damage to protected sites and historic buildings.  Maintain and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of land-

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	of those qualities so that where changes to the environment occur, they do so in a sympathetic way without harm to the essential character of the area.			scape and townscape character.
Neighbourhood Plans	A number of Neighbourhood Plans are under development in the Borough. Two plans: Brancaster and South Wootton have been adopted (2015).	Each Neighbourhood Plan has specific objectives and policies	Ensure Neighbourhood Plans are in general conformity with the Local Plan. Develop closer links between community aspirations in Neighbourhood Plans and Local Plan objectives and policies	Encourage and enable the active involvement of local people in community activities.
Coastal access plans				Improve the quantity and quality of Green Infrastructure, publicly accessible open space, Public Rights of Way and access.
Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment update (GTANA)	The Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Needs Assessment (GTANA) provides an assessment of the need for Gypsy and Traveller pitches and	Sets target number of pitches required to meet identified need between 2013 and 2031.	Local Plan must deliver target number of pitches to meet demand.	Ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing.

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	Travelling Showmen's plots within the Borough.			
Local Plan and CIL Viability Study (incorporating Affordable Housing Rate Review)	Detailed report outlining how CIL could deliver the development outlined in the Local Plan. Considers viability issues to inform setting CIL rates		CIL will form one of the Local Plan documents.	Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities).
King's Lynn Area Transport Strategy Update	The King's Lynn Area Transport Strategy phase 2 (KLATS2) has taken a wide list of potential interventions for King's Lynn and refined these in to considered schemes and options to help deliver a more sustainable and vibrant town		Study helps to inform growth options around King's Lynn and details the infrastructure requirements.	Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities).
Wisbech Traffic Model, Strategic Development Sites	Series of model tests for the town of Wisbech in Cambridgeshire with forecasts through to 2031. These tests looked at the impact of three large developments, and form part of the		Study helps to inform growth options around Wisbech and details the infrastructure requirements.	Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities).

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	local Councils' continuing work in bringing forward development in the town.			
Green Infrastructure Strategy 2009/2010	A Strategy, Action Plan and Business Plan were developed to promote and support the delivery of GI in the Borough.	Sets an action plan detailing high, medium and low priority projects.	Coordinate the network of Green Infrastructure ensuring that new development is supported by open space provision.	Improve the quantity and quality of Green Infrastructure, publicly accessible open space, Public Rights of Way and access.
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment 2009	Identifies and maps the generalised flood risk zones over the whole of the Borough. Undertakes more detailed flood risk assessments of King's Lynn and other key urban areas within the Borough. Models the probability and consequences for a range of flood defence breach scenarios throughout the Borough.		The Local Plan must be informed by up to date flood risk mapping and consideration of future likely flood risk scenarios through an updated SFRA.	Minimise vulnerability and provide resilience and adaptation to climate change, taking account of flood risk and coastal change.
Landscape Character Assessment 2007	Provides an integrated assessment of the landscape character of the Borough at		Local Plan policies should seek to recognise and enhance distinctive landscapes.	Maintain and enhance the diversity and distinctiveness of landscape and townscape

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	1:25,000 scale, to serve as a baseline inventory to enable a better understanding of the Borough's landscapes and for monitoring change.			character.
Employment Land Study 2007	Examines the economic needs and development needs of the Borough in terms of future land provision.		Formed the basis of economic strategy and land allocations. Need to review the strategy to determine whether needs have been addressed.	Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.
King's Lynn and West Norfolk Settlements Surface Water Management Plan 2012	Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP) for selected settlements within the Borough.	Sets priorities for action and timescale for implementation	Consider drainage infrastructure and capacity when directing growth and making allocations	Minimise vulnerability and provide resilience and adaptation to climate change, taking account of flood risk and coastal change.
West Norfolk Clinical Commissioning Group, Evidence for Change	Looks at the challenges the NHS is facing in delivering healthcare now, and in the future, nationally, and in West Norfolk.	Report states that the next phase is to consider the potential range of solutions that may address identified challenges for the long term.	Need to plan for an aging population particularly in relation to housing and care home provision but also all aspects of policy making.	Maintain and enhance human health.
Natura 2000 Sites Monitoring and Mitigation Strategy 2016	The Strategy identifies measures to avoid po-			Maintain, restore and enhance the natural

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	tentially significant effects on European sites arising from recreational pressures linked to development.			<p>environment and sites designated for biological and geological interest.</p> <p>Maintain and enhance the range, functionality and connectivity of characteristic habitats and species.</p>
New Anglia Strategic Economic Plan, New Anglia Local Economic Partnership 2012	The Strategic Economic Plan (SEP) sets out an ambition to harness distinct sector strengths and natural assets to deliver more jobs, new businesses and housing	Set several targets for New Anglia (Norfolk & Suffolk) by 2026: 95,000 more jobs 10,000 new businesses gross added value per job will equal the national average 117,000 new houses	Plan means an increased level of delivery of housing and jobs in order to help meet the LEP targets. The housing target for the LEP area equates to a 32% increase in delivery compared with the period 2001-12 and cites Local Plans as a key means to deliver additional housing.	<p>Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.</p> <p>Improve the efficiency, competitiveness and adaptability of the local economy.</p>
New Anglia Health and Social Care Sector Skills Plan, New Anglia LEP 2016	Growth in Health and Social Care is essential if the sector is to be able to respond to an ever increasing de-	1 Entrance and retention to the health and social care sector with a particular focus on adult social care.	Recognition that health and social care is the largest sector in New Anglia in employment terms and plays an es-	Help people gain access to satisfying work appropriate to their skills, potential and place of residence.

# Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report Review

Document Title (policy/para number)	Key objectives relevant to SA and Local Plan	Key targets and indicators	Implications for Local Plan	Implications for SA
	mand for its services. The population of New Anglia is growing and ageing at a rate above the UK average. This plan aims to plan for the future and improve the health and social care sector.	2 Recruitment and retention of registered nurses in nursing homes. 3. Leadership and succession planning for registered managers and owners of adult social care businesses	stantial role in tackling poverty, driving employment and thus productivity.	Improve the quality, range and accessibility of services and facilities (e.g. health, transport, education, training, leisure opportunities).

## Appendix 2 Definition of Status in the Water Framework Directive

Status	Definition
High	Near natural conditions. No restriction on the beneficial uses of the water body. No impacts on amenity, wildlife or fisheries.
Good	Slight change from natural conditions as a result of human activity. No restriction on the beneficial uses of the water body. No impact on amenity or fisheries. Protects all but the most sensitive wildlife.
Moderate	Moderate change from natural conditions as a result of human activity. Some restriction on the beneficial uses of the water body. No impact on amenity. Some impact on wildlife and fisheries.
Poor	Major change from natural conditions as a result of human activity. Some restrictions on the beneficial uses of the water body. Some impact on amenity. Moderate impact on wildlife and fisheries.
Bad	Severe change from natural conditions as a result of human activity. Significant restriction on the beneficial uses of the water body. Major impact on amenity. Major impact on wildlife and fisheries with many species not present.

Figure 22 Source: DEFRA and EA Anglian River Basin Catchment Management Plan,

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/500463/Anglian\\_RBD\\_Part\\_1\\_river\\_basin\\_management\\_plan.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/500463/Anglian_RBD_Part_1_river_basin_management_plan.pdf)