

Supplementary Committee Agenda



**Epping Forest
District Council**

Cabinet Tuesday, 20th April, 2021

Place: Virtual Meeting on Zoom

Time: 7.00 pm

Democratic Services: A. Hendry (Democratic Services)
Tel: (01992) 564246 Email:
democraticservices@eppingforestdc.gov.uk

10. GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY (Pages 3 - 292)

Planning and Sustainability – (C-075-2020-21) - This report sets out the changes proposed to be made to the draft Green Infrastructure Strategy that was agreed by Cabinet for the purposes of consultation on 15 April 2020.

Appendices to this report attached.

This page is intentionally left blank

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY

**PRIMER:
INTRODUCING
GREEN
INFRASTRUCTURE**



Everyone should read this document before
reading other parts of the Green Infrastructure Strategy

CONTENTS

Foreword from Councillor Nigel Bedford	3
How To Use This Document	4
0.1 DELIVERY PLAN	6
0.2 ABOUT THE STRATEGY	9
Overview	10
What is Green And Blue Infrastructure?	11
What Does Green Infrastructure Include?	11
The Value Of Green And Blue Infrastructure	12
Why Have A Strategy?	14
What Planning Goals Can Green Infrastructure Help To Achieve?	16
Epping Forest Special Area Of Conservation	18
Lee Valley Special Protection Area and Ramsar Site	19
Partners	20
0.3 ABOUT THE DISTRICT	21
Landscape Overview	22
Quantity	23
Quality	27
Movement	28
Ecology And Carbon	31
Blue Infrastructure	34
Visitor Offer	38
Community	39
0.4 STEWARDSHIP FOR GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE	40
Maintaining Green Infrastructure	41
Stewardship	42
Community Interest Community (CIC)	43
Community Land Trust	44
0.5 FUNDING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE	45
Funding Projects In The Long Term	46
Section 106 Funding	46
Funding Of Community-Led Projects	47
0.6 VISION AND OBJECTIVES	49



Welcome to Epping Forest District Council's Green Infrastructure Strategy

Epping Forest District has an extraordinary network of landscapes, including the renowned ancient woodland, Epping Forest.

But the Forest is under threat, from rising levels of vehicle emissions and increased human activity. The planned growth and development in the District would add to this pressure so we need to have positive strategies in place to address this.

This Green Infrastructure Strategy seeks to protect the Forest and other remarkable ecological sites, by ensuring that new and existing communities have better access to high-quality and local green and blue spaces.

Well-designed and multifunctional greenspaces can make people happier, healthier and bring communities together.

Great Green and Blue Infrastructure is also key to tackling the climate and biodiversity crises, providing long-term benefits for people, wildlife and ecology.

So by 2026 we want to make sure that 56% of the high quality Green Infrastructure projects in this Strategy have been delivered. And by 2033 we want 100% delivered with more green and blue spaces planned for the future.

We thank you for your input last year – despite the challenges Covid-19 presented, we held an exciting programme of workshop events online with groups across the District, and we received 175 written responses to our survey.

We are also looking to kick-start the implementation of the Green Infrastructure Strategy with some of our District-Wide Projects found in [Part 1 - Implementation: Enhancing Our Existing Network](#), and we want you to be involved.

We will be starting with our 'Tree Planting – A Call For Sites' project and we need District residents to get in touch with places they think would benefit from more tree planting. These could be greenspaces, school grounds, verges, public spaces and rural sites.

Keep an eye on our [website](#) and [Twitter](#) for more information in coming months.

HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

Purpose of the Strategy and Parts

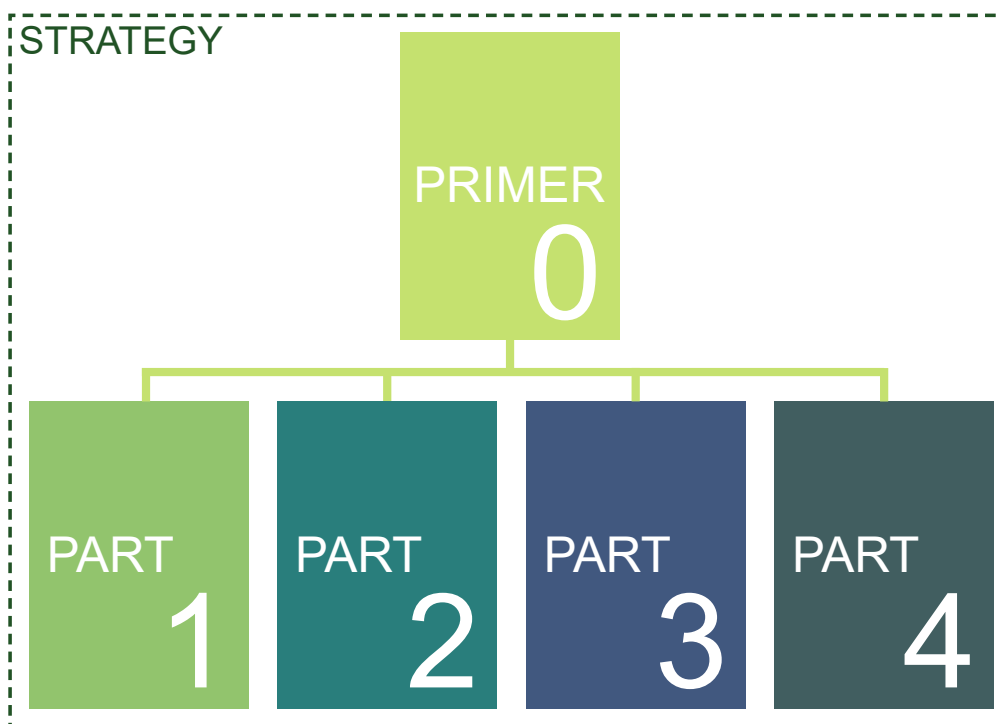
The purpose of the Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy (“the Strategy”) is to ensure a strategic and holistic approach is taken to protecting, maintaining and enhancing the ecology, landscape and heritage in the District.

This Primer document provides:

- An introduction to what green and blue infrastructure is - its definition and value;
- An understanding of the existing green and blue assets in the District - their location, importance, quantity and quality;
- The Vision and Objectives of the Strategy - that opportunities and projects will need to follow

The other parts of the Strategy are to be read in conjunction with this Primer. These are:

1. [Implementation: Enhancing our Existing Network](#)
2. [Implementation: Landscape-Led Design](#)
3. [Implementation: Green Infrastructure in Strategic Allocations](#)
4. [Implementation: Infrastructure Enhancement Projects](#)



HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

Who is the Strategy and Primer for?

The Strategy consists of five Parts which set out the requirements for landscape-led development and mitigation and identify local projects which align with its objectives. Anyone interested in the Strategy and the associated guidance and projects should read the Primer first, to familiarise themselves with the purpose, context and vision of the Strategy.

This includes local residents, community groups including town and parish councils, planning applicants, designers, local authority officers, policy makers and elected members. The different parts of the strategy (1,2, 3and 4) each have a particular focus, which may be more relevant to different readers, depending on their interest.

When to use the Primer?

The Primer should be read before the start of any green and/or blue infrastructure project, to ensure that projects and proposals account for the existing context and assets and align with the Vision and Objectives of the Strategy.

Status of the Strategy

The Strategy has been endorsed as a material consideration in the determination of planning applications, masterplans/concept frameworks and to guide design and implementation processes.

Relationship to the Council's emerging Local Plan

Whilst not its sole purpose, an important part of the Strategy is to support key [emerging Local Plan policies](#) on high-quality place making and site specific guidance, particularly in masterplan areas, alongside the Council's commitment and legal obligation to ensure that there is no adverse effect on the integrity of ecologically important sites, such as the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

Reviewing and Monitoring

Identified projects for the provision of green and blue infrastructure will require long term management and maintenance arrangements to be put in place where appropriate. The intention is that, where appropriate, these projects will be included in the Council's [Infrastructure Delivery Plan \(IDP\)](#), which is a 'live' document that will be monitored and updated regularly.

DELIVERY PLAN

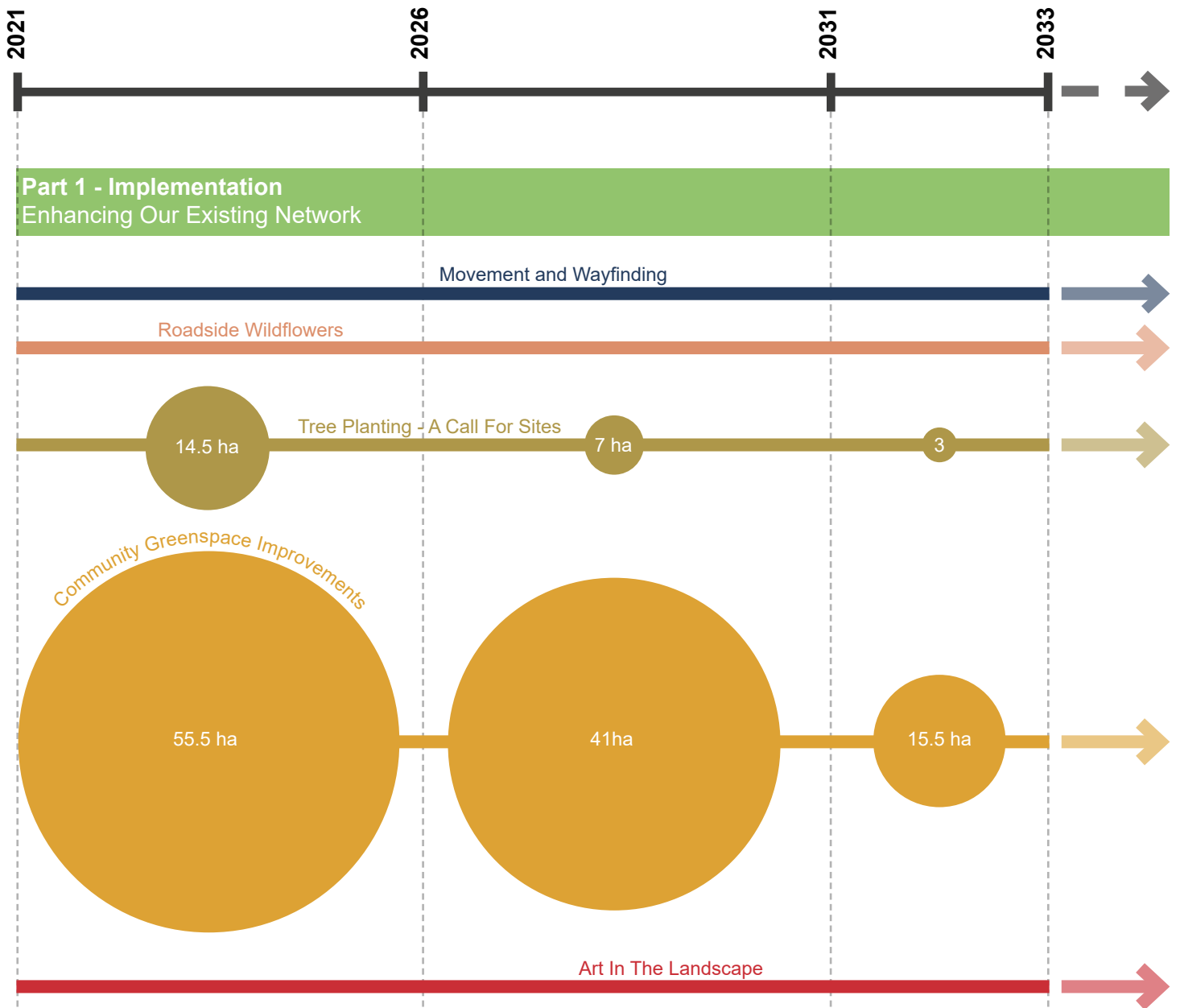
0.1

Page 8

0.1 DELIVERY PLAN

These pages set out how much Green Infrastructure will be delivered through this Strategy, and by when (the below time periods align with the [Council's Infrastructure Delivery Plan \(IDP\)](#) and the [Local Plan Submission Version 2017](#)). Some projects are 'themes' which can be implemented steadily across the GI network (such as Movement and Wayfinding, Art in the Landscape), whereas some are more 'defined' and quantifiable (such as Community Greenspace Improvements, Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace). More information can be found by reading [Parts 1, 2 and 3](#).

This Delivery Plan forms the basis for our Mission in achieving 56% of Green Infrastructure identified in this Strategy to be delivered by 2026, and 100% by 2033.



Data Sources

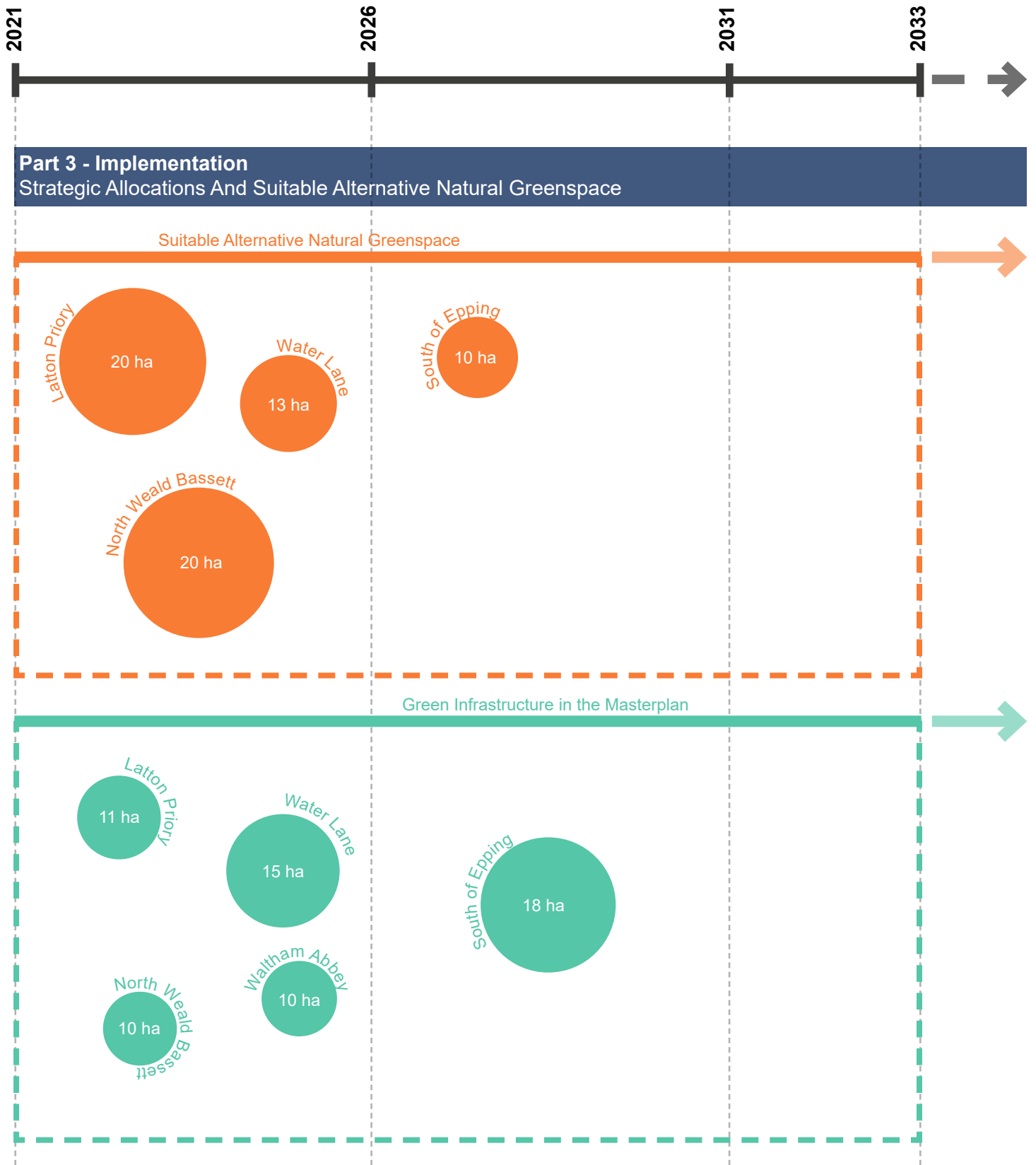
Tree Planting - A Call For Sites:

50% of total area of potential tree planting sites identified by the EFDC Tree Taskforce in early discussions (November 2020), assuming the other 50% would be undeliverable or inappropriate. This figure is then distributed between the three periods, with greater focus on tree planting between 2021 - 2026.

Community Greenspace Improvements:

Sites identified in EFDC's Infrastructure Delivery Plan as Open Spaces and Green Infrastructure for improvement / enhancement.

0.1 DELIVERY PLAN



Data Sources

Sutable Alternative Natural Greenspace:

As set out for each Strategic Masterplan in this Strategy (*Part 3 - Implementation: Strategic Allocations and Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace*)

Green Infrastructure:

Strategic Allocations as identified in *Local Plan Submission Version 2017 Appendix 6 Site Specific Requirements*, where Green Infrastructure is assumed to be Indicative Development Area subtracted from Masterplan Area. Latton Priory and Water Lane Green Infrastructure provision is taken from early masterplan development in 2019.

Green Infrastructure provision within Strategic Masterplans is subject to design development and the number above is a current estimate, not a guide.

ABOUT THE STRATEGY

02

Page 11

0.2 ABOUT THIS STRATEGY

Overview

The social, environmental, and economic benefits of Green and Blue Infrastructure has become key to creating sustainable communities and liveable neighbourhoods.

The Council's emerging Local Plan proposes the most significant level of development to be brought forward across the District in a generation. In doing so it has established ambitious policies in relation to:

- The protection of ecological and landscape assets
- The provision and enhancement of Green and Blue Infrastructure
- The importance of design in the creation of high quality places for people to live, work and visit
- The stewardship of Green and Blue Infrastructure

The evidence base for the emerging Epping Forest District Local Plan provides an assessment of landscape character, the quantity and type of existing Green and Blue Infrastructure, identifies where there are deficits, and assesses the effects that new homes in particular may have on the Epping Forest and other ecologically important sites. This evidence underpins the policy approach to the provision and enhancement of Green and Blue Infrastructure across the District. This evidence base, including the [Council's Open Space Strategy 2017](#) (EB703), provide an important resource for all of those using this Strategy as it provides a much more fine-grained analysis of a significant number of the District's Green Infrastructure assets in particular.

The Strategy also recognises the importance of cross-boundary opportunities to integrate Green and Blue Infrastructure by working with a range of partners including our neighbouring authorities inside and outside of London.



A view across Harlow towards Central London

0.2 ABOUT THIS STRATEGY

What Is Green And Blue Infrastructure?

Green infrastructure is a network of high quality greenspaces and other environmental features such as parks, public open spaces, playing fields, sports pitches, woodlands, and allotments. The provision of Green Infrastructure can provide social, economic and environmental benefits close to where people live and work.

Blue Infrastructure is infrastructure provision relating to water. This includes natural features such as rivers, streams and ponds, semi-natural features such as sustainable drainage systems, bio swales and canals, and other engineering features such as dams, weirs and culverts. Blue and Green infrastructure are often considered together, placing emphasis on the importance of biodiversity and flood risk mitigation.



Green infrastructure: Waltham Abbey Gardens



Blue Infrastructure: River Roding

What Does Green Infrastructure Include?

[Natural England's Green Infrastructure Guide](#) provides a useful summary of what GI includes:

- **Parks and Gardens** – urban parks, Country and Regional Parks, formal gardens.
- **Amenity Greenspace** – informal recreation spaces, greenspaces related to housing developments, domestic gardens, village greens, urban commons, other incidental space, green roofs.
- **Natural and semi-natural urban greenspaces** - woodland and scrub, grassland (such as downland and meadow), heath or moor, wetlands, open and running water, wastelands and disturbed ground), bare rock habitats (e.g. cliffs and quarries).
- **Green corridors** – rivers and canals including their banks, road and rail corridors, cycling routes, pedestrian paths, and rights of way.
- **Other** - allotments, community gardens, city farms, cemeteries and churchyards.

0.2 ABOUT THIS STRATEGY

The Value Of Green And Blue Infrastructure

The need for people to have contact with greenspace and nature has long been recognised. The Victorians saw the need for public parks as a release from urban overcrowding and a broad coalition of local people working with the City of London Corporation fought to save the Epping Forest from enclosure. This culminated in the passing of the Epping Forest Act in 1878 which established the City of London Corporation as the Conservators of Epping Forest and has ensured the protection of the Forest.

Later, in the 20th Century, Sir Frederick Gibberd's work in masterplanning the original Harlow New Town responded to Sir Patrick Abercrombie's plans for London and Greater London - based on the idea that open space should be coordinated into a park system to provide 'an easy flow of open space from garden to park, from park to parkway, from parkway to green wedge and from green wedge to Green Belt'. Gibberd, in his Harlow New Town Masterplan set out that 'Links to the countryside are formed by green wedges designed to embrace natural features such as valleys, woods, brooks and quarries. It is proposed that the wedges and valleys left free of buildings should be kept as natural as possible, and in no way turned into the character of a Town Park.'

The 20th Century also saw the establishment of the Lee Valley Regional Park. The park was created by a unique Act of Parliament as a 'green lung' for London, Essex and Hertfordshire. It comprises a 26-mile-long, 10,000 acre park containing award winning green spaces, world class sports venues and ecologically vital wildlife havens. Responsibility for its oversight lies with the Lee Valley Regional Park Authority and the Council is represented on its Board.



Sir Frederick Gibberd's Harlow New Town

0.2 ABOUT THIS STRATEGY

While the value of greenspace has long been considered important, only recently has it been more clearly evidenced. Bodies such as the United Nations (through its Sustainable Development Goals), the World Health Organisation, Natural England, and Public Health England make a clear and robust case for the multiple benefits that Green and Blue Infrastructure can deliver, across a diverse agenda including: tackling obesity, responding to the climate emergency, enhancing and protecting biodiversity assets, the 'healthy living' agenda, water quality and improving mental health.

Work done by Fields in Trust and the Greater London Authority in recent years demonstrates the monetary value of Green and Blue Infrastructure. This has provided the formulation of pragmatic fiscal arguments for investing in the delivery and maintenance of Green and Blue Infrastructure.

The Value of Green and Blue Infrastructure is also recognised in [National Planning Practice Guidance](#) as follows:

Green infrastructure is a natural capital asset that provides multiple benefits, at a range of scales. For communities, these benefits can include enhanced wellbeing, outdoor recreation and access, enhanced biodiversity and landscapes, food and energy production, urban cooling, and the management of flood risk. These benefits are also known as ecosystem services.

Paragraph: 005 Reference ID: 8-005-20190721

Revision date: 21 07 2019

For the sake of brevity the term Green Infrastructure (GI) is used in the rest of this Strategy but its use encompasses both Green and Blue Infrastructure.

0.2 ABOUT THIS STRATEGY

Why have a Strategy?

The [National Planning Policy Framework \(NPPF\)](#) sets out the government's national policy context that local planning authorities need to take account of in developing plans and making decisions. The NPPF states that there is a presumption in favour of sustainable development (paragraph 11), with sustainable development having economic, social and environmental objectives. The environmental objective is that development should protect and enhance the natural, built and historic environment as well as protecting biodiversity, minimising pollution and adapting to climate change and the demands of a low carbon economy. In addition, national planning policy and guidance requires councils to take a strategic approach to protecting, maintaining and enhancing ecological habitats and landscape features, including those of heritage importance.

Whilst one purpose of the Strategy is to respond to the requirements of the NPPF, it also provides a mechanism for supporting a range of other legislation and national policies ranging from the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act through to the government's 25 Year Environment Plan (see [Appendices](#)).

As well as allocating sites for development the Council's emerging Local Plan contains policies which respond to the government's environmental objectives. This not only includes policies which require larger scale developments, including within the Masterplan Areas, to be self-sufficient in terms of the provision of GI, but also provides for the protection of existing GI and, where appropriate, its enhancement.

This Strategy supports the implementation of those policies by providing a clear framework through which to ensure that new development proposals respond positively to the achievement of high-quality GI provision across the District. These include in particular policies SP3 (Place Making), SP4 and SP5 (the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town Communities), SP7 (The Natural Environment, Landscape Character and Green and Blue Infrastructure), DM2 (Epping Forest SAC and Lee Valley SPA) and DM5 (Green and Blue Infrastructure). More information on the suite of relevant policies within the emerging Local Plan are set out in the [Appendices](#) of this Strategy.

The Strategy, and in particular Parts 3 and 4, forms a key part of the Council's approach to avoiding or mitigating the effects of plans and projects, both alone and in combination, on the Epping Forest SAC in order to demonstrate that development will not have an adverse effect on its integrity. The following Strategies (which have already been endorsed by the Council as a material consideration in relation to the determination of planning applications and other development related activities) together with this Strategy, form the Council's comprehensive approach:

- [Epping Forest Interim Air Pollution Mitigation Strategy: Managing the Effects of Air Pollution on the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation December 2020](#)
- [Interim Approach to Managing Recreational Pressures on the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation October 2018 \(EB134\)](#)

0.2 ABOUT THIS STRATEGY

From a cross boundary perspective, the Strategy supports the GI objectives of the London Stansted Cambridge Corridor, the Green Arc partnership and the [Green Essex Strategy](#). The Strategy also recognises and supports the opportunities provided by the Lee Valley Regional Park whilst protecting its internationally important ecological sites and responds to the need to protect other designated assets such as SSSI's.

This Strategy has been endorsed as a material consideration in the determination of planning applications, the development of Masterplans and Concept Frameworks, and other development related activities. This is in order to provide it with material planning weight within the planning process.

The Council also recognises that there are wider opportunities to provide new and enhance the District's existing GI assets which are not dependent on new development. It has taken the opportunity to build these into the Strategy. This is to ensure that a coherent and complementary approach is taken to the District's GI provision and a holistic and strategic approach taken.

In terms of development over the period 2011-2033, the growth proposed in the Council's emerging [Local Plan](#) will provide for a minimum of 11,400 new homes. Much of this will be delivered on larger strategic sites where planning applicants will be required to take a collaborative, cohesive, coherent, integrated and proactive approach to the provision of Green Infrastructure. This includes for those sites which form part of the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town.

0.2 ABOUT THIS STRATEGY

What Planning Goals Can Green Infrastructure Help To Achieve?

The [National Planning Practice Guidance](#) sets out that GI can help in:

Building a strong, competitive economy

- Green infrastructure can drive economic growth and regeneration, helping to create high quality environments which are attractive to businesses and investors.

Achieving well-designed places

- The built environment can be enhanced by features such as green roofs, street trees, proximity to woodland, public gardens and recreational and open spaces. More broadly, green infrastructure exists within a wider landscape context and can reinforce and enhance local landscape character, contributing to a sense of place and natural beauty.



Sovereign Square, Leeds by re-form landscape architecture

Promoting healthy and safe communities

- Green infrastructure can improve the wellbeing of a neighbourhood with opportunities for recreation, exercise, social interaction, experiencing and caring for nature, community food-growing and gardening, all of which can bring mental and physical health benefits. Outdoor Recreation Value (ORVal) is a useful online tool that can be used to quantify the recreational values provided by greenspace. Green infrastructure can help to reduce health inequalities in areas of socio-economic deprivation and meet the needs of families and an ageing population. It can also help to reduce air pollution and noise.



Bridget Joyce Square and Community Rain Garden, White City by Robert Bray Associates

0.2 ABOUT THIS STRATEGY

Mitigating climate change, flooding and coastal change

- Green infrastructure can contribute to carbon storage, cooling and shading, opportunities for species migration to more suitable habitats, and the protection of water quality and other natural resources. It can also be an integral part of multifunctional sustainable drainage and natural flood risk management.

Conserving and enhancing the natural environment

- High-quality networks of multifunctional green infrastructure contribute a range of benefits, including ecological connectivity, facilitating biodiversity net gain and nature recovery networks and opportunities for communities to undertake conservation work.

Paragraph: 006 Reference ID: 8-006-20190721

Revision date: 21 07 2019



Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, Stratford by Hargreaves Associates and LDA Design

Green Infrastructure also has an important role in enhancing the setting of, access to, and revealing of heritage assets within the landscape. It can help to provide a sense of place and make tangible links with local history and integrating heritage assets with Green Infrastructure.

0.2 ABOUT THIS STRATEGY

Epping Forest Special Area Of Conservation

The Epping Forest is a Special Area of Conservation (SAC) and a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). Under the [Habitats Directive 1992](#) and [The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2019](#), the Council is required to ensure that our emerging Local Plan will not adversely affect the integrity of the Epping Forest SAC. We know from the Habitats Regulations Assessments undertaken to inform our emerging Local Plan that the Forest is already under pressure from recreational use by existing residents and visitors, and from atmospheric pollution caused by vehicles using roads in close proximity to the Forest.

The responsibility for the development of an approach to avoid or mitigate any harm to the Epping Forest SAC lies with the competent authorities. Competent authorities are any organisation or individual that has a statutory role as defined in UK legislation and have a legal responsibility to help safeguard the features of an internationally designated site in undertaking their work and thereby achieve the aims of the Habitats Directive. The competent authorities for the Epping Forest SAC include (but are not limited to) EFDC and the London Boroughs of Waltham Forest and Redbridge. We will continue to work with the other competent authorities, Natural England (as the responsible statutory body) and with the Conservators of Epping Forest (as the body responsible for the management of the Epping Forest) to secure the implementation of the relevant components of our approach to avoidance and mitigation (as set out above).

The Epping Forest SAC extends across local authority administrative boundaries and we know, having undertaken surveys in [2018](#) and [2020](#), that it is not just people who live, or will live, in Epping Forest District who use, or will be likely to use, the Epping Forest SAC on a regular basis. People from the surrounding local authority areas, including a number of London Boroughs and from further afield also use the Epping Forest SAC. This information has helped us to identify a 6.2km 'Zone of Influence' (ZoI) around the Epping Forest SAC boundary, which indicates where 75% of existing visitors come from. This means that all new residential development within this ZoI will need to either avoid or mitigate the effects of the new visitors that would result.



Epping Forest

0.2 ABOUT THIS STRATEGY

As well as the provision of larger areas of new natural greenspace linked to the Masterplan sites proposed in the emerging local plan, the provision of smaller areas, the improvement of existing GI or creating connections between different GI assets, can all contribute to attracting people away from using the Epping Forest. In this way we can avoid as much as possible putting extra pressure on the Epping Forest. In particular we do not believe that the simple provision of SANG provides the most robust approach to protecting the Epping Forest – not just the SAC itself, but areas adjoining it which are designated as SSSIs. By taking an informed approach to the design of the SANG ‘offer’ and integrating them as part of a wider GI Strategy, as well as providing new GI on smaller sites and enhancing and connecting existing GI assets can support the delivery of a more integrated and attractive offer for residents, both new and existing, to encourage the use of GI opportunities closer to home. Taking such an approach has the potential not only to provide for new residents’ recreational needs but also offer an attractive alternative to existing residents so that they reduce the number of visits that they make to the Epping Forest. It will also help to reduce car journeys by supporting more local access and therefore help to reduce the effects of atmospheric pollution on the Epping Forest SAC.

This Strategy, in all its forms, provides the framework for delivering this integrated approach and the positive contribution that it will make in delivering avoidance and mitigation measures.

More detail about the Council’s proposed approach to avoidance and mitigation measures is set out in [Part 3 - Implementation: Green Infrastructure in Strategic Allocations](#) and [Part 4 - Implementation: Identified Sites](#).

Lee Valley Special Protection Area and Ramsar Site

The Lee Valley Regional Park contains a Special Protection Area (SPA) and is a Ramsar Convention on Wetlands Site, both of which designations relate to internationally important ecological habitats. The Lee Valley comprises a series of embanked water supply reservoirs, sewage treatment lagoons and former gravel pits along the extent of the valley. These waterbodies and reedbeds support internationally important bird populations. In addition, the site’s Ramsar status is on account of the rare and scarce plants and invertebrates present. The Lee Valley SPA/Ramsar consists of four Sites of Special Scientific Interest, of which Turnford and Cheshunt Pits SSSI, Rye Meads SSSI and Amwell Quarry SSSI all lie on the Hertfordshire/ Essex border. The SPA and Ramsar site are managed by the Lee Valley Regional Park Authority and by Thames Water and there are a number of management plans in place including in relation to visitor access and water pollution.

0.2 ABOUT THIS STRATEGY

Partners

The development of this Strategy has sought to take into account and respond to the views of a range of stakeholders as to how the provision of Green Infrastructure can be best secured within the District. Stakeholders include Natural England and the Conservators of Epping Forest and a range of local authorities and public bodies through the Cooperation for Sustainable Development Member and Officer Groups.

Ongoing engagement with our partners will be key to the successful funding, design and delivery of projects. Our partners include: Natural England, the Conservators of Epping Forest, adjoining local authorities, the Environment Agency, Essex County Council, Hertfordshire County Council, East Herts Council, Harlow Council, Essex Wildlife Trust, EFDC Countrycare, the Lee Valley Regional Park Authority, the Canal and River Trust, Parish and Town Councils, the Ramblers Association, the Woodland Trust and Local Friends Groups. Developers, landowners and farmers will also be key partners in the achievement of the Strategy's Vision and Objectives.

Where appropriate existing partnership mechanisms such as the 'Green Arc' strategic partnership, the Cooperation for Sustainable Development Board and Harlow and Gilston Garden Town partnership, will be used to ensure an efficient, effective and coordinated approach to the planning and delivery of 'larger than local' Green Infrastructure is achieved.

ABOUT THE DISTRICT

0.3

Page 23

0.3 ABOUT THE DISTRICT

Landscape Overview

Epping Forest District has a predominantly agricultural landscape. Ridges which run east-west across the District are the high points in the landscape - the town of Epping sits on the Epping Forest Ridge whilst Rye Hill Ridge defines the southern edge of Harlow. To the west of the District the Lea Valley presents a unique landscape shaped by industry and ecology, while to the north the Stort Valley's significant wet woodland and marshland habitat wraps around the northern edge of Harlow. The remnants of an extensive ancient forest are reflected in the presence of mature trees which are the defining landscape feature in woodlands, hedgerows and in open fields. While the Epping Forest itself (both the SAC and the wider Forest) is the largest and most well-known part of this ancient forest, remnants of the wider forest exist in pockets of ancient woodland and trees located across the District. The [Council's Landscape Character Assessment](#) (EB709) provides an in-depth analysis of the District's landscape.

The need to protect the Metropolitan Green Belt, which currently applies to over 92% of the District, has previously limited development. However, a minimum 11,400 new homes, along with new employment floorspace, is now required to be built over the 2011-2033 period of the emerging Local Plan.

Balancing future development alongside ecological well-being, responding to the climate crisis and meeting objectives to improve physical and mental health are some of the key challenges for the emerging Local Plan. In Epping Forest District, we have a unique opportunity to consider the function of Green Infrastructure in respect of these challenges and through this Strategy answer the following questions:

How do we create a mix of landscapes that encourage people to use outdoor space near their home, rather than travel to the Forest?

How do we make that mix of spaces function as social infrastructure to help address build resilient communities?

How do we build an ecological network to tackle the ecological and climate crises? And how does that network build on historic landscape character, or create new landscape character?

How do we increase understanding and appreciation of the landscape, its ecology and its cultural and natural heritage? And how to we engage new users to draw them into the countryside?

0.3 ABOUT THE DISTRICT

Quantity

The [Council's Open Space Strategy 2017](#) (EB703) separates open spaces into different types (as shown in the graph on the next page) and assesses their provision across nine settlement areas. The quantity of open space required in relation to the resident population is assessed against Fields in Trust standards. Whilst this Strategy seeks to move away from the delivery of individual types of Green Infrastructure and focus more on the creation of more multi-functional spaces where at all possible and appropriate, having an understanding of the level of existing provision of different open spaces provides a useful starting point to help understand what type of provision should be prioritised in the future.

The most striking feature is the extent of Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace within the District (from here on referred to as 'natural' greenspace*¹) - it is over 18 times the Fields in Trust standards minimum provision. This is in part because it includes those areas of the Epping Forest and Lee Valley Regional Park located within the District, but also because the District benefits from a generous network of other Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace.

The District has a wide range of Green Infrastructure assets but some of these, including parks and provision of open space specifically for children and young people are below the minimum Fields in Trust standards in some parts of the District. As well as the Open Space Strategy 2017 further information is available on a parish by parish basis in the [Council's Open Spaces, Sport and Recreation Audit](#) (EB706).



Roding Valley Meadows SSSI

Next page, a graph to show the current provision of green infrastructure in the District measured against National Fields in Trust Standards broadly accepted classifications:

Natural and Semi Natural Open Space 1814%

Parks and Gardens 38%

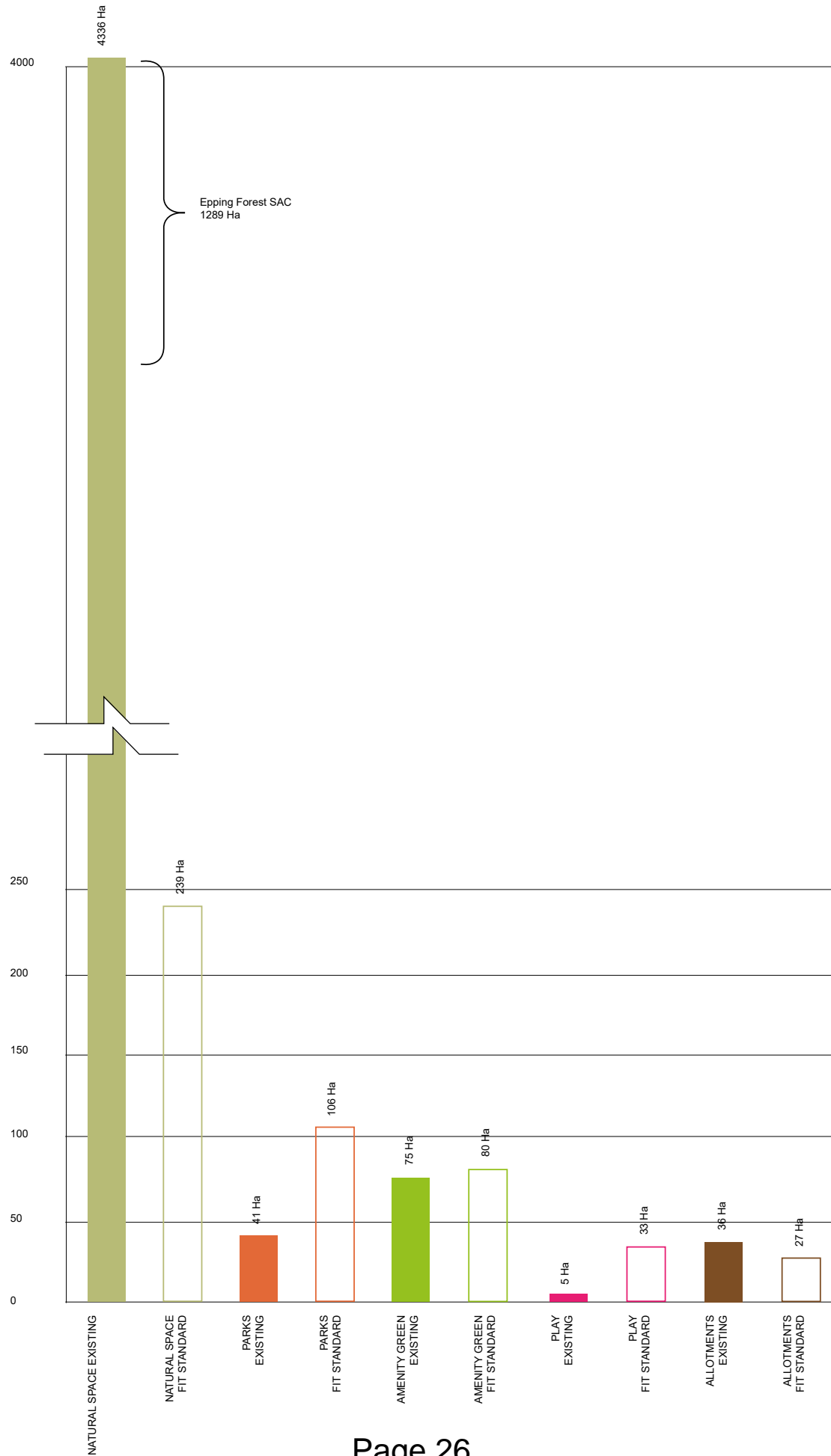
Amenity Greenspace 94%

Play and facilities for Young People 15%

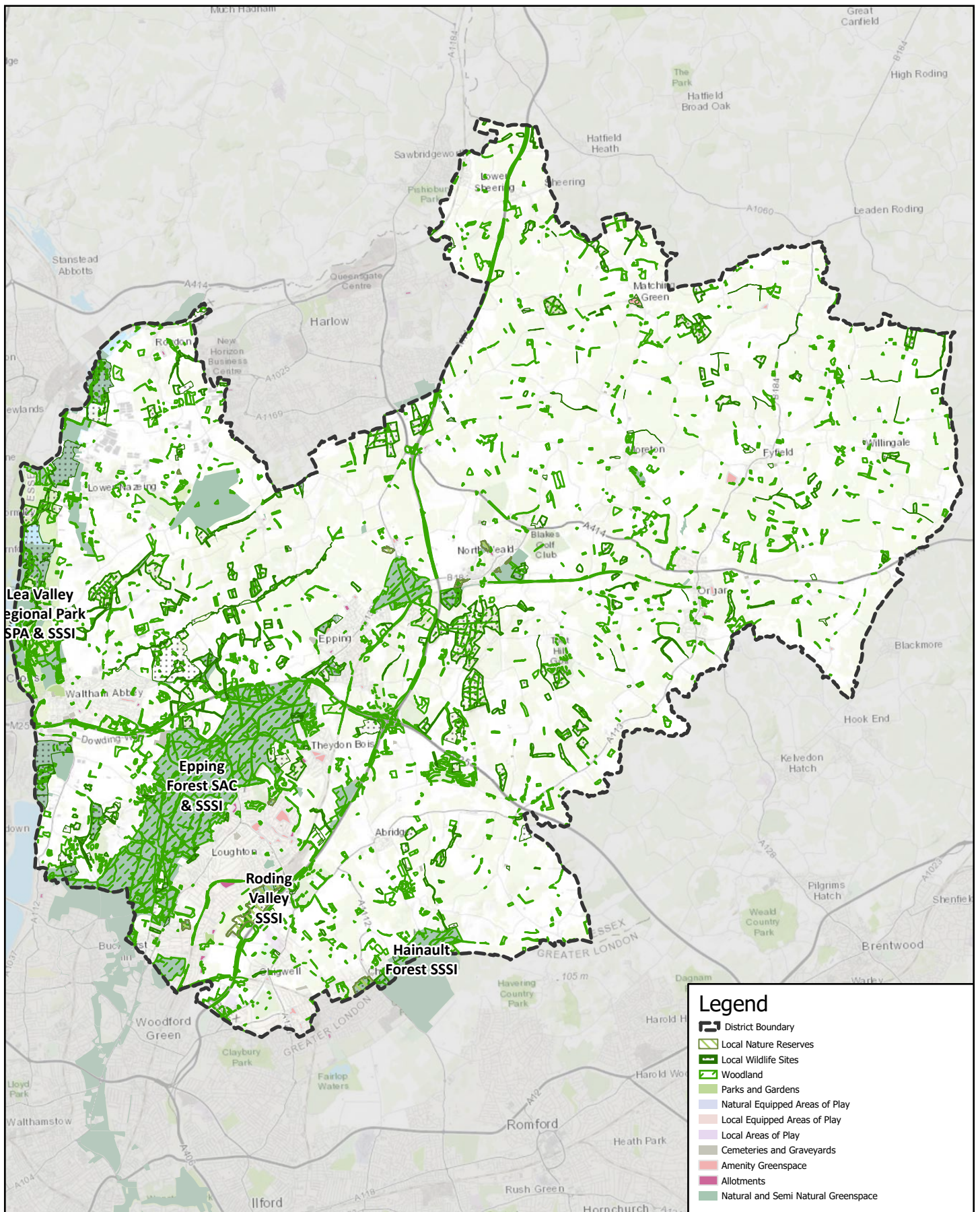
Allotments 133%

*¹ The accepted classification of Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace is something of a misnomer. No open space in Britain is truly natural as each is shaped by the humans and it is this confluence between people and nature which gives us today's landscapes which are often rich in cultural heritage. For expedience and clarity Natural or Semi-Natural Greenspace will be referred to as 'natural' open space.

0.3 ABOUT THE DISTRICT



0.3 ABOUT THE DISTRICT



Map 01: Quantity
Scale 1:135,000 @ A4

0.3 ABOUT THE DISTRICT



Map 02: Quantity ZOI
Scale 1:75,000 @ A4

0.3 ABOUT THE DISTRICT

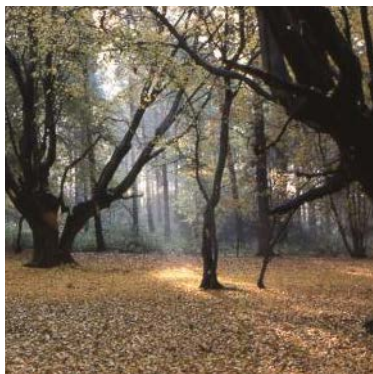
Quality

The quality of 'natural' greenspace in the District is exceptional as evidenced by the number of sites with 'high status' environmental designations including the Epping Forest SAC, the Lee Valley Special Protection Area (SPA)/Ramsar site and numerous Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI's). The District also has an extensive network of Local Wildlife Sites (LoWS) - whilst not as well-known as the Epping Forest and Lee Valley, provide a high- quality patchwork of ancient woodlands and wildlife sites.

Increasing local knowledge of the existence of these sites, improving accessibility to them and raising awareness of their natural and cultural heritage could increase their use as locally accessible greenspace as well as helping to take some pressure off assets such as the Epping Forest. In doing so there is a need to ensure that this would not cause harm to their ecological value, including to their ground flora and soils. More information can be found in the [Council's LoWS Review](#) (EB708).

Quality across some landscape types is also commonly assessed against Green Flag criteria, which evaluates greenspaces as to whether they are welcoming, accessible to all, well maintained, safe and secure. Such tools can help to measure what we should expect in terms of the quality of existing and new green and blue spaces within the District. Other assessments include those provided by the Visitor Attraction Quality Assurance Service (VAQAS), Green Heritage and Green Tourism assessments.

In addition to these assessments, the provision of new and enhancement of existing outdoor spaces should be created through the use of high quality, multifunctional design principles, as outlined in [Part 2 - Implementation: Landscape-Led Design](#).



High quality 'natural' greenspace exists in a patchwork of ancient woodland sites across the district.



Amenity greenspace in the district is characterised by mature trees and mown grass. These spaces which offer significant room for improvement both in terms of biodiversity and amenity value.



Provision for children and young people is of low quality when measured against best practice.

0.3 ABOUT THE DISTRICT

Movement

The District has an established Public Rights of Way (PRoW) network (that can be viewed using [Essex County Council's Interactive PRoW map](#)) which provides access for walkers, cyclists and horse-riders (depending on the status of the route) to many of the significant landscape and cultural heritage features in the area. The network also provides links beyond the administrative boundary of the District, including to Harlow and the Lee Valley Regional Park, and includes a variety of long- distance walks such as the Epping Forest Centenary trail, connecting the District to Greater London. Others, such as the Essex Way, provide routes east into the wider Essex area. A series of shorter trails are promoted by the Council's Countryside team, the City of London Corporation and local organisations including Parish and Town Councils and Local Access Forums.

Cycle tracks run through the Lea Valley linking into Harlow and connecting to Harlow station. To the south of the District the cycle network links into the Greater London cycle network.

There are significant physical barriers to walking, cycling and horse-riding in the District created by the M25 and M11 motorways, and railway and underground lines with a limited number of crossing places. The result is convoluted pedestrian, cycle and bridleway routes, sometimes through inhospitable environments.

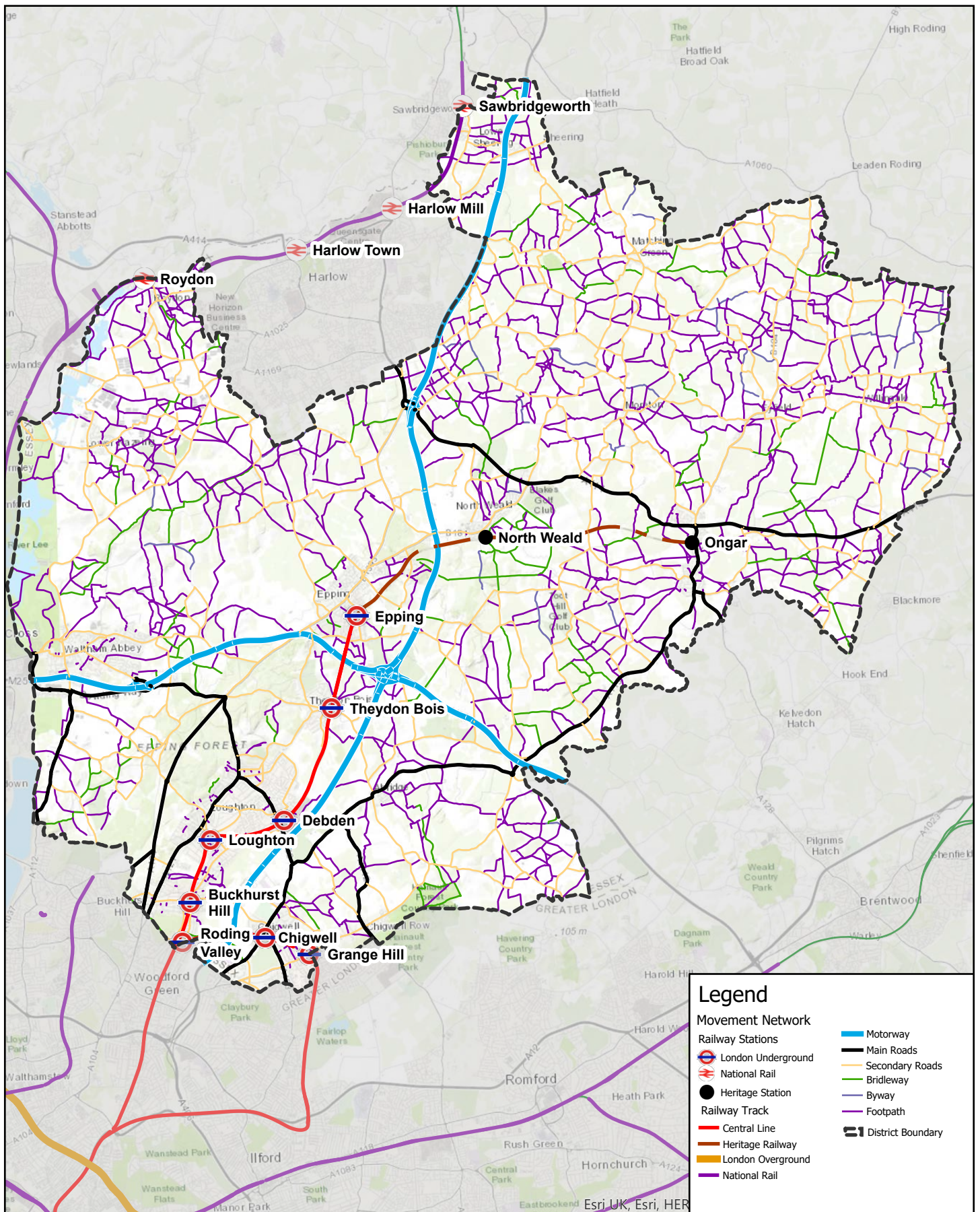
The Council recognises that making it easy for people to walk, cycle and use of public transport can help to reduce the effects of poor air quality and traffic congestion on environmentally valuable sites and local communities. The creation of well-designed multi-functional routes with a focus on creating green corridors can enhance their usability, attractiveness and support biodiversity and enhanced public realm objectives. There are gaps in the network which could be mended to further support these objectives.

Looking at ways to identify and address these fragmented parts of the walking, cycling and bridleway network will help us to work with landowners to secure real improvements to the benefit of residents of Epping Forest District.



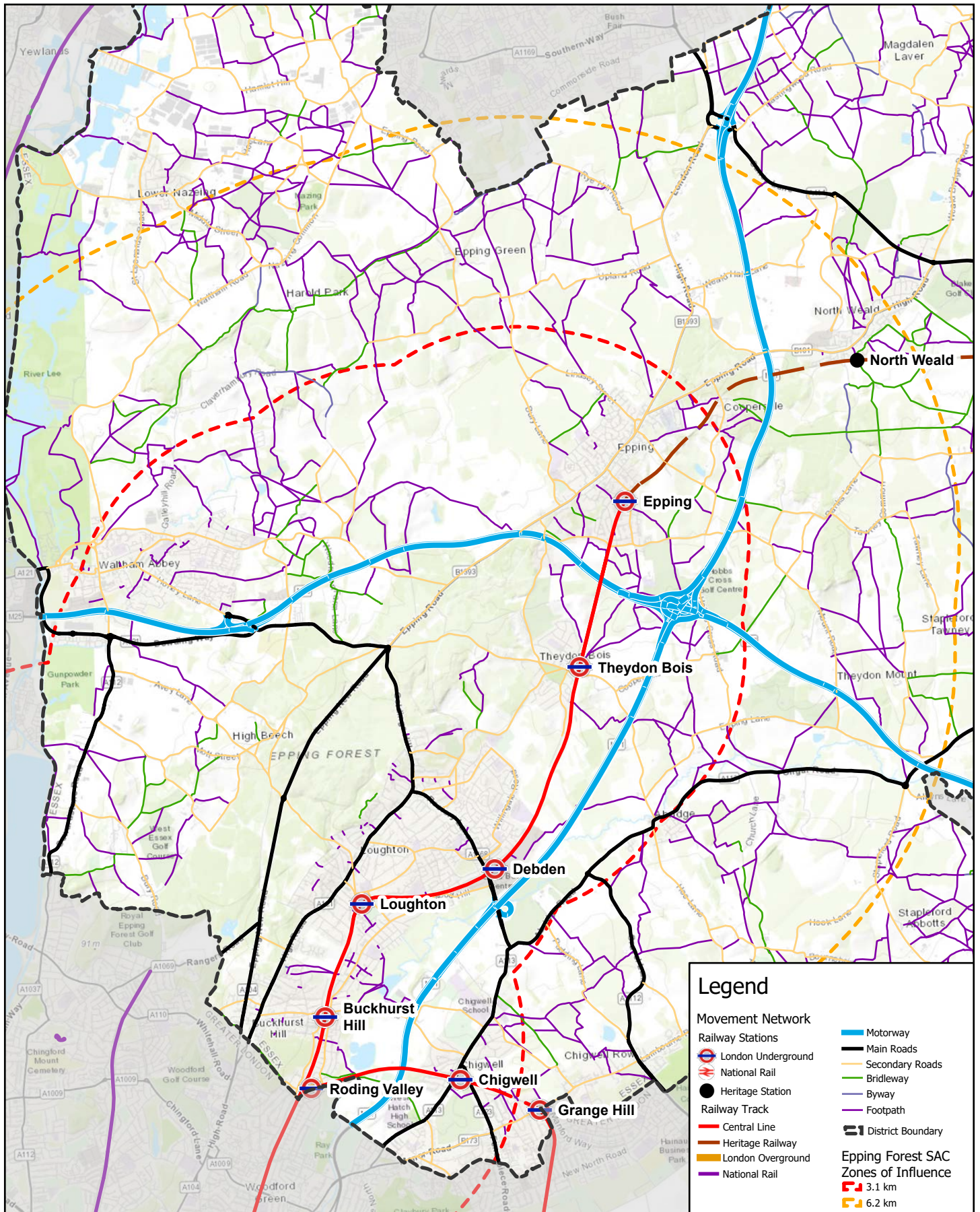
A public footpath fingerpost in Epping

0.3 ABOUT THE DISTRICT



Map 03: Movement
Scale 1:135,000 @ A4

0.3 ABOUT THE DISTRICT



Map 04: Movement ZOI
Scale 1:75,000 @ A4

0.3 ABOUT THE DISTRICT

Ecology And Carbon

The District is home to a part of the internationally designated sites of the Epping Forest SAC and the Lee Valley SPA/Ramsar, various SSSI's and a network of LoWS. A number of the LoWS within the District are designated as ancient forest and are remnants of the Essex Forest which would have once stretched across much of the District. These remaining pockets, although ecologically and culturally valuable in their own right, remain isolated in ecological terms.

The Council recognises the importance of not just focusing on ecological assets of the highest 'status', but also seeking areas for enhancement across the District. Disconnected local habitat areas provide the opportunity to create larger ecological networks of real value, re-establishing lost green links and wildlife corridors. It is important that we consider the need to increase habitats not just in response to the global biodiversity crisis but also the climate crisis. The Council declared a climate emergency in September 2019 and considers the need to increase scrub and forest cover vital in promoting carbon capture alongside biodiversity enhancement.

Management of the countryside is also changing - some projects are no longer using traditional conservation approaches such as making targeted and intensive interventions. Instead they are taking a more hands-off approach by allowing nature the space to take over. This approach is becoming more favoured and is often called 'wilding' or 're-wilding' as it seeks to restore ecosystems by reinstating natural processes and lost species - allowing nature to take care of itself.

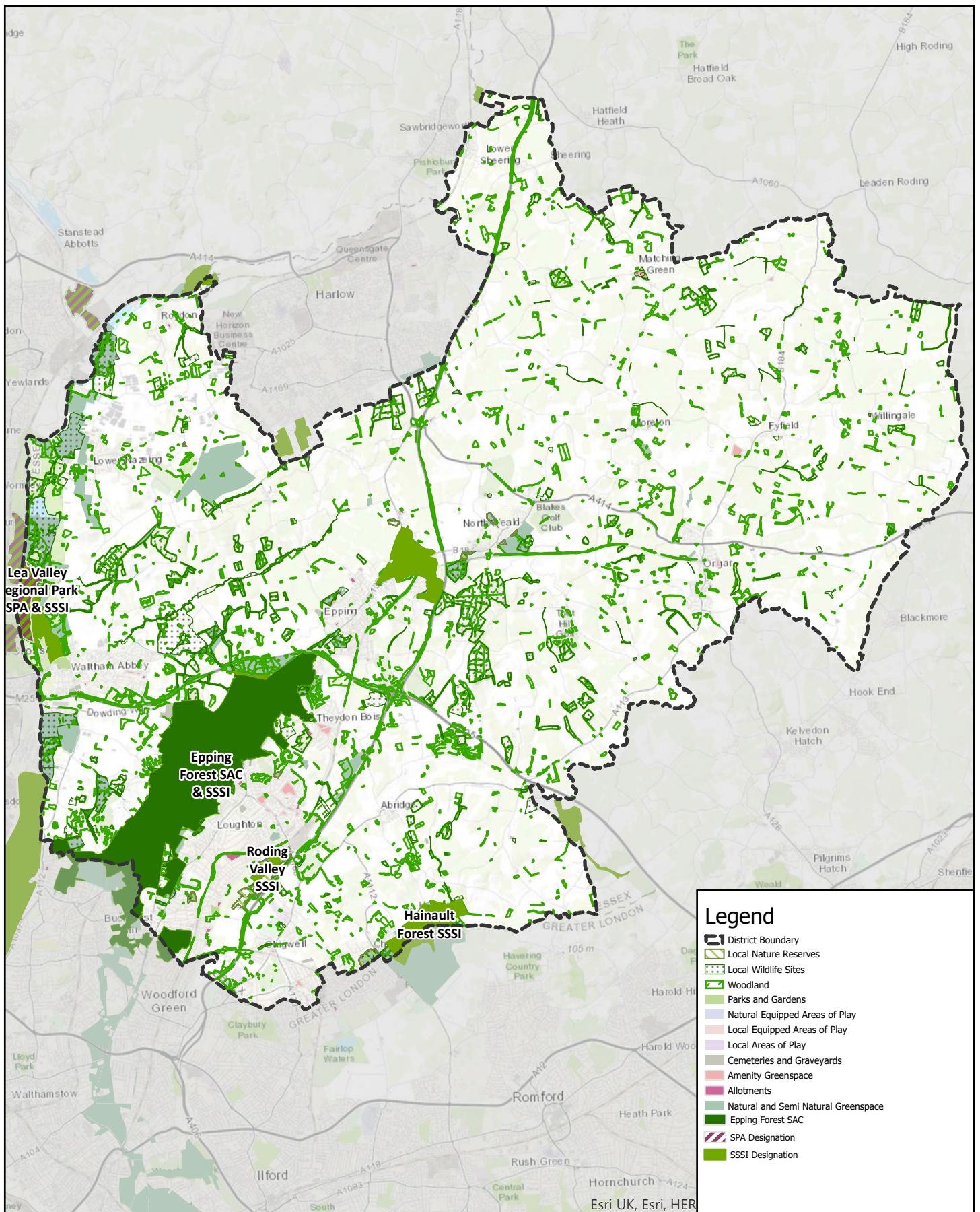
The [Government's Agriculture Act \(2020\)](#) is also proposing a different approach to subsidies. It sets out how farmers and land managers in England will "in future be paid for public goods", such as better air and water quality, improved soil health, higher animal welfare standards, public access to the countryside and measures to reduce flooding.

Within this changing context the Council will proactively encourage greater biodiversity and carbon capture across the District. To achieve this, the Council will work with partners including local communities, developers, farmers, landowners, Essex County Council, Essex Wildlife Trust and through cross boundary initiatives such as the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town Partnership and the Green Arc (One Partnership).



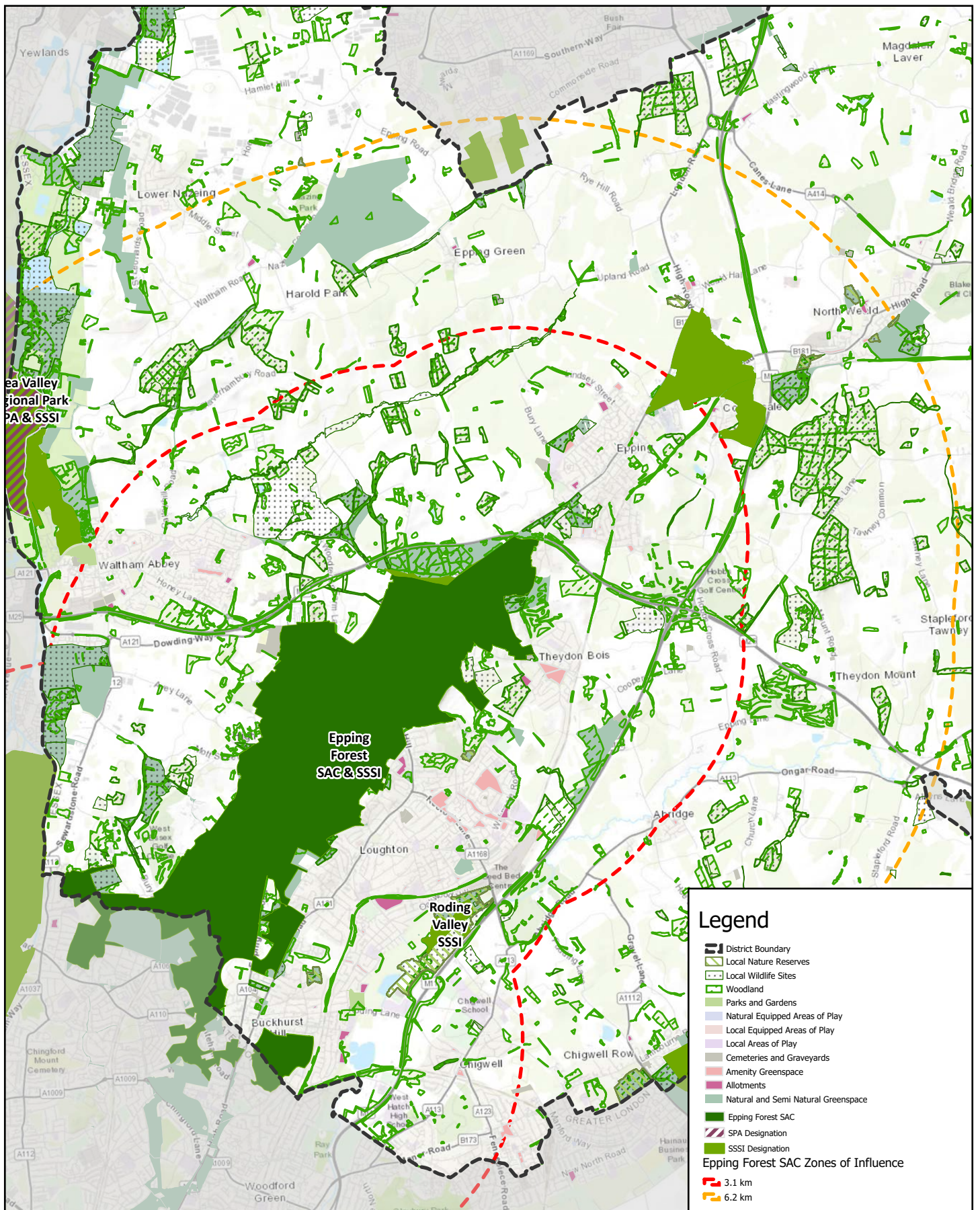
Hainault Forest SSSI

0.3 ABOUT THE DISTRICT



Map 05: Ecology
Scale 1:135,000 @ A4

0.3 ABOUT THE DISTRICT



Map 06: Ecology ZOI
Scale 1:75,000 @ A4

0.3 ABOUT THE DISTRICT

Blue Infrastructure

The District has an extensive network of Blue Infrastructure, which is in places interwoven with the pedestrian footpath network. The Strategy can support improved access to the waterside where feasible as well as assist in the improvement of water quality and drainage. Ecologically the waterways, wetlands, lakes and ponds in the District provide important habitats. These Blue Infrastructure assets and their associated terrestrial habitats and built structures provide attractive habitats for urban and rural wildlife. They also help to enhance the attractiveness and interest of the local area and provide recreational opportunities for activities such as fishing and boating. Surface water and floodwater storage is also a critical consideration in development given areas of the District have poor water infiltration due to underlying clay geology and high-water tables.

The River Roding is a narrow and winding watercourse which rises in Molehill Green near Stansted Airport in the neighbouring district of Uttlesford. The Roding has several tributaries, the most significant of which are the Cripsey Brook at Ongar and the Loughton Brook.

Water quality in the River Roding is ecologically 'poor' in the north of the District and 'moderate' where the Cripsey Brook joins the River Roding at Ongar. This 'moderate' ecological status continues all the way down to the Thames. Its chemical status is 'good' throughout. The overall water quality status is 'poor' for the Upper Roding and 'moderate' for the Middle and Lower Roding, primarily due to poor soil/nutrient management from agricultural land and as a result of sewage discharges from sewerage treatment plants. The River Roding's status is impacted primarily from poor soil/ nutrient management from agricultural land.

The River Stort runs through a small section of the northern part of the District with a catchment comprising Roydon and Broadley Common. The River Stort Navigation is a heavily modified and canalised watercourse containing inland boating and structures. The water quality is chemically 'good' but ecologically 'moderate', with sewage discharge issues and diffuse pollution due to urban development. The Stort Navigation lies to the west of the District and flows into the lower parts of the River Lea at Feildes Weir on the boundary between the counties of Essex and Hertfordshire, and at Dobbs Weir. These assets are managed by the Canal and River Trust.



River Roding



River Stort Navigation

0.3 ABOUT THE DISTRICT

The River Roding's catchment area dominates the eastern two thirds of the District and its flow changes rapidly in response to rainfall, whilst the River Lea's response is much faster to reach a risk of flooding. The River Lea's catchment occupies the western third of the District, whilst a small part of the north of the District falls into the catchment of the River Stort. In addition, the Lee Navigation, Old River Lea and Lee Flood Relief Channel follow the western boundary of the District.

The main flooding risk to Epping Forest District is fluvial flooding associated with the River Roding and River Lea. The Lee Valley Flood Relief Channel (completed in 1977) is a predominantly artificial watercourse built to carry flood waters and relieve flooding in the Lee catchment. Large parts of the District do not have formal flood defences.

Groundwater fed watercourses and springs in the District are affected by seasonal variability in rainfall and through the construction of development foundations and basements. In addition, infiltration drainage systems can in parts of the District, contribute to localised groundwater flooding.

In more rural northern parts of the District, surface water drainage tends to comprise isolated systems. When these become silted or blocked, surface water flooding can occur. In more urban parts of the District, an increase of hard, impermeable surfaces over time has led to many surface water drainage systems being unable to cope, leading to an increased frequency of surface water flooding.

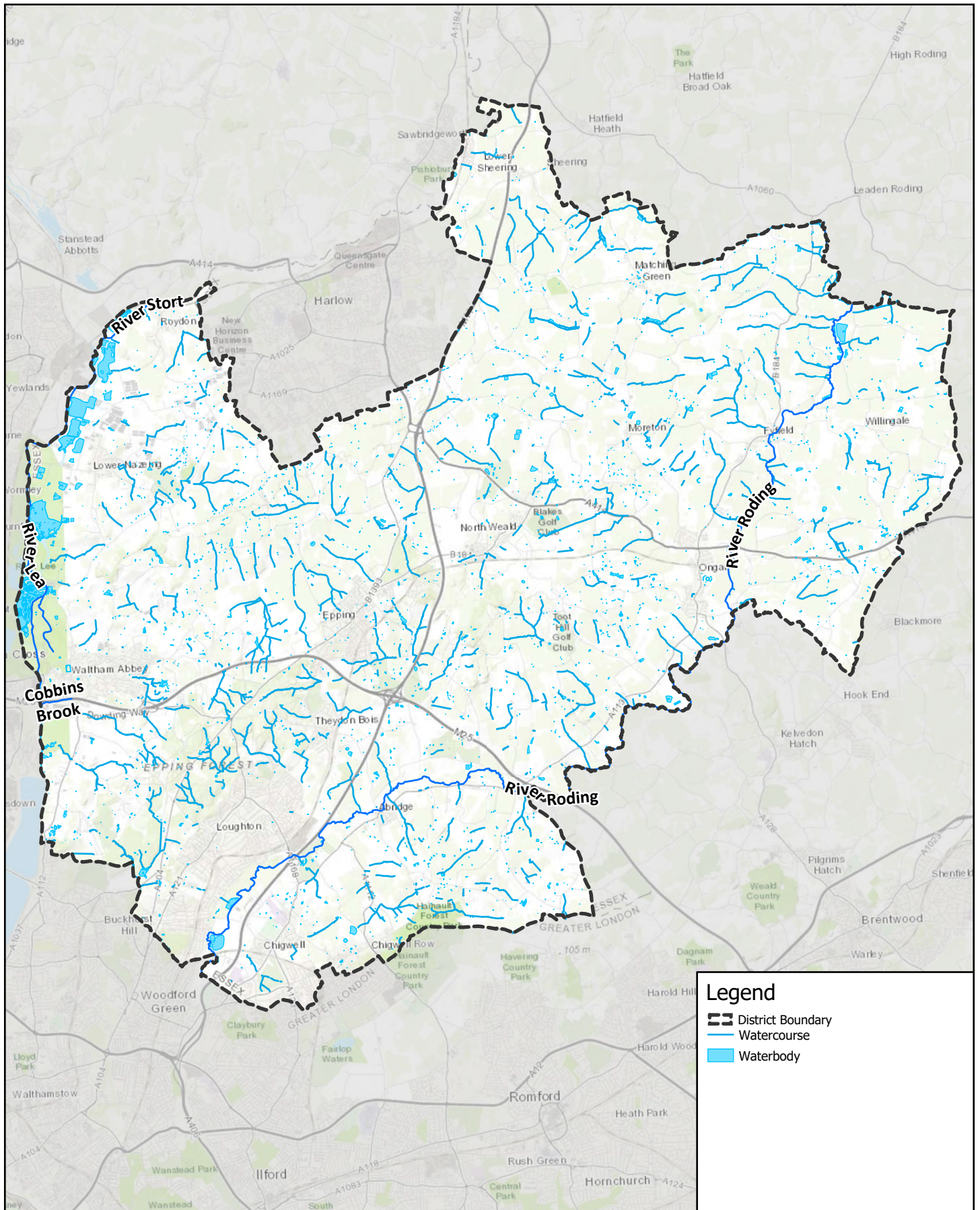
A number of reservoirs are located in the District including at Berners Hall Farm, Chigwell Row Water Works and Chigwell Washwater Lagoon, Staples Road Flood Storage Reservoir, Rye Hill No. 2 Reservoir and Cobbins Brook Flood Storage Area (FSA).

In recognition of the number of proposed allocations in the emerging Local Plan that are on greenfield sites, ensuring that they do not contribute to increased risk of flooding due to surface water run-off will be key. The preferred approach to flood risk management schemes is through the use of naturalised solutions. Within the context of the above, the Thames River Basin District Flood Risk Management Plan which covers the District, sets a number of relevant objectives to the GI Strategy including to:

- Promote the use of sustainable drainage systems in development to help reduce pressure on existing drainage networks
- Protect and enhance biodiversity through flood risk management schemes
- Restore naturally functioning river systems where possible
- Promote sustainable land use management to achieve reduction in flood risk.

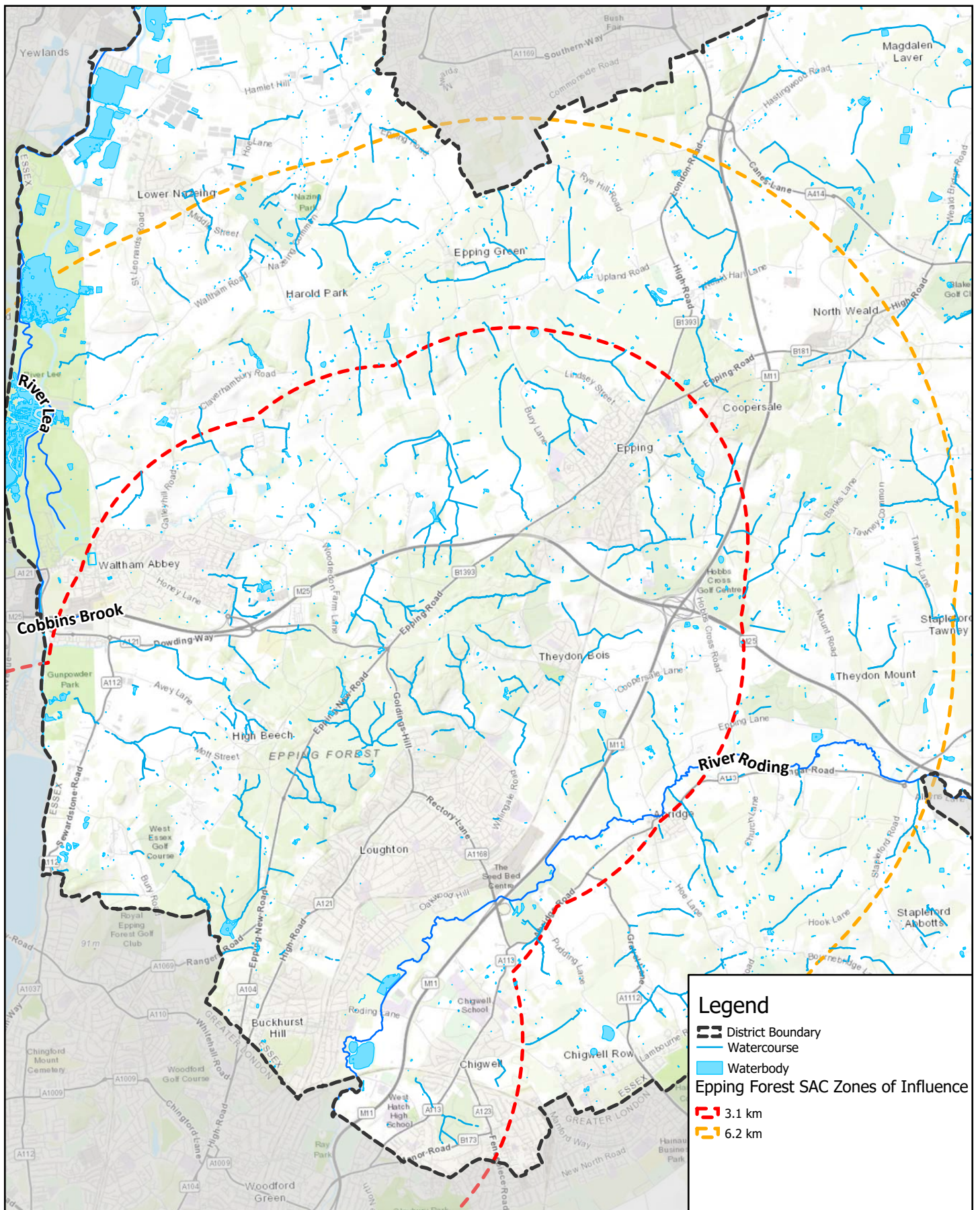
A number of other plans and strategies relevant to managing the water environment in the District include those prepared for the Lee Valley Regional Park and Harlow and Gilston Garden Town and the [River Stort Catchment Management Plan](#) (which includes projects such as the restoration of the Princey Brook).

0.3 ABOUT THE DISTRICT



Map 07: Blue Infrastructure
Scale 1:135,000 @ A4

0.3 ABOUT THE DISTRICT



Map 08: Blue Infrastructure ZOI
Scale 1:75,000 @ A4

0.3 ABOUT THE DISTRICT

Visitor Offer

The Epping Forest has long been a draw for residents in the District and beyond. However, the increasing pressure from visitors has resulted in large parts of the Forest now classified as being in 'unfavourable conservation status'. As well as the Epping Forest, the District has other landscape draws including the Lee Valley Regional Park (which incorporates the Lea Valley and important heritage assets) the Stort Valley and Hainault Forest. At a smaller scale, there is a patchwork of ancient woodland across the District with differing characteristics and a series of built and landscape heritage features. These include the Ancient Green Lanes at Latton Priory, the waterways and marshland of the Waltham Abbey SSSI and the remnant of the royal deer park at North Weald Bassett. These places are unique and deserve to be more visited where this would not impact on their ecological or heritage status.

The walks that provide access to the countryside in which these features sit are themselves a visitor attraction, including long distance walks that connect into the wider Essex area and into London. In Harlow public art acts as an attraction through the sculptures by world renowned artists including Henry Moore and Barbara Hepworth - which are promoted through [Harlow's Sculpture Trail](#) and the [Harlow Art Trust](#).



Gunpowder mill on the Waltham Abbey SSSI



Contrapuntal Forms, Harlow Sculpture Trail by Barbara Hepworth

0.3 ABOUT THE DISTRICT

Community

An important role of the Strategy is to ensure that all new and existing Green Infrastructure will respond to the needs of the resident population of the District. Compared to the rest of England, in 2011 the District had higher numbers of people aged 45-64 and 65 and over, with the proportion of people aged 65 and over in the District projected to grow substantially by 2033. Alongside this increase, the number of 30-64 year olds is projected to drop, with the number of 15-29 year olds projected to drop slightly and the proportion of people aged 0 to 14 to rise a little.

Green infrastructure should be accessible and safe to all members of the community. Whilst an aging population requires careful consideration of those with age-related impairments, younger years access and enjoyment and providing access for those with disabilities must also be integrated into the development of enhanced or new outdoor spaces. The important role of GI for local communities has become even more evident since the start of the COVID-19 crisis.

STEWARDSHIP FOR GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

0.4

Page 42

0.4 STEWARDSHIP FOR GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Maintaining Green Infrastructure

Green infrastructure assets will need to be supported by efficient and effective management and maintenance if it is to provide long term benefits and be of a high quality.

There is no central government funding specifically identified for the maintenance of GI - instead it is left to landowners. Local authorities and parish and town councils, (who have traditionally been the custodians of Green Infrastructure), have been experiencing increasing budget cuts whilst having to balance spending on a range of funding priorities including for statutory services.

As a result, open spaces and landscapes in public ownership are increasingly facing underfunding for their maintenance despite the importance of their value to communities and are relying more and more on local volunteers to help maintain them. To ensure long-term maintenance of green Infrastructure is sustainable and does not result in unreasonable cost burdens, the Strategy provides examples of potential approaches to stewardship of new spaces currently being considered by the Council as part of the work on developing stewardship models for the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town.



Maintaining new outdoor spaces and green infrastructure

0.4 STEWARDSHIP FOR GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Stewardship

Stewardship: *“ensuring that a community asset is properly looked after in perpetuity”*

[TCPA \(2014\) Built Today, Treasured Tomorrow](#)

The right stewardship model will provide benefits for communities, developers, landowners and public bodies involved in the long-term management of Green Infrastructure assets.

For communities it means putting people at the heart of delivering successful places, by ensuring that long-term maintenance and management arrangements are in place to ensure that they continue to be of a high quality.

For developers, it creates confidence that any assets provided as part of a development, or where they have made a contribution towards the provision and management of Green Infrastructure assets, that they will be maintained to a high quality for the long term, with place-making at its heart and support the marketability of their development.

For public bodies, it can help to reduce long-term financial liabilities and therefore provides greater value for the community of Epping Forest District.

The Council has assessed a number of stewardship options and has identified **two potential stewardship models** that best meet these principles and objectives. These stewardship model options include:

- **Community Interest Company** - A company which must trade and use its assets for a social purpose, to benefit the community
- **Community Land Trust** - An organisation backed by a trust which is controlled by the community for the benefit of the community

In the following pages, examples of where these stewardship models have been successful are provided, and further details of the strengths and weaknesses of each can be found in the [HGGT Stewardship Advice Stage 2 Report, June 2020](#).

In any stewardship of Green Infrastructure, the Council expects a key principle to be community engagement and involvement in the shaping and management of outdoor spaces. Whilst the following options are not exhaustive, they provide a starting point for exploring potential stewardship models appropriate for new green infrastructure.

0.4 STEWARDSHIP FOR GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Community Interest Company (CIC)

The [HGGT Stewardship Advice Stage 2 Report, June 2020](#) defines a Community Interest Company as:

'... a limited company that trades for a social purpose or the benefit of the community.'

This type of stewardship model would be appropriate for the future management and maintenance of new green infrastructure in large developments and strategic masterplan areas.

An example of where this type of approach has been adopted is at Monksmoor Park in Daventry, Northamptonshire - a new, edge-of-town development of 1000 homes with associated open spaces, green links and public realm.

The CIC's members include homeowners, school providers, registered providers of affordable homes and commercial property owners within the development, as well as the developer as founding member. Green infrastructure asset ownership was transferred from the developer to the CIC upon completion of construction and is managed for the long-term benefit of the community it serves. Funds are raised through service charges and an initial 'set-up' payment of £100,000 by the developer.

Full details of this case study can be found in the [HGGT Stewardship Advice Stage 2 Report, June 2020](#).

Epping Forest District Council is currently in the process of setting up a CIC. During its establishment, it may be found to be appropriate that some open spaces and Green Infrastructure could be acquired and managed by the Council's CIC in the future.



Monksmoor Park in Daventry, Northamptonshire

0.4 STEWARDSHIP FOR GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Community Land Trust

The [HGGT Stewardship Advice Stage 2 Report, June 2020](#) defines a Community Land Trust as:

'... a community-controlled organisation backed by a trust, which acquires and manages assets for the benefit of the local community.'

This type of stewardship model would also be appropriate for the future management and maintenance of new Green Infrastructure assets proposed as part of large developments and strategic masterplan areas.

An example of where this approach has been adopted is Countryside and L&Q's residential development at Beaulieu, Chelmsford. They chose the Land Trust to take over the ownership and management of the 72 hectares of Green Infrastructure that was being provided as part of a development of 3600 new homes - including parks, village greens, orchards, meadows, community gardens and playgrounds.

The following stewardship principles in relation to green infrastructure were established:

- creating, restoring and managing green spaces to improve the natural environment through increasing biodiversity and enhancing habitats;
- promoting the use of green spaces for the improvement of the health and wellbeing of communities;
- inspiring the current and next generation through vocational outdoor education and training opportunities;
- optimising the economic values of spaces and the services that they can provide to benefit the communities that are connected with them;
- involving local people through volunteering and use of sites and encouraging emotional ownership; and
- well managed green open spaces provide multiple benefits for people.

Full details of this case study can be found in the [HGGT Stewardship Advice Stage 2 Report, June 2020](#). The Community Land Trust approach would also be appropriate for the stewardship of Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG).



Beaulieu in Chelmsford, Essex

FUNDING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

0.5

Page 47

0.5 FUNDING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Funding Projects In The Long Term

Green Infrastructure projects and assets need funding for both their delivery (capital) and their maintenance and management in the long-term (capital and revenue). The latter is normally undertaken by an identified stewardship body.

The sustainable, long-term success of a stewardship model can only be achieved with an effective means of long-lasting funding, including through income generation. Two types of funding/finance are usually required for projects and to support the stewardship body:

Capital investment - which can take a number of forms:

- development capital – required at the start of the organisation and for any new plans/ projects;
- growth capital – required for purchase, development or refurbishment of assets; and
- working capital – required to support an uneven cash flow.

Revenue stream – income required to cover every day running costs and repay any borrowing.

There are a number of mechanisms and sources that can be utilised to secure funding for capital investment and to generate a revenue stream. The funding mechanisms include:

- section 106 funding
- grants and endowments;
- income earned from trading;
- public sector funding;
- resident charges;
- charitable funding; and
- loans and equity finance.

Section 106 Funding

The principle source for funding capital projects and the on-going revenue support for stewardship bodies for Green Infrastructure associated with development proposals is from monies secured through the development process such as through Section 106 planning obligations. These will be used to secure funding for the provision and ongoing management of community assets.

Some green and blue infrastructure projects and costs have already been included within the Council's Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP).

0.5 FUNDING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Funding Of Community-Led Projects

Funding opportunities other than through the developer contributions system are available for smaller scale projects, including for those initiated by community groups. This includes charitable and grant funding. Some funding schemes require an element of 'match funding' either in the form of a financial contribution or people's time.

The Council award grants to organisations involved in providing community work, cultural or sport activities that improve the well-being of residents in the Epping Forest district. More information on [Grant Aid](#) can be found on our website.

The Big Lottery Fund gives out millions of pounds from the National Lottery to good causes every year. Funding goes to community, environment, health and education projects. The [Big Lottery Fund's 'Awards for All'](#) programme funds small, community-based projects across the UK.

The [National Lottery Heritage Fund](#) operates a number of funds for both capital and revenue activities, including 'Local Places for Nature' and 'Community Woodlands' funds. [Groundwork](#) provide grants for local community environmental projects across the UK as well as specifically listing those available in the East of England. Fields in Trust provide a useful list of suggested [funding resources for Community Park Projects](#).

The gov.uk website provides details of possible grants from a number of Government Departments including Health; the Home Office; Education and Skills; and Transport. Government funding opportunities include the [Urban Tree Challenge Fund](#), which supports the planting and establishment of small trees in urban and adjacent areas in England.



Groundwork's Community Food Growing Hubs

0.5 FUNDING GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Funding Mechanism	Funding Source	Description
Endowments	Development process	Endowments from the planning and development processes including: S106 agreements and CIL.
	Gifts/donations	Large endowments from philanthropists or foundations. This can be land, property or a financial endowment.
Income earned from trading	Through an asset	Income earned through utilising an asset, e.g. income from hiring out premises.
	Selling goods and services	Providing goods and services for a fee.
Public sector funding	Grant or subsidy	Funding from on-going statutory budgets, time limited programmes (e.g. regeneration programmes), sector specific subsidies. Can be provided as capital grants or revenue grants.
	Landlord rents	'Peppercorn' rents charged by public sector landlords which functions to save money, reducing revenue costs and releasing funding for capital investment.
	Commissioning of services	Public sector commissioning of services defined by commissioning body.
	National Lottery	Time-limited grant funding annually through a wide range of programmes.
Resident charges	Service charges	Charges levied by landlords/management companies to cover costs of provision and maintenance of shared space detailed in leasehold agreement. Can apply to residential and commercial property.
	Estate management scheme charges	Landlords retain some management control over assets in cases where freehold has been sold to leaseholders. If a scheme is used to provide for upkeep of shared facilities it may permit recovery of charges (rent charges or contractual arrangements).
Charitable funding	Grants from foundations	Grants from a range of charitable institutions, which may be one-off in nature.
	Donations from individuals	Donations and legacies from public fundraising initiatives. Level of funding secured is usually dependent upon body's profile and ability to compete for funding.
Loans and equity finance	Equity and quasi-equity	Public investment of shares in CIC or CS with a limit of £20,000 per individual for co-operative investment. Financial intermediaries can also invest.
	Bonds	A small number of bond issues are raising finance to support charities and social enterprises.
	Social impact bonds	Social investors pay for the project at the start and then receive payments based on the results achieved by the project.
	Loans	Traditional loans or specific sector loans such as the Public Works Loan.
Community Land Trust Funds	Loans and Grants	Feasibility Fund Technical Assistance Fund Investment Fund

Above: Table 01 showing different funding mechanisms and sources, from the HGGT Stewardship Advice Stage 2 Report, June 2020. It should be noted that the mechanisms available will be influenced by the type and purpose of the asset and the legal form of the stewardship body. Therefore, these funding mechanisms may not be appropriate for all assets or if particular legal forms are selected for the stewardship body.

VISION AND OBJECTIVES

0.6

Page 51

0.6 VISION AND OBJECTIVES

Having considered the legislative and policy context together with an understanding of the current issues and opportunities in relation to GI within the District the Council's Vision for GI is that:

By 2033 a well-connected network of Green and Blue Infrastructure will have been created and secured for the future to ensure that both existing and new communities are supported by high-quality, well-maintained multi-functional spaces which are safe and sociable, support peoples' health and wellbeing, and are accessible to all.

The District's important ecological, natural heritage and landscape assets will have been protected and enhanced and links to the wider area will have been strengthened. Net gains in carbon capture and biodiversity will have been achieved and a design-led approach to the provision and integration of Green and Blue Infrastructure will have been at the heart of creating the District's new places.



Church Lane Flood Meadows, near North Weald Bassett

0.6 VISION AND OBJECTIVES

In order to deliver the Vision our objectives are:

1. To protect the District's Green and Blue Infrastructure assets (including those of ecological importance and heritage value). We will do this by resisting development on GI assets which conflict with our Local Plan policies and secure contributions from new development where it will put additional pressure on existing assets to invest in projects to mitigate any impacts.

2. To enhance the quality, attractiveness and functionality of the District's existing Green and Blue Infrastructure. We will do this by:

- Working with local communities and providing Council resources to help deliver local projects;
- Working with partners to implement initiatives such as the creation of wildflower verges and by tapping into available funding.

3. To secure long-term carbon sequestration and enhancement of biodiversity. We will do this both through applying our local plan policies robustly in respect of new development through the determination of planning applications. We will also invest in tree planting and bring forward sites on Council owned land, including in North Weald, in response to the climate and biodiversity crisis.

4. To ensure that existing and new Green and Blue Infrastructure is well-connected both within the District and beyond to enhance the extent of the network. We will do this by working with neighbouring local authorities and other public bodies and partnerships to deliver 'larger than local' projects such as through the 'Green Arc' partnership, the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town and the Lee Valley Regional Park Authority.

5. To ensure that existing and new Green and Blue Infrastructure is well-connected to the communities it serves, provides choice in the range of opportunities available and is accessible to all regardless of age or physical ability. We will do this by assessing all projects to ensure that they comply with Equalities principles and engage with organisations who can provide invaluable advice on how to engage different sections of our communities including our Youth Groups and Access Forum.

6. To embed a landscape led approach to the design of new Green and Blue Infrastructure as part of new development to secure the delivery of high-quality spaces which enable communities to have active, healthy and sociable lifestyles. We will do this by rigorously applying our planning policies and guidance in the Masterplanning and determination of planning applications.

7. To ensure that appropriate funding and management mechanisms are in place to sustain the long-term future of Green and Blue Infrastructure. We will do this as part of assessing planning applications to ensure that funding is adequate and that management arrangements are robust and have longevity.

8. To effect positive change guided by local communities and the custodians of Green and Blue Infrastructure. We will do this by engaging with local communities and our partners on an on-going basis and through timely and on-going monitoring and review of this strategy.

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY

IMPLEMENTATION: ENHANCING OUR EXISTING NETWORK



You should read this document after reading
[The Primer](#) if you are:

A Local Resident / Community Group /
Parish Council / Authority Officer
with an interest in initiating or implementing
green infrastructure projects

CONTENTS

How To Use This Document	55
1.1 DISTRICT-WIDE PROJECTS	57
Overview	58
Strategic Projects: Movement and Wayfinding	59
Strategic Projects: Roadside Wildflowers	60
Community Based, Council Supported: Tree Planting - A Call For Sites	61
Community Based, Council Supported: Community Greenspace Improvements	62
Projects To Encourage Engagement With Green Infrastructure: Art In The Landscape	63
Projects For Small Scale Developments	64
1.2 STEWARDSHIP FOR DISTRICT-WIDE PROJECTS	67
Strategic Projects: Movement and Wayfinding	68
Strategic Projects: Roadside Wildflowers	69
Community Based, Council Supported: Tree Planting - A Call For Sites	70
Community Based, Council Supported: Community Greenspace Improvements	71
Projects To Encourage Engagement With Green Infrastructure: Art In The Landscape	72

HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

Purpose of the Strategy

The purpose of the Strategy is to ensure a strategic and holistic approach is taken to protecting, maintaining and enhancing the ecology, landscape and heritage in the District.

The Primer (Part 0) provides an overview of the Strategy and its purpose, commentary on the existing Green Infrastructure assets in the District, and the Vision and Objectives of the Strategy. The other Parts of the Strategy should be read in conjunction with the Primer. These are:

This Part provides guidance on:

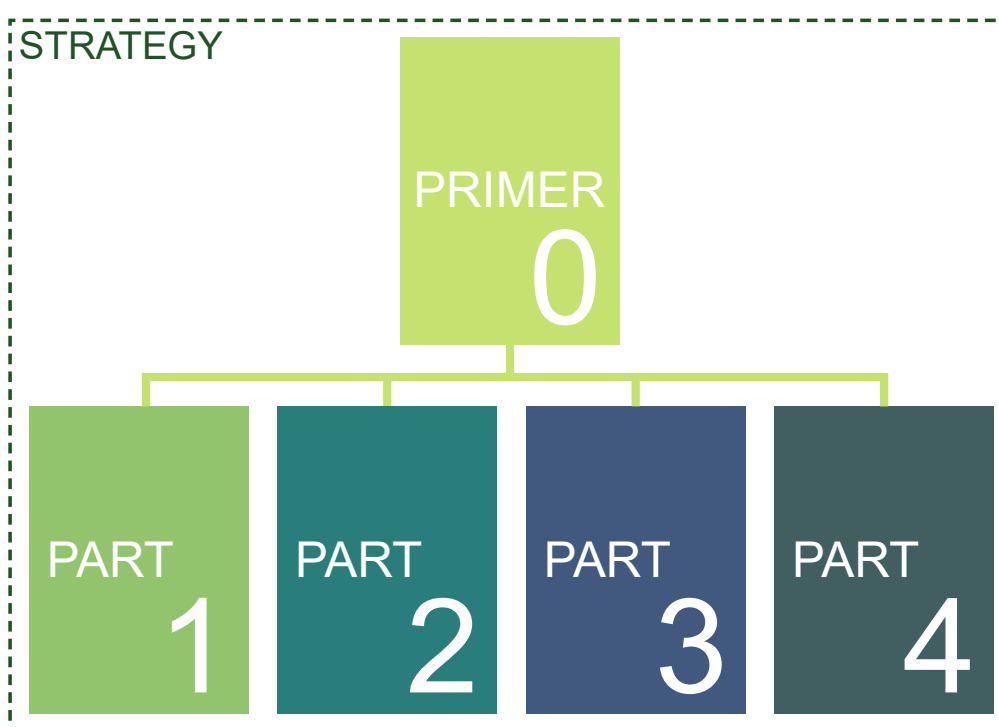
1. Implementation: Enhancing our Existing Network

It provides:

- A list of potential District-wide projects to enhance existing Green Infrastructure at both strategic and community-led scales
- Initiatives that can be incorporated into small-scale development schemes
- Information on maintenance and stewardship for relevant projects of this type
- Information on funding for relevant projects of this type

The other Parts of the Strategy cover:

2. Implementation: Landscape-Led Design
3. Implementation: Green Infrastructure in Strategic Allocations
4. Implementation: Infrastructure Enhancement Projects



HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

Who will use the Strategy and Part 1?

The Strategy comprises four Parts. Anyone using the Strategy and the associated guidance and projects should read the Primer first, to familiarise themselves with the purpose, context and vision of the Strategy.

This Part of the Strategy (1. Implementation: Enhancing our Existing Network) is primarily for local residents, community groups, parish and town councils, and council officers with an interest in initiating and implementing Green Infrastructure projects. It should also be used by planning applicants preparing smaller scale development proposals. It provides ideas and advice on how to take local projects forward or where there is a need to introduce Green Infrastructure provision into a development proposal.

When to use this document?

If you are interested in initiating or delivering a local, community-led, or strategic project which seeks to enhance the existing Green Infrastructure network within or across the District, this document will help provide ideas and guidance on how to plan for, collaborate, fund and maintain these types of projects.

DISTRICT-WIDE PROJECTS

1.1

1.1 DISTRICT-WIDE PROJECTS

Overview

This Part of the Strategy looks at ways we can enhance the District's existing Green infrastructure network. The projects that can contribute to this objective are set out in the following pages and guidance acts as briefs for each one. They can be implemented across the District to enhance our existing landscapes across a variety of scales. The projects are divided into four types:

- Strategic Projects
- Community Initiated Projects
- Projects to Encourage Engagement with Green infrastructure
- Projects for Small Scale Developments

In the future, more District-wide projects will be identified and briefs for them will be included as part of future updates to the Strategy.

Strategic Projects

These projects are of a District scale or need coordination across the District. These are:

- Movement and Wayfinding
- Roadside Wildflowers

Community Initiated Projects

These projects are appropriate for implementation across the District but would be initiated by local communities, including by town and parish councils, with support from the Council. These are:

- Tree Planting - A Call for Sites
- Community Greenspace Improvements

Projects to Encourage Engagement with Green infrastructure

This project aims to increase the numbers and diversify the range of people using the District's Green infrastructure network:

- Art in the Landscape

Projects for Small Scale Developments

All planning applications are required to comply with the Council's local plan policies. All development schemes, no matter how small, are capable of making a positive contribution to the enhancement of Green Infrastructure across the District. This Section provides further information on the types of initiatives that can be incorporated into these types of schemes.

1.1 DISTRICT-WIDE PROJECTS

Strategic Projects

Movement And Wayfinding

The Project

Developing and supporting the implementation of a Strategy for the enhancement of the District's Public Rights of Way (PRoW) network to make it more legible, accessible and useable by everyone.

Why?

To ensure new and existing communities have better access to high-quality and local green and blue spaces and to create connections between the District's communities. The approach supports a number of objectives including in relation to health and well-being and carbon reduction.

What Does Success Look Like?

The implementation of a coherent set of initiatives which have resulted in the provision of improved signage, removal of physical barriers to support access for all, provided more complete routes across the PRoW network and the introduction of maintenance regimes. The District's PRoW network will have been made safer, more visible, coherent and accessible for all as a result.

How Do We Get There?

By commissioning a consultant team with expertise in wayfinding design and landscape architecture - to design, develop and construct a series of wayfinding interventions across the District. This will be supported by raising awareness and promotion of routes and working with landowners to join up missing parts of the network and ensure that routes across private land is clearly defined.

Key Stakeholders

- Town and Parish Councils
- EFDC's Countrycare team
- Essex County Council Highways
- Local User Groups
- Sustrans
- Landowners
- Developers

Potential Funding Sources

- Highways England
- Essex Country Council
- Government Active Travel Grants
- Town and Parish Council precepts
- Section 106 planning obligations

Approximate cost (per square meter)

£70-650 (depending on level of works)



Walthamstow Wetlands by Kinnear Landscape Architects



Borough Highstreet by East Architecture

1.1 DISTRICT-WIDE PROJECTS

Strategic Projects

Roadside Wildflowers

The Project

To implement cutting regimes for roadside verges, and undertake the seeding of areas, to provide for the creation of wildflower verges.

Why?

To tackle the climate and biodiversity crises, by providing long-term benefits for people, wildlife and ecology and improving the visual amenity of the District.

What Does Success Look Like?

The successful implementation of a management approach which results in an improvement in the natural capital of the District and the creation of wildlife corridors.

How Do We Get There?

- The Council will work with Essex County Council and Highways England (both of which have statutory biodiversity duties) to identify verges and roadside areas that are appropriate for wildflower planting. Opportunities to expand Essex County Council's Special Roadside Verges scheme will be explored. The project will include encouraging the implementation of a species-appropriate seeding programme and/or the establishment of mowing regimes for the relevant organisation responsible for maintaining the verges to implement to support wildflower growth. In doing so consideration will be given to keeping junction verges clear of taller planting to allow for safe visibility splays.
- Encourage local communities to identify local opportunities for highway verge wildflower planting.
- Publicising the approach to support awareness raising.

Key Stakeholders

- Local communities
- Town and Parish Councils
- EFDC's Countrycare
- Essex County Council
- Highways England
- Essex Wildlife Trust

Potential Funding Sources

- Existing highway maintenance budgets
- Plantlife
- Biffa Award for Rebuilding Biodiversity

Approximate cost (per square meter)

£2-7 (depending on seeding or turfing options)



Roadside wildflowers in Sheffield



Roadside meadow planting in Leeds

1.1 DISTRICT-WIDE PROJECTS

Community Based, Council Supported

Tree Planting - A Call For Sites

The Project

Boosting the District's tree canopy cover with new tree planting on appropriate sites identified by the community. Tree planting can be on rural or urban sites, and can range in scale from just a few trees to improve a local greenspace, to extensive woodland planting projects.

Why?

To tackle the climate and biodiversity crises, providing long-term benefits for people, wildlife and ecology and enhance the visual amenity of the District.

What Does Success Look Like?

Improved quality of outdoor spaces and places and carbon capture through well considered tree planting and helping to deliver the next generation of big trees in the District.

How Do We Get There?

- The Council will put out a call for sites via social media and engagement platforms
- Communities to respond with potential sites they have seen where this approach could be adopted so the Council can assess the results to compile a list of sites to take forward
- The Council, in partnership with parish and town councils and community groups, will help to implement tree planting using 'Right Tree Right Place' principles and arrange appropriate stewardship for long-term success
- The Council will work with Essex County Council to explore opportunities to co-ordinate schemes as part of its Tree Planting Forest Initiative

Key Stakeholders

- Town / Parish Councils and Community Groups
- Epping Forest District's Hedgerow and Tree Wardens
- Essex County Council
- GreenArc Partners
- Schools
- Landowners and developers

Potential Sources of Funding

- Woodland Trust
- Forestry Commission
- Essex Forest Initiative

Approximate cost (per square meter)

£86-390 (depending on specification of tree and planting density)



New tree planting in urban 'Forest' by Spacehub



New woodland creation at Heartwood Forest, Hertfordshire

1.1 DISTRICT-WIDE PROJECTS

Community Based, Council Supported Community Greenspace Improvements

The Project

Improving local greenspaces through a community-led design approach, by developing a toolkit of guidance on initiatives and stewardship strategies. The toolkit may include elements such as: introducing relaxed mowing regimes, provision of seating, bins, growing beds, improved boundary treatments, drainage and natural play elements (such as mounds, logs and boulders). Guidance on how to create spaces that are designed to be used by all, including for those with special needs and dementia will also be provided.

Why?

Well-designed and multifunctional greenspaces can make people happier, healthier and bring communities together. Developing a resource for communities will make it easier for them to bring forward local projects.

What Does Success Look Like?

An increased use of enhanced local greenspace by a range of ages, backgrounds and abilities within the community. An improved feeling of civic pride and sense of community are amongst the social benefits of these projects, whilst environmental gains can be made through biodiversity enhancement.

How Do We Get There?

- The Council will seek nominations from community-based organisations to establish a trial project. The identified project should have the potential for the creation of a greenspace which is capable of incorporating a significant number of the elements identified above. There will also need to be a clear commitment by the community organisation to engaging in both the development of the toolkit and the implementation of initiatives.
- Advice will be provided by the Council and its Countrycare Service in relation to any maintenance, stewardship and funding applications.

Key Stakeholders

- Community Groups
- Community Champions
- EFDC's Countrycare
- Town and Parish Councils

Potential Sources of Funding

- The National Lottery Community Fund
- Groundwork
- Section 106 planning obligations
- Town and Parish Council precepts

Approximate cost (per square meter)
£44-196 (average)



Drapers Field, Waltham Forest by Kinnear Landscape Architects



Warpole Park, Ealing by J&L Gibbons

1.1 DISTRICT-WIDE PROJECTS

Projects to Encourage Engagement with Green Infrastructure

Art In The Landscape

The Project

To develop a network of high-quality art across the District, which is integrated into the landscape and builds on Harlow's Sculpture Trail.

Why?

Well-designed and multifunctional greenspaces can make people happier, healthier and bring communities together. 'Art in the Landscape' can also act as a visitor attraction, helping to draw people away from existing spaces which are under pressure from visitors (including the Epping Forest), and encourage people into the countryside for the first time. It also has the potential to showcase the skills of local artists and makers.

What Does Success Look Like?

The introduction of high-quality art which has been sensitively sited in the landscape for all to access and enjoy. Artwork could come from local artists or artists from elsewhere, well-known or lesser-known artists, could be temporary or permanent and could vary from sculpture to theatre. Any artwork should respond to its surroundings, be meaningful to its location, and enhance a visitor's connection to the landscape.

How Do We Get There?

By establishing a working group which includes experts in public art curation and landscape architecture, whilst ensuring community groups are involved and engaged throughout the process.

Key Stakeholders

- Town and Parish Councils
- Local Educational and Art Programmes
- Local Schools
- Harlow Arts Trust
- Landowners and developers

Potential Sources of Funding

- Arts Council England
- Heritage Fund
- Section 106 planning obligations



Nuria and Irma, Yorkshire Sculpture Park by Jaume Plensa



Theydon Bois Earthwork, Richard Harris for The Woodland Trust

1.1 DISTRICT-WIDE PROJECTS

Projects for Small-Scale Developments

The following projects are aimed at smaller scale residential developments of 10 homes or fewer. The projects allow these sites to develop a Green Infrastructure network which is appropriate to the scale of the development, and contribute to the District's effort to combat the climate and biodiversity crises.

Back Garden Wildlife Corridors

Private gardens are a significant contributor to urban greening - streets of houses are often accompanied by corridors of back gardens. Collectively they form a valuable resource to wildlife by being planted with a wide variety of trees, shrubs, fruiting specimens and flowering plants and creating wildlife corridors.

Tall and impermeable garden boundaries can restrict wildlife movement between gardens, meaning many small mammals and invertebrates are not able to move freely within a Back Garden Wildlife Corridor. Garden boundaries that allow wildlife to travel from garden to garden are important in all residential sites, especially smaller sites where there may not be significant areas for green infrastructure provision.

Boundaries could be planted with mixed, native hedging to allow better wildlife movement. If timber fencing is preferred, it could be detailed with gaps or 'holes' at ground level to allow creatures to climb through.

Typical cost: **£20-125 per linear m** (depending on type and height)

Roofscapes as Landscapes

Green and biodiverse roofs provide an excellent alternative to more standard roofing materials - both visually and ecologically. They can be installed on flat or pitched roofs, and can be planted with a mix of sedums and wildflowers. For maximum biodiversity impact, the substrate should vary in depth.

By installing green or biodiverse roofs, a significant proportion of a site can contribute to Biodiversity Net Gain, where it would have otherwise not done so. Planted roofs can also be used alongside water harvesting and blue roof systems.

Typical cost: **£200-230 per sqm**



Wildlife-friendly garden fencing



Biodiverse roof with sedum, wildflowers and hibernaculum

1.1 DISTRICT-WIDE PROJECTS

Refuges for Wildlife

Man-made hibernaculum are places where wildlife can seek refuge, and they can be easily integrated into all sites. Bird and bat boxes can be integrated into building facades, whereas bug hotels and stripped logs can be placed on green / biodiverse roofs. Hibernaculum can even be used as a sculptural element within greenspaces.

Typical cost: **£30-80 each** (depending on type)

Planting for Biodiversity

All proposed planting should be diverse in species, form and seasonality. The best plantings for biodiversity recreate natural environments based on the microclimate of the location - for example, a shady, sheltered area would suit a native woodland-inspired planting design, whereas a sunny, windy spot would suit a prairie-style planting design.

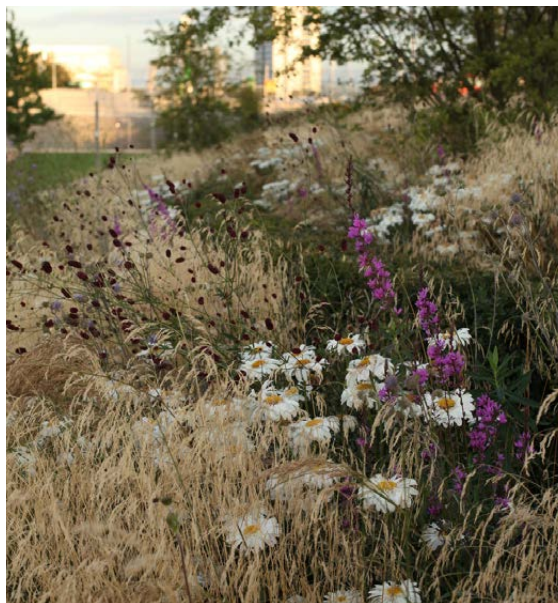
Proposed plantings should maximise their benefit to invertebrates and pollinators with a mix of native and non-native plants, with diverse flowering periods. Seasonality is key to wildlife-friendly planting, as well as visual interest - therefore there should be a mix of deciduous and evergreen specimens.

Larger areas of amenity grass can be planted with a biodiverse lawn mix, while areas not intended for heavy use can be planted with wildflower meadow.

Typical cost: **£9-35 per sqm** (depending on planting type and planting density)



An example of a bug hotel



Biodiverse planting at The Olympic Park by Sarah Price, James Hitchmough and Nigel Dunnnett

1.1 DISTRICT-WIDE PROJECTS

Drainage as Habitat

Sustainable Drainage Systems are strongly encouraged on all sites, regardless of their size. The key principle of SuDS is that they mimic natural water processes, capturing water where it falls and slowing runoff into nearby watercourses. Some SuDS such as rain gardens and swales can also provide excellent habitat potential for a range of invertebrates and amphibians. They can be planted with species which can cope with being wet and dry with the seasons, providing much more ecological and visual impact than piped systems.

Urban Design London's [Designing Rain Gardens: A Practical Guide](#) provides a useful introduction to soft SuDS options.

Typical cost: **£50-530 per sqm** (depending on depth)

The Next Generation of Trees

When planning a site, every effort should be made to keep good quality, existing trees - mature specimens hold ecological, visual and cultural value. Looking at the future of our mature trees throughout the District however means we must plan for the next generation. New tree planting should be sought in all sites - ranging in species and specification to suit the local environment, following 'Right Tree, Right Place' principles. New trees must be planted in generous tree pits with good quality soil and appropriate irrigation provision.

Increasing tree cover in the District will also improve carbon capture abilities.

Typical cost: **£86-390 per sqm** (depending on specification of tree and planting density)

Further guidance on projects for small sites and individual homes has been produced by [Rewild My Street](#).



Street SuDS in White City, by Robert Bray Associates



Planning for the next generation of trees in Accordia, Cambridge

STEWARDSHIP FOR DISTRICT- WIDE PROJECTS

12

Page 69

1.2 STEWARDSHIP FOR DISTRICT-WIDE PROJECTS

Strategic Projects

Movement And Wayfinding

What are the stewardship principles?

To maintain the pedestrian, cyclist and equestrian Public Rights of Way network to a high standard, ensuring safe, legible and accessible routes all year round for the benefit of District residents and visitors.

Who is the current owner?

Essex County Council and landowners with Public Rights of Way on their land.

What are the current stewardship arrangements?

- Essex County Council is responsible for maintenance of all routes, except Public Rights of Way running across private land
- Landowners are responsible for the maintenance of Rights of Way over their land
- Epping Forest District Council are responsible for clearing roads, pavements and cycleways of litter

What changes to the stewardship arrangements could be made?

Introducing major changes to the current stewardship arrangements would not be appropriate. However more regular reviews of the Public Rights of Way network as part of monitoring and updating the Movement and Wayfinding Strategy could be undertaken to identify areas requiring improvements - as well as encouraging greater community involvement.

How can the community be involved?

Regular engagement with user groups and communities to help identify areas of the Public Rights of Way network which could be improved to achieve safe, legible and accessible routes all year round.

1.2 STEWARDSHIP FOR DISTRICT-WIDE PROJECTS

Strategic Projects

Roadside Wildflowers

What are the stewardship principles?

To develop a network of biodiverse roadside verges and maintain them to encourage wildlife without compromising road safety.

Who is the current owner?

Essex County Council / Highways England

What are the current stewardship arrangements?

Essex County Council pay for Epping Forest District Council's Countrycare team to maintain all adopted highway verges in the District

What changes to the stewardship arrangements could be made?

Some changes to Countrycare's maintenance programme and practices would enable the development of the Roadside Wildflowers project - through relaxed mowing regimes and undertaking seeding.

How can the community be involved?

Communities could help identify potential verges for Roadside Wildflowers, either through their Town or Parish Council, through a community group (for example the Epping in Bloom initiative) or through the development of a tool on the Council's website - where members of the public could 'apply' for verges near them to be part of the Roadside Wildflowers project.

1.2 STEWARDSHIP FOR DISTRICT-WIDE PROJECTS

Community Based, Council Supported

Tree Planting - A Call For Sites

What are the stewardship principles?

To manage new tree planting to ensure its longevity and continued benefit to local communities, the environment and in support of the District's carbon capture potential.

Who is the current owner?

A mixture of owners depending on which sites come forward but will be primarily the responsibility of Epping Forest District Council, Essex County Council and Town / Parish Councils and landowners. In the first stages of the project, site identification will focus on Council owned land.

What are the current stewardship arrangements?

Management and maintenance is typically dependant on the ownership of each site. Identified tree planting sites within Epping Forest District Council's ownership are currently looked after by a combination of the Council's Grounds Maintenance Team, Countrycare and the Environmental Protection and Drainage Team.

What changes to the stewardship arrangements could be made?

The responsibility for stewardship would largely remain with the current landowners of the identified sites. In Council-owned sites, an appropriate maintenance and management plan could be established in new tree planting areas to ensure healthy growth and maximum benefit to biodiversity. Further training could be given to the teams carrying out maintenance in order to achieve these.

How can the community be involved?

The community would largely be involved in the identification of tree planting sites across the District, and therefore the continued development of the project. Community members could suggest sites through their Town or Parish Council, through a community group (for example the Epping in Bloom initiative) or through the development of a tool on the Council's website.

1.2 STEWARDSHIP FOR DISTRICT-WIDE PROJECTS

Community Based, Council Supported Community Greenspace Improvements

What are the stewardship principles?

To ensure the community continue to be engaged in the management and maintenance of their own improved greenspaces to achieve high levels of community cohesion, pride in local spaces and care for the local environment.

Who is the current owner?

Primarily, Community Greenspaces are in the ownership of Epping Forest District Council or Town and Parish Councils.

What are the current stewardship arrangements?

Greenspaces within Council ownership are currently looked after by a combination of the Epping Forest District Council's Grounds Maintenance Team, Countrycare and the Environmental Protection and Drainage Team.

What changes to the stewardship arrangements could be made?

Day to day maintenance would still remain with the above identified teams, however the overall management strategy would largely depend on the greenspace improvements identified by the community. Therefore, the overarching management strategy could be developed by the community with input and support from the Council.

How can the community be involved?

The local community would set up a group to help bring about improvements to their local greenspace. The community group would be leading the project, and that would include making decisions about the future stewardship of the space. The Council will provide advice and resources to make informed decisions, as well as supporting potential funding applications for the long-term management of the greenspace.

1.2 STEWARDSHIP FOR DISTRICT-WIDE PROJECTS

Projects to Encourage Engagement with Green Infrastructure

Art In The Landscape

What are the stewardship principles?

To involve communities in the development of an art network across the District - where well maintained, accessible and meaningful artwork is used to engage people in their surrounding green infrastructure and outdoor spaces.

Who is the current owner?

Previously, there has been very little public art commissioning in the District, despite it being home to various artists over the years (such as Walter E Spradbery and Jacob Epstein). Artwork proposals for this project are yet to be developed, including where any artwork is to be placed - and therefore it will be dependent on who owns the land. However, it is anticipated that artwork will predominantly be placed on Council or Town and Parish Council owned land or within larger areas of open space provided as part of the strategic sites proposed as part of the emerging Local Plan.

What are the current stewardship arrangements?

Whilst pieces of public art remain few in the District, the artwork located in parks and gardens (such as the Memorial to King Harold in Waltham Abbey Gardens) are typically looked after by the local Town Council. The Theydon Bois Earthwork is maintained by The Woodland Trust.

What changes to the stewardship arrangements could be made?

As an example, The Harlow Art Trust is responsible for the development and stewardship of the Harlow Sculpture Trail. In Epping Forest District, the Qualis Community Interest Company (CIC) could extend their stewardship responsibilities to the development of a coherent artwork network in the landscape.

How can the community be involved?

The local community can be included in the procurement, creation and location of artworks, as well as the development of a trail over time.

This page is intentionally left blank

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY

IMPLEMENTATION: LANDSCAPE LED DESIGN

You should read this document after reading
[The Primer](#) if you are:

A Developer / Designer / Authority Officer
who is designing, assessing or delivering
masterplans and developments with new green
and blue spaces



CONTENTS

How To Use This Document	76
2.1 THE ROLE OF DESIGN	78
The Role Of Design In New Development	79
2.2 DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES	81
Design And Multifunctionality	82
Natural And Semi Natural Greenspace	83
Parks	89
Amenity Greenspace	91
Allotments And The Productive Landscape	93
Provision For Children And Young People	95
Smaller Spaces	98
Movement	99
The Water Environment	101
Sustainable Drainage Systems	102

HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

Purpose of the Strategy and Parts

The purpose of the Strategy is to ensure a strategic and holistic approach is taken to protecting, maintaining and enhancing the ecology, landscape and heritage in the District.

The Primer (Part 0) provides an overview of the Strategy and its purpose, commentary on the existing Green Infrastructure assets in the District, and the Vision and Objectives of the Strategy. The other Parts of the Strategy should be read in conjunction with the Primer. These are:

1. Implementation: Enhancing our Existing Network

This Part provides guidance on:

2. Implementation: Landscape-Led Design

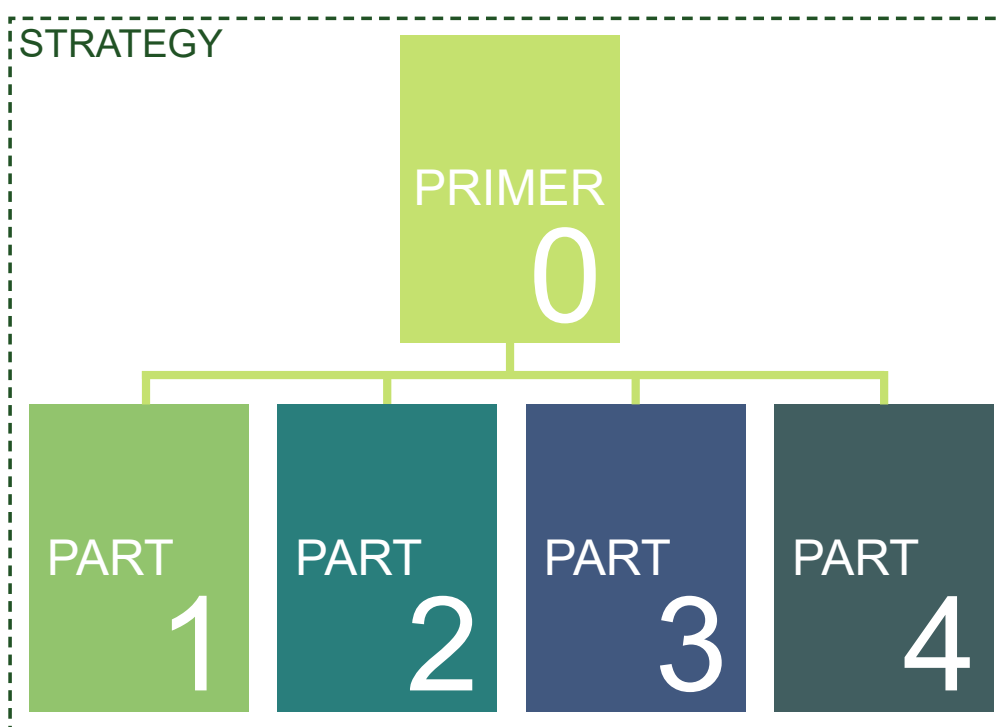
It provides:

- The Council's expectations for achieving high quality landscape-led design through the design and masterplanning of development sites
- Approaches for delivering multifunctional high quality places, including case studies for different types of green and blue spaces
- Information on maintenance and stewardship for these types of projects

The other Parts of the Strategy cover:

3. Implementation: Green Infrastructure in Strategic Allocations

4. Implementation: Infrastructure Enhancement Projects



HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

Who will use the Strategy and Part 2?

The Strategy comprises four parts. Anyone using the Strategy and the associated guidance and projects should read the [Primer](#) first, to familiarise themselves with the purpose, context and vision of the Strategy.

This Part of the Strategy (2. Implementation: Landscape-Led Design) is primarily for developers, designers and council officers who are designing, assessing and delivering masterplans and developments which are required to provide new and enhanced green and blue infrastructure assets. The guidance contained in this Part of the Strategy should be read in conjunction with the Council's [Strategic Masterplanning Briefing Note](#) (October 2018). Whilst not all larger scale sites will be required to prepare a Strategic Masterplan the principles and process set out in the Briefing Note provides useful information for all developers of larger scale sites .

When to use this document?

When designing a masterplan or development proposal the Council expects that a landscape-led design approach is followed from the outset, as set out in Part 2. Guidance and case studies are provided of multifunctional high-quality green and blue spaces.

THE ROLE OF DESIGN

2.1

Page 81

2.1 THE ROLE OF DESIGN

The Role of Design in New Development

The success of new and enhanced Green Infrastructure assets is not just about the quantity provided. It also needs to be of a high quality. This can be best achieved by taking a design-led approach and, wherever possible and appropriate, should maximise the opportunities to create multifunctional spaces as this can enhance their attractiveness and therefore their use. The benefits to communities and the environment can be lost if a narrow and rigidly categorised approach to Green Infrastructure provision and enhancement is taken.

The Council, through the policies in its emerging Local Plan, requires all development proposals to demonstrate that Green Infrastructure provision is of a high-quality design which supports this multifunctional approach, where this is appropriate. How this can be done and what factors need to be considered are outlined in this Part of the Strategy.

Throughout the process of designing developments, proposals must clearly demonstrate how they deliver on the vision and objectives of this Strategy. Design should be landscape led and be integrated from the initial planning stage and continue to be so throughout the design, planning and implementation stages.

The best design and development outcomes will be delivered by engaging the best design consultants. It is important that the design process is iterative and is a collaboration between the Council's officers, the development design team and stakeholders. Engagement with the Council's Quality Review Panel can be hugely beneficial to all Parties by securing objective and impartial advice at key stages in order to achieve the best possible outcome for both new and existing residents.

Design quality of Green Infrastructure proposals in new developments can be assessed using the Green Infrastructure Submission Checklist in EFDC's [Sustainability Guidance / Major Developments \(+10 units\) Draft October 2020](#).



Accordia, Cambridge by Grant Associates

2.1 THE ROLE OF DESIGN

Initial work necessary to inform a Landscape Led approach to masterplanning is set out below:

Survey and Analysis

- Researching, surveying and analysing the site and its context, at different spatial geographies
- Particular attention should be paid to landscape character, landscape features, views, ecology, flooding and water, trees, movement networks within the site and the relationship with, and connections to, nearby communities and Green Infrastructure assets

Identifying Opportunities

- Identifying ways to connect, develop and enhance existing Green Infrastructure in and around the site
- Prioritising pedestrians, cyclists and, where appropriate, horse-riders by identifying links to existing communities and places, using existing footpath / cycleway/ bridleway networks and public transport including identifying the potential for their enhancement

Landscape as the Driver for Design

- Using the identified opportunities to shape the site layout, so landscape provides the framework that informs the design of the layout and built form of the scheme
- Embedding the multifunctional design principles described in this Part of the Strategy, where appropriate, in order to create high quality Green Infrastructure assets for the benefit of both new and existing communities
- Using the techniques set out in this Part of the Strategy to develop a comprehensive strategy to secure the long-term management of the Green Infrastructure assets created

Communicating Design

- Ongoing engagement with Council Officers through regular meetings to support and inform the design progress
- Using illustrative tools such as sketches, images of real-world examples, drawings and models to provide an understanding of how these spaces and places will look and are intended to work, and how they relate to the development's built form and its surrounding context
- Engaging with local communities and stakeholders throughout the design process and using feedback to develop positive design responses and the creation of a successful Masterplan or development proposal.

DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

2.2

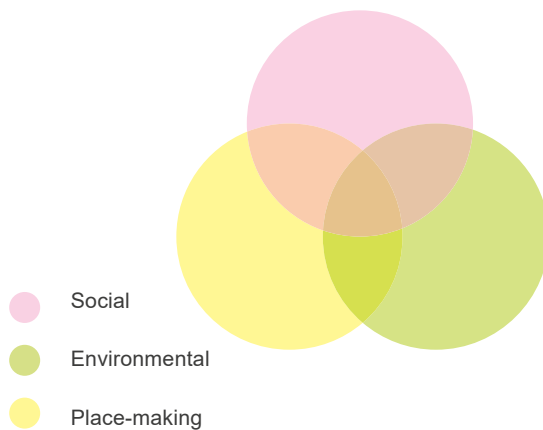
Page 84

2.2 DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

Design And Multifunctionality

These pages provide more detail about how multifunctional places and spaces can be delivered. They identify the approaches and opportunities that can be integrated into Green Infrastructure – both existing and new. These opportunities should be used as part of a package of measures to enhance the attractiveness, use and function of Green Infrastructure for all. The Council will expect proposals for Green Infrastructure provision to incorporate a multifunctional approach. However, in some specific cases, such as where a site is being provided as a mitigation measure in relation to existing ecologically important assets, or to enhance biodiversity where public access would not be appropriate, opportunities to take this approach may be more limited.

Multifunctional spaces as an outcome of good landscape led design incorporate a balance of social, environmental and place-making functions. In the following pages each type of Green Infrastructure element is assessed against these three functions using the diagram below:



Example of multifunctional space in the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, Stratford

2.2 DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

Natural And Semi Natural Greenspace

The [Council's Open Space Strategy 2017](#) (EB703) defines Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace as including:

'... woodland, urban forestry, scrub, grasslands, open access land wetlands and derelict open land. Maintenance is usually informal, but may include elements of intervention such as coppicing for the long-term health and natural balance of woodland, flail cutting of meadow to increase biodiversity, and clearance of water habitats.'

As described in the [Green Infrastructure Strategy Primer](#), there is a significant amount of Natural and Semi-Natural Greenspace within the District which is well located in relation to towns and villages. However, some smaller natural greenspaces have issues of accessibility and legibility.

In terms of ecology, the District benefits from high quality habitats, but they can often be isolated. Woodland habitats beyond the Epping Forest are sparsely distributed across the District, in which currently provide only a limited capacity for biodiversity, recreational and carbon capture benefits.

Considering The Role Of 'Natural' Open Space

Natural open space has a significant role to play in peoples' lives if they are attractive, safe and easy to access. It is important therefore to make these spaces and their rich cultural and ecological heritage visible. Natural open spaces can also support the Council's aim to become a carbon neutral District by increasing the number of trees, planting and connected habitats to support an attractive network of spaces and corridors.



Knepp Wildland Project in West Sussex

2.2 DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

How Do We Get There?

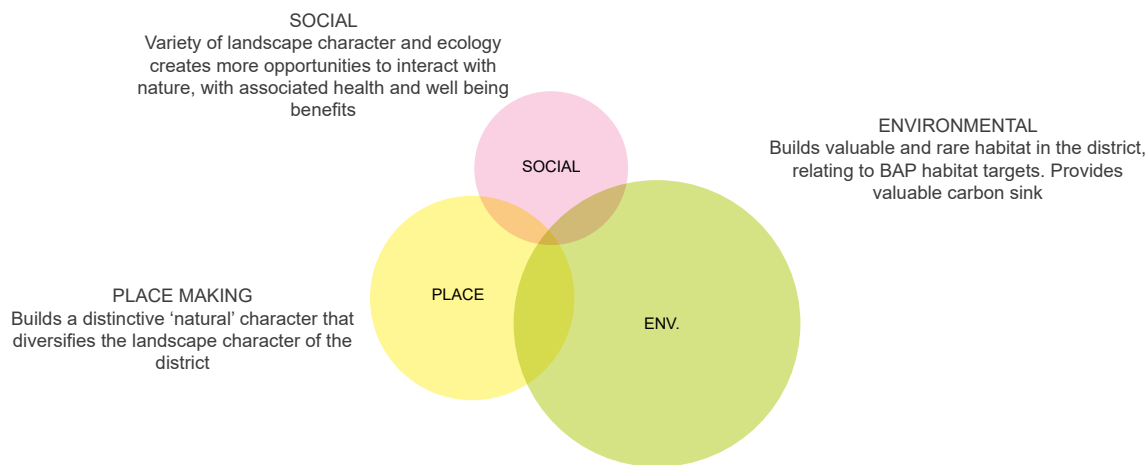
Approaches are needed which focus on revealing and connecting the District's natural open space network and engaging the public with it. These approaches will need to be delivered by taking a collaborative approach with landowners, applicants, arts organisations and land management teams.

The extension and connection of natural spaces makes a vital contribution to tackling the climate and biodiversity crises, whilst potentially forming a significant attractor to visitors - such as in the case of the Knepp Wildland Project in West Sussex.

Boosting biodiversity and re-wilding parts of the District (where it does not have negative consequences on important habitats and species) should happen at all scales, from local left-over greenspaces to district-wide projects and strategic development. Some of this can be achieved through our partnerships, such as with the Green Arc (One Partnership).

Enhance

The enhancement of existing landscape features and identification of site-specific opportunities to create more varied and ecologically connected places and spaces is an important strand of this Strategy. An example of such an approach is through building wet woodland and other natural attenuation features in flood plains to increase their visual attractiveness and ecological diversity.



Wet woodland at West Wood, Little Sampford, Essex

2.2 DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

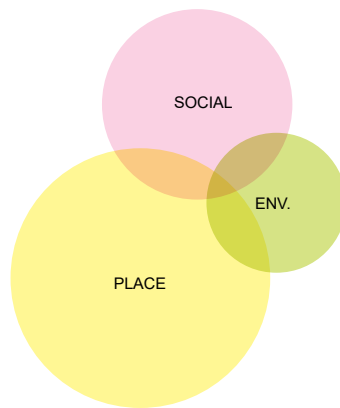
Reveal – Through Management

Lifting canopies and clearing scrub on the edge of woodlands (where it would not cause harm to ecological or natural heritage designations) can create windows into their wooded interior. This reveals to people the exceptional landscape character that woodlands provide that might not be apparent to most. It can also help to overcome perceptions that such spaces are unsafe by making them feel more inviting and usable. Lifting canopies can also be beneficial to the health of trees and enhance the ecological condition of the woodland floor to support flora and fauna.

This will need to be approached in a sensitive, informed and carefully managed way to ensure that any removal of edge or understorey does not result in negative conservation outcomes. This is because scrub edges and scrub mosaics are also the most important areas for biodiversity. Ancient woodlands in particular need to be managed for their special features, distinctive sense of place and wildlife value.

SOCIAL

Being made aware of what is already there people are more likely to use spaces and interact with nature, with associated health and well being benefits



ENVIRONMENTAL

Canopy lifting should be done with biodiversity benefit in mind letting more light into the forest floor

PLACE MAKING

Crucially allows people to appreciate is already there



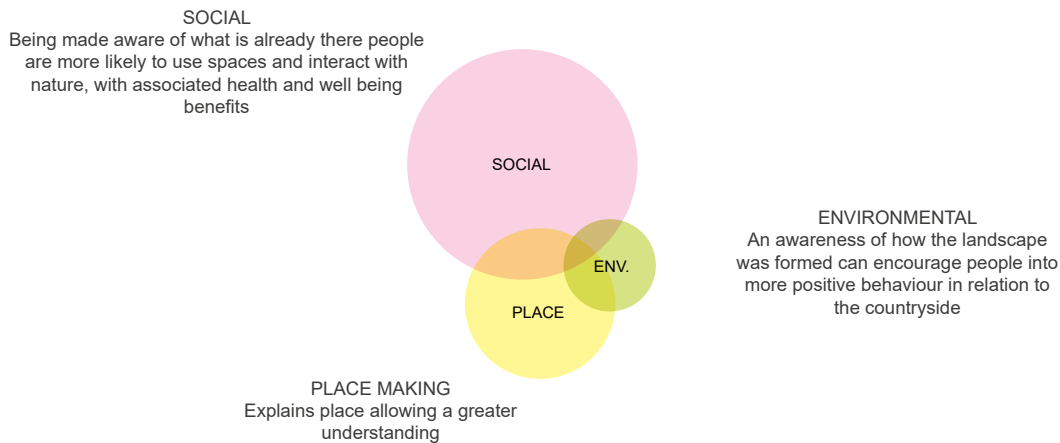
Managing woodland edges, The Wildlife Trust

2.2 DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

Reveal – Through Thoughtfully Designed Interpretation

Interpretation should be coordinated with a wayfinding package in order to identify existing or create new strategic routes that take in the best of the District as well as making provision for more locally focused opportunities.

How this interpretation is provided is an important part of any approach and will need to be designed to be sensitive to its environment so that it sits carefully within its landscape setting, intrigues visitors, encourages curiosity and informs them of what they are seeing or experiencing. Interpretation should appear as something that is incidental to its setting and not intrude on the natural character of the place. The use of digital technology such as mobile phone apps can also have an important role to play in the interpretation of large sites in particular.



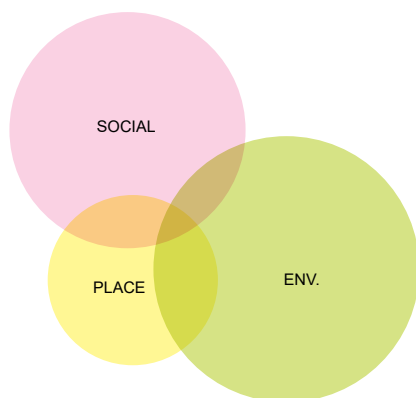
Interactive interpretation posts installed by Forestry and Land Scotland

2.2 DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

Engage – Through Management

Management of woodland can ensure large low branches are left to allow tree climbing where it does not cause damage to the trees in terms of their health or historic importance, whilst leaving fallen branches can provide opportunities for building dens. Overlapping natural assets and play can help to engage children and families with the natural world through play. Leaving old wood in place also creates new habitats for both flora and fauna.

SOCIAL
Engages more children and families with the natural world and natural play with a myriad of health benefits



PLACE MAKING
Builds character of the woodland

ENVIRONMENTAL
Maintenance opens up the woodland floor creating more biodiverse habitat, leaving wood in place also creates habitat for invertebrates



Den building and natural play in woodlands

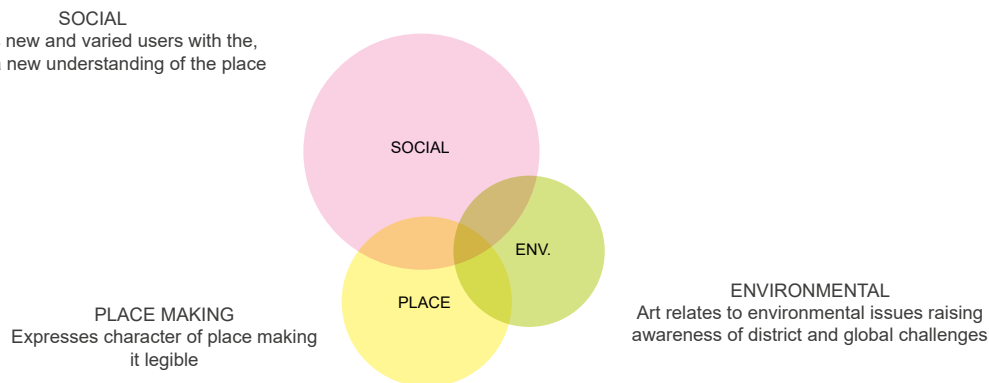
2.2 DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

Engage – Through Curation Of Art And Sculpture

Art has the power to captivate and reveal landscapes, views and places that have previously been unnoticed or underused. A focus on the commissioning of quality art would build on and connect into Harlow’s exceptional sculpture collection, which includes works by Barbara Hepworth and Henry Moore.

It provides both visual interest and can make an outdoor space a destination in its own right. How such work is procured will be critical in ensuring that the right installation is commissioned for its intended location. Artwork can be temporary or permanent and can be varied in terms of its form. Installations which allow for temporary displays, for example, can add continued interest for more regular visitors. It can also support local educational art programmes and opportunities for local artists to showcase their talents.

The topography of the District provides real opportunities to use art to appreciate the wider landscape, including through locating artworks in places where longer distance views can be experienced. As part of GI provision such places are often free to access, allowing people to have their own experience of both the artwork and its setting. It can attract people into the countryside for the first time and well-placed art can expose people to exceptional views of their local and wider area in support of wider place-making objectives. An example of this is the Theydon Bois Earthwork.



The Hear Heres by Studio Weave, Derbyshire

2.2 DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

Parks

The [Council's Open Space Strategy 2017](#) (EB703) defines Public Parks and Gardens ('Public Parks') as including:

'...urban parks, country parks and formal gardens. Usually include a wide range of activities, and may include other typologies (e.g. Provision for Children and Young People and Natural and Semi Natural Greenspaces). Very often includes formal elements of provision such as ornamental lawn, herbaceous border or rose garden.'

The District has only very limited provision of Public Parks. Only two spaces in the District are categorised as 'Public Parks' in the Open Space Strategy 2017. These are Waltham Abbey Gardens and the Roding Valley Recreation Ground in Buckhurst Hill.

Considering The Role Of Urban Parks

As the District currently has so few parks, new development on the strategic sites identified in the emerging Local Plan can provide real opportunities to create open spaces which include an element of the attributes associated with Public Parks. This would support the ability for new spaces to act as both attractors for visitors and as social infrastructure which benefits both new and existing communities .

Through exceptional quality design, the design of large-scale open spaces should incorporate attributes of Public Parks and:

- Engage people with landscape, nature and healthy eating opportunities;
- Encourage spontaneous activity to get the inactive active;
- Encourage interaction between communities and community groups;
- Engage and be accessible to people of all ages; and
- Form part of the wider Green Infrastructure network, by building on local landscape character and ecology to create distinctive and ecologically valuable places.



Waltham Abbey Garden, Epping Forest District

2.2 DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

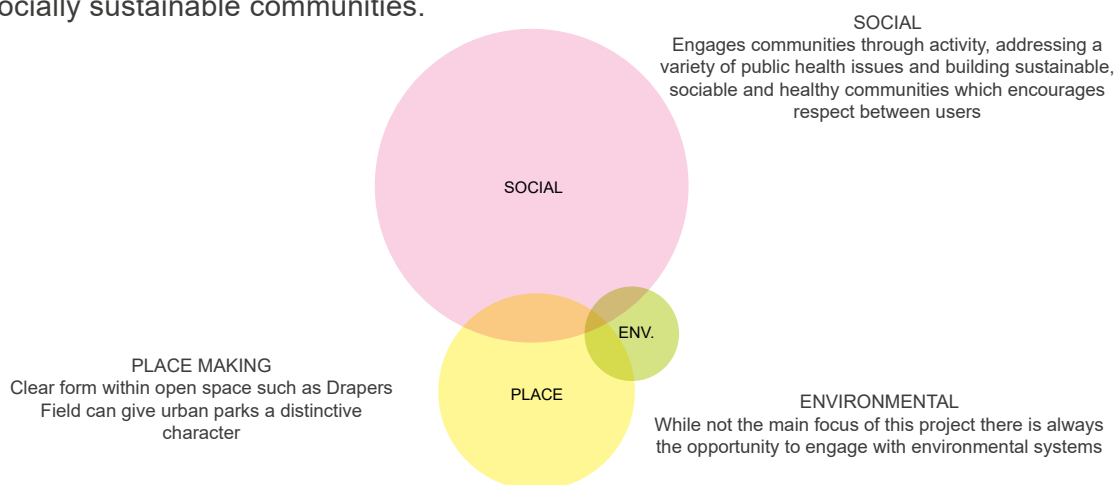
How Do We Get There?

To deliver on these opportunities, large-scale open spaces should be designed in at the start of the masterplanning process, and form part of a coherent open space network which is closely related to other social infrastructure such as local centres, schools and community facilities. Initiatives which support access for all, such as dementia friendly spaces, should be incorporated. The design process should include specific workshops with community groups and the Council's officers.

What Does Success Look Like?

An example of such an approach can be found at Drapers Field, in London Borough Waltham Forest, near the 2012 Olympics Athletes Village. Drapers Field was one of a series of Olympic fringe projects which aimed to further the Olympic legacy while providing space for new and existing communities to come together.

The project is included as it looks beyond the conventional approach to designing an urban park to address wider issues including community cohesion and wellbeing. Drapers Field achieved this through the creation of an undulating surface which is not fenced off or defined in terms of its use. Features such as concrete waves can be used as a play feature, a skate park or as seating. This encourages the surface to be shared with people sunbathe, run through the 'waves', skateboard, scoot, break dance and much more. This maximises its use and encourages positive engagement between different groups of people through activity, helping to build healthy and socially sustainable communities.



Drapers Field, Waltham Forest by Kinnear Landscape Architects

2.2 DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

Amenity Greenspace

The [Council's Open Space Strategy 2017](#) provides the following definition:

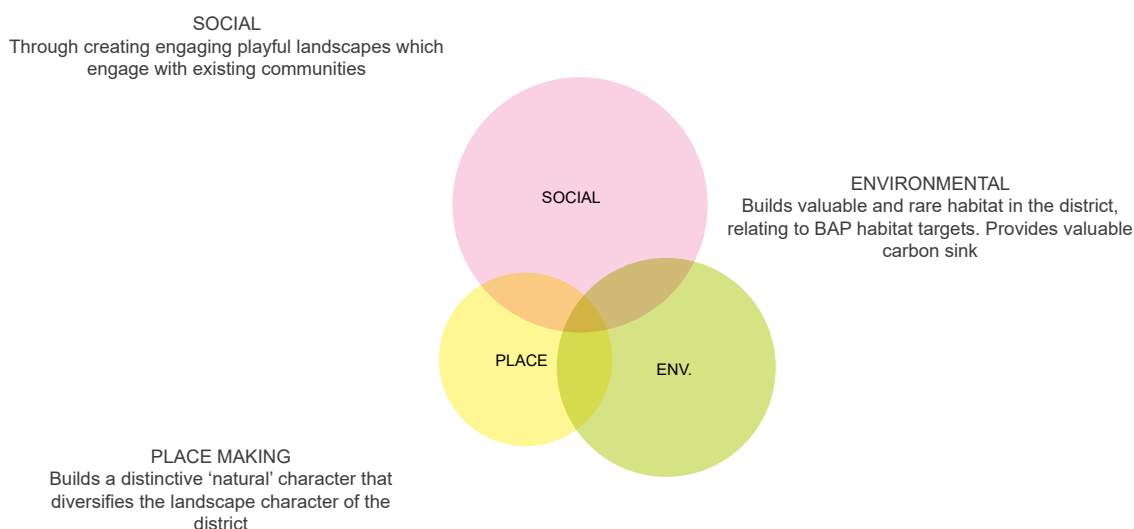
'...informal recreation spaces (private or open to the public), roadside verges, greenspaces in and around housing and other premises e.g. hospitals, schools and colleges, industrial and business premises and village greens. May include other typologies, most frequently Provision for Children and Young People.'

The Open Space Strategy 2017 indicates that the District has a good level of amenity greenspace. However, it tends to only provide areas of high-maintenance grass of average quality and function.

Considering The Role Of Amenity Greenspace

Amenity Greenspace should be viewed as an integral part of a development's open space offer, as well as forming part of a wider network of complementary open spaces that are attractive to communities, full of character, provide for more informal activities, and which enhance biodiversity.

Amenity greenspace is much more than finding a use for leftover pieces of land - designing space which considers the potential for incorporating overlapping functions such as food production, play and Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) can deliver multiple benefits with relatively low capital and maintenance costs.



2.2 DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

How Do We Get There?

Amenity greenspace should be designed in during the early stages of planning a development so that it contributes to the creation of a cohesive and coherent open space network which is integrated with other social infrastructure including local centres, schools and community facilities. The design process should include specific workshops focusing on amenity greenspace with community groups and Council officers. Within existing settlements initiatives to improve Amenity Greenspace should be community led and council supported, as set out in [Part 1 - Implementation: Enhancing our Existing Network](#).



Amenity greenspace at Centre Green, Epping



Normand Park, London by Kinnear Landscape Architects

2.2 DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

Allotments And The Productive Landscape

The [Council's Open Space Strategy 2017](#) (EB307) provides the following definition:

'Allotments are generally for the growing of food crops. Community Gardens are generally more informal, and may include "garden" landscapes for outdoor relaxation.'

This Strategy uses the term 'Productive Landscape' which incorporates Community Gardens. According to the Open Space Strategy 2017, there is a good level of allotment provision within the District. However, allotments have historically been designed so that they are inward looking, often due to their location on the fringes of urban areas or on back-land sites. As a result, they can often appear to be closed off from their immediate surroundings and not integrated with the local community.

Considering The Role Of Allotments

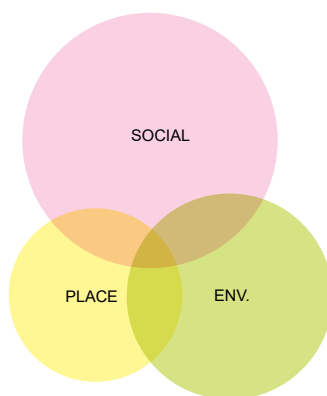
As well as providing healthy food, allotments support mental and physical well-being through establishing a connection to nature, providing outdoor exercise and encouraging social interaction with others.

There is the opportunity to expand the variety of productive landscapes beyond the provision of new allotments to widen people's engagement with local food production. This could be as simple as providing a public orchard with benches to encourage people to linger. Similarly, providing informal play equipment, interpretation pieces or art as part of outdoor growing spaces can help to introduce people to food growing. Opportunities for designing in productive landscapes at schools and as part of amenity greenspace supports this ambition and can provide climate change benefits through 'few miles travelled' for food.

SOCIAL
Creating engaging playful landscapes which relate to food growing and the healthy eating agenda can help build sociable and healthy communities.

ENVIRONMENTAL
Can build habitat and encourage tree cover

PLACE MAKING
Create a distinctive character enhancing a sense of place



2.2 DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

How Do We Get There?

Food growing should be seen as an opportunity to engage people with the benefits that can stem from productive landscapes. Consideration should be given as to how food growing can be integrated into different types of open space such as amenity greenspace, streets and parks as well as within schools, other community facilities, and even within commercial developments. Food growing opportunities and the provision of new allotments should be considered from the first stages of the masterplanning and designing of new developments. Relevant community groups should be engaged in the process and careful consideration should be given to where initiatives should be located to avoid, for example, impacts from air pollution.



Lower Bury Lane Allotments (Tower Road end), Epping



A Variety of Cultures by Alec Findlay - ladders art installation for picking apples, pre-empting the orchard reaching maturity

2.2 DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

Provision For Children And Young People

The [Council's Open Space Strategy 2017](#) (EB703) defines 'Provision for Children and Young People' as including:

'...play areas, areas for wheeled play, including skateboarding, outdoor kick about areas, and other less formal areas (e.g. 'hanging out' areas, teenage shelters). May include different aspects of play such as natural or "green" play, or "iplay" to incorporate information technology elements to stimulate greater usage.'

The District's children and young people currently have very little high-quality space available to them. Any existing areas tend to be fenced off or isolated and play areas contain exclusively traditional equipment.

Considering The Role Of Play

Integrating imaginative spaces for children and young people into development requires creative thinking as to how the role of play can be successfully provided. It is important to ask the following questions to inform the approach to designing in facilities for Children and Young People:

- Who is going to take part in play?
- What senses are engaged?
- How can it encourage greater activity and movement?
- How can it provide for a variety of ages?
- How can it engage with nature?

Alongside designated play areas, play should be considered as a theme that runs through the landscape and wider open space provision. This can be achieved in a number of ways. For example:

- Branches and logs can be left in woodland spaces as natural play and for den building.
- Playful art or sculptural play can help to bring amenity space to life and act as a draw to local residents and children.
- Safely incorporating Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) as a play and educational element in outdoor spaces.
- Connections between places and spaces can also be enhanced by creating 'Play on the Way.'



Sound play at Elbe Waterfront Park by Rehwaldt LA



Sand play at Victoria Park by LDA design

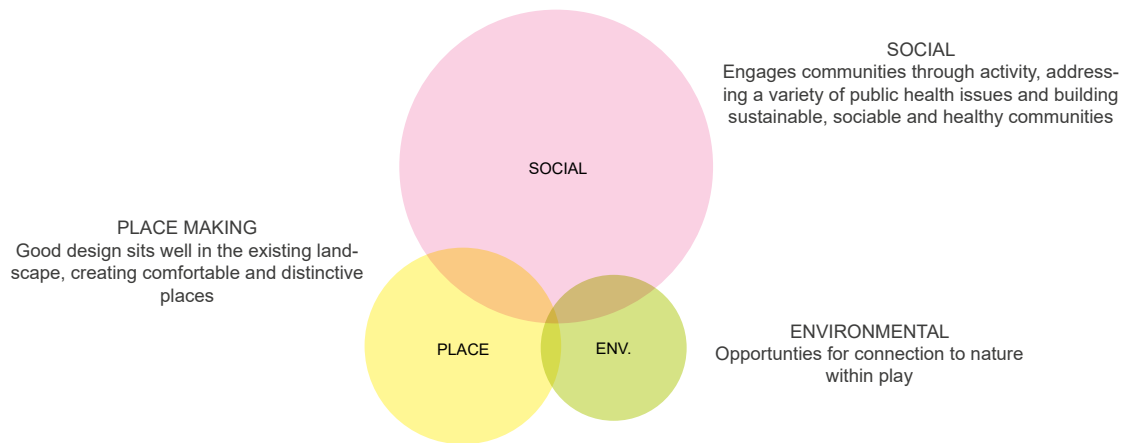
2.2 DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

How Do We Get There?

Diversifying the play offer across the District and moving away from the provision of traditional playgrounds requires spaces for children and young people to be designed by engaging and working with communities. This should be supported by using illustrations to show what collaborative, natural and intergenerational play looks like, right from the outset of the design and planning process.

Youth Shelter And Sport

Safe and attractive spaces for young people are difficult to find in the District, and they are often not provided for in new development. MUF's work (below) demonstrates the value of combining space for young people to socialise with sport and encouraging young people to take part in activity. This approach is in contrast to the more traditional approach of providing an off the shelf 'Youth Shelter' which leaves young people feeling bored and disconnected.



The social MUGA by MUF Architecture and Art

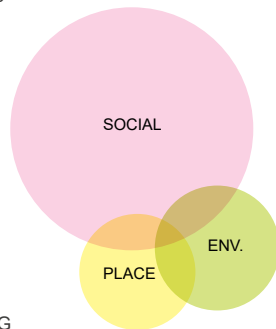
2.2 DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

Play On The Way

Informal play can be incorporated in ways that go beyond the playground and is a way of encouraging activity in everyday life and in different places. This approach focuses primarily on building play into more traditional pedestrian environments. It has become a relatively well-known concept and has been termed 'play on the way.' It can be readily incorporated in schemes and encourage interaction with nature or other themes, such as healthy eating.

SOCIAL

Allows opportunities for play to be built into everyday lives and presents the opportunity to engage with nature and other beneficial themes such as food growing



ENVIRONMENTAL
Engages young people with the environment

PLACE MAKING
Engages young people with distinctive places



Informal play on the edge of Epping Forest

2.2 DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

Smaller Spaces

Smaller spaces have a meaningful role to play in the provision of Green Infrastructure, provide an 'everyday' accessible resource and add significant value to the quality of a place. When considered collectively these spaces provide a significant component of the District's Green Infrastructure assets, particularly in terms of the opportunities they provide for informal play and places to meet, net biodiversity and environmental gain.

As an example, a local greenspace could be improved through simple measures such as through the introduction of a relaxed mowing regime, using fewer herbicides, implementing plug planting to create biodiverse wildflower areas, forming a depression into the ground so that it can act as a swale or play feature; or simply by providing seating or introducing logs to act as an informal play opportunity. The importance of these more incidental spaces should not therefore be underestimated in terms of their local community value, including in providing local outdoor meeting places. Their value can also be enhanced by connecting them into the wider landscape-scale GI network. Where there are opportunities to do this, this should be enabled through good design.

Working with local people to identify opportunities for introducing these types of interventions, such as through the creation of a 'Pocket Park', can enhance a local area and can often be implemented in a cost-effective way but with significant social, visual and environmental benefits.

Similarly, at a District scale, underused and leftover spaces have the potential to contribute significantly more to the environmental and visual quality of the area than they currently do. This is explored in the Roadside Wildflowers and Community Greenspace Improvements projects in [Part 1: Enhancing Our Existing Network](#).



St Andrews, Bromley-by-Bow by Townshend Landscape Architects



Wildflower verges in North East Lincolnshire

2.2 DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

Movement

Designing in opportunities for walking, cycling and, where appropriate, horse riding at the outset will help to create the opportunity for more people to be able to move safely and easily throughout the District without need to use their cars. This is an important component of the development of the Strategic Masterplan Areas (See [Part 3](#)). This means helping people to:

- Easily and successfully find their destination;
- Understand where they are in relation to other key locations;
- Be able to readily orientate themselves in an appropriate direction with little misunderstanding or stress;
- Discover new places and services; and
- Feel safe

Route hierarchy

Developing a route hierarchy and prioritising routes should be done as part of the development of Local Cycle and Walking Infrastructure Plans (LCWIP) or similar approaches. Considering access to nearby attractors and landscapes across the District and encouraging people to use them is a fundamental principle in the development of LCWIPs. Being able to get to a destination without the need to keep stopping and starting should also be a consideration in designing routes. Essex County Council's preference is that, where appropriate, provision should be through multi-user routes. These need to be well-designed to ensure that there are no conflicts between different users. Awareness of routes should be raised through local marketing and promotion.

Accessibility and safety

Ease of access for all users should be considered across the network. For example, some routes cut across fields meaning that they are less accessible at certain times of year, whilst stiles and other obstacles along the network can limit the use by some people. Improvement of these routes should focus on accessibility for all. Connecting spaces through the use of 'Quietways' for cyclists and, where appropriate, horse-riders can encourage more people living in towns and villages to access Green Infrastructure beyond their immediate surroundings.



Accessible surfaces facilitate easy cycling as well as use by buggies and wheelchairs



Prominent entrances with a suite of signage can make routes clear and legible

2.2 DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

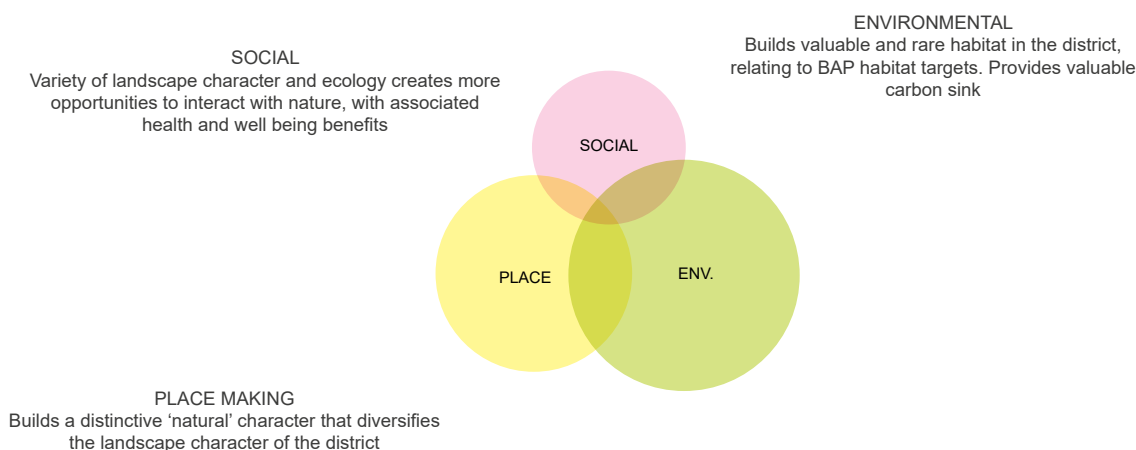
Legibility

This can be viewed as how clear, without the use of signage, the route is. Legibility can be achieved by consistent surfacing, adopting a management regime that ensures routes are easy to use and by using a distinct landscape feature to signal the way such as lining routes with a distinctive tree species or opening up views at appropriate places along the route.

Wayfinding and signage

A coherent set of wayfinding proposals should build on the inherent legibility of the route. This may be achieved through signage, such as finger posts and in-ground signage, or could be through landscape improvements to open up views so that people can better see where they are or improved information on routes including information on distances. Information should be presented in a consistent way that can be quickly read and understood. This should not result in visual clutter. Using digital technology, such as mobile phone apps, can help to achieve this and reflects the way that younger people in particular prefer to access information.

Routes should tie easily into new and existing communities giving easy access to both. Routes should be visible within settlements and should take advantage of any points of interest along their length. New and enhanced landscaping as part of a project can also add to the attractiveness of the route, as well as contribute to its ecological value. All of these approaches if taken forward in a comprehensive, area-based way support both recreational and commuter-based walking and cycle trips.



2.2 DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

The Water Environment

Taking a proactive approach to managing the water environment can have a number of significant benefits for the health and well-being for both people and the natural environment. The use of a multi-functional approach to the delivery of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS), helps to manage flood risk, can provide interest as part of the design and provision of public open space, and increase biodiversity.

Essex County Council, as the Local Lead Flood Authority, has responsibility to reduce the impact and incidences of local flooding and has developed a [Local Flood Risk Management Strategy](#). As well as influencing new development and drainage by commenting on development proposals and through the development of a SuDS Design Guide, the Strategy includes a number of initiatives*¹ which can be brought forward by working in partnership with communities, councils, and landowners.

There are also opportunities to work with landowners to encourage best practice in terms of land management to support biodiversity objectives ranging from changing management approaches to the banks of watercourses and the management of non-invasive species through to changes in land management practices to secure the reduction of ammonia in surface water runoff.



Ladywell Fields, Lewisham by BDP

*¹ These include looking after watercourses and supporting the enhancement of Essex County Council's Flood Asset Register through to building new flood defences.

2.2 DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

Sustainable Drainage Systems

Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) are designed to manage stormwater as close to its source as possible, by mimicking natural drainage systems and processes to encourage infiltration, attenuation and passive treatment. SuDS are designed to both manage the flood and pollution risks from urban surface water runoff and to contribute to environmental and biodiversity enhancements and place-making. With this in mind, the multi-functionality and multiple benefits of SuDS provision should always be incorporated into development proposals and masterplans.

Good SuDS design should follow the SuDS philosophy, by adopting a number of key principles:

- A management train – using a variety of SuDS components in series
- Source control – managing runoff as close as possible to where it falls as rain
- Managing water on the surface – runoff should be managed through above ground features if possible and should mimic natural drainage processes
- Early and effective engagement – consider the use of SuDS at the earliest stages of the design process.



Grey to Green SuDS project, Sheffield by Nigel Dunnett



Ladywell Fields, Lewisham by BDP

2.2 DELIVERING MULTIFUNCTIONAL SPACES

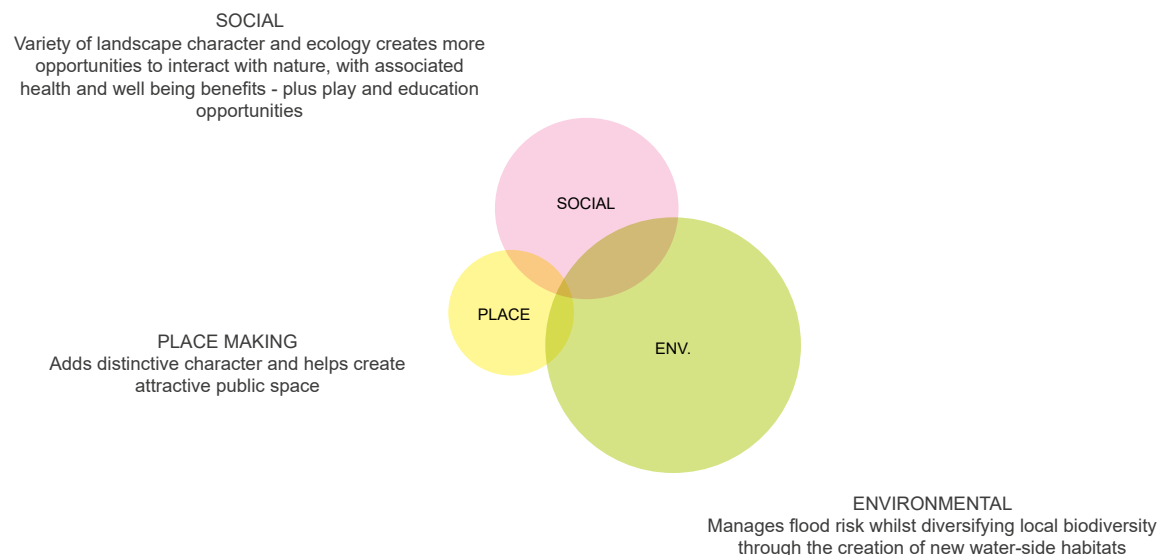
Benefits Of Suds

The benefits of SuDS include:

- Flood risk management – reducing the risk of flooding from development
- Water quality management – reducing the impact of diffuse pollution
- Improving amenity and biodiversity – the integration of Green Infrastructure with SuDS solutions can help to create new habitat, recreation and biodiversity areas
- Water resources – SuDS can help to recharge groundwater supplies and capture rainwater for re-use purposes
- Community benefits – attractive, well designed public open spaces that incorporate SuDS can help to create better communities through social cohesion and quality of life improvements
- Recreation – multi-purpose SuDS components not only manage surface water, but also act as sports/play areas
- Education – SuDS in schools provide a fantastic learning opportunity whilst also providing additional recreational space
- Enabling development – SuDS can help to free up capacity in already established drainage networks, and the provision of SuDS can often be a prerequisite of planning permission.

How Do We Get There?

The main mechanism for securing SuDS is through the development process. Consequently, the consideration of SuDS as part of the early stages of designing a development or Masterplan will be key to its success and provides the opportunity to integrate measures as part of the multifunctional approach that this Strategy is seeking to achieve. The Council will also work with Essex County Council to identify opportunities for retrofitting SuDS.



This page is intentionally left blank

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY

IMPLEMENTATION: GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE IN STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

You should read this document after reading
[The Primer](#) if you are:

A Strategic Site Developer / Designer /
Authority Officer / Policy Maker
who is designing, assessing or delivering Green
Infrastructure



CONTENTS

How To Use This Document	107
3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS	109
Overview	110
1. Summary for Latton Priory and Water Lane Garden Town Communities	111
Latton Priory and Water Lane Garden Town Communities	113
2. Summary for North Weald Bassett Masterplan Area	125
North Weald Bassett Masterplan Area	127
3. Summary for Waltham Abbey North Masterplan Area	136
Waltham Abbey North Masterplan Area	138
4. Summary for South of Epping Masterplan Area	144
South of Epping Masterplan Area	146
3.2 DELIVERING SANG	152
Principles	155
What Types of Visitors Should the SANG Be Designed to Accommodate?	158
Walking and Cycling Routes	158
Natural Play	159
Wayfinding	159
Appearance	159
Avoiding Conflicts	159

HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

Purpose of the Strategy and Parts

The purpose of the Green Infrastructure Strategy (“the Strategy”) is to ensure a strategic and holistic approach is taken to protecting, maintaining and enhancing the ecology, landscape and heritage in the District.

The Primer document provides an introduction and to the existing green and blue assets in the District, and the Vision and Objectives of the Strategy. The other parts of the Strategy are to be read in conjunction with Primer. These are:

1. Implementation: Enhancing our Existing Network
2. Implementation: Landscape-Led Design

This Part provides guidance on:

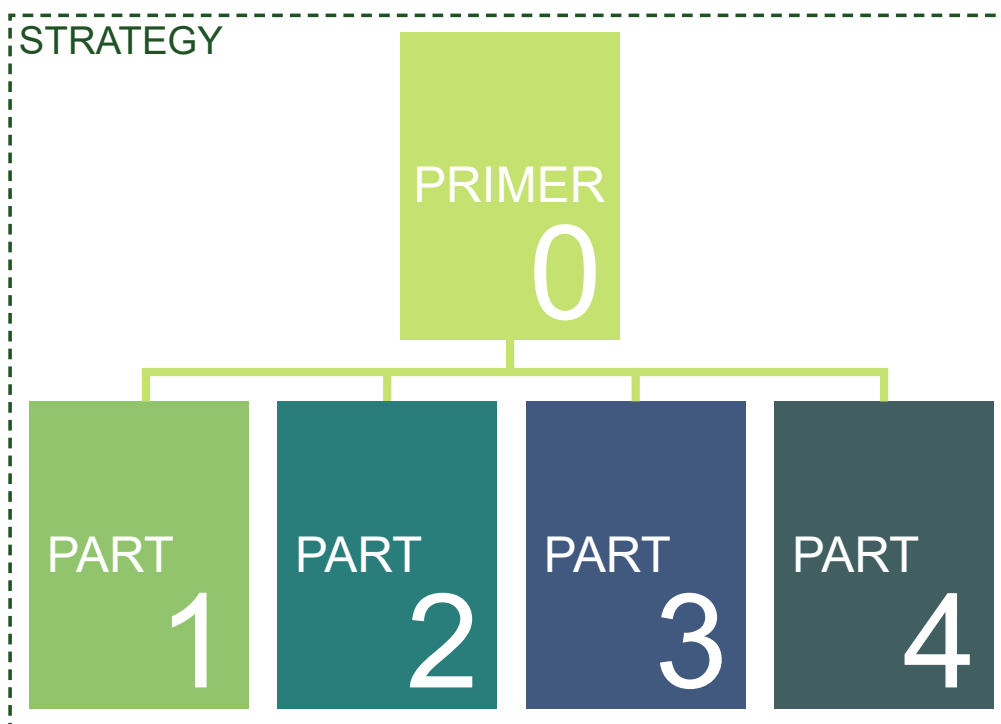
3. Implementation: Green Infrastructure in Strategic Allocations

It provides:

- A more in-depth look at green and blue infrastructure in relation to specific Strategic Allocations
- Guidance on the creation of Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG)

The other Parts of the Strategy cover:

4. Implementation: Infrastructure Enhancement Projects



HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

Who will use the Strategy and Part 3?

The Strategy consists of five Parts. Anyone using this Part of the Strategy and the associated guidance and projects should read the [Primer](#) first, to familiarise themselves with the purpose, context and vision of the Strategy.

This document (3. Implementation: Strategic Allocations) is primarily focused at strategic site developers, designers, authority officers and policy makers, who are designing, assessing and delivering green and blue infrastructure as part of wider Masterplanning activities. The East of Harlow Garden Town Community Masterplan Area lies within both the Epping Forest District and Harlow District Council administrative areas. Because the masterplanning of the site involves a partnership between the two councils the site has not been included for detailed analysis within Part 3.1. Nevertheless, the development of the masterplan and subsequent detailed planning applications for the East of Harlow Garden Town Community will be expected to accord with the principles contained within this Strategy in relation to GI provision.

When to use this document?

Developers and designers of Strategic Sites should refer to the principles and guidance in Part 3 when initiating their masterplanning process, and in order to demonstrate, where appropriate, that the development of the site would not have an adverse effect on the integrity of ecologically important sites.

STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

3.1

Page 113

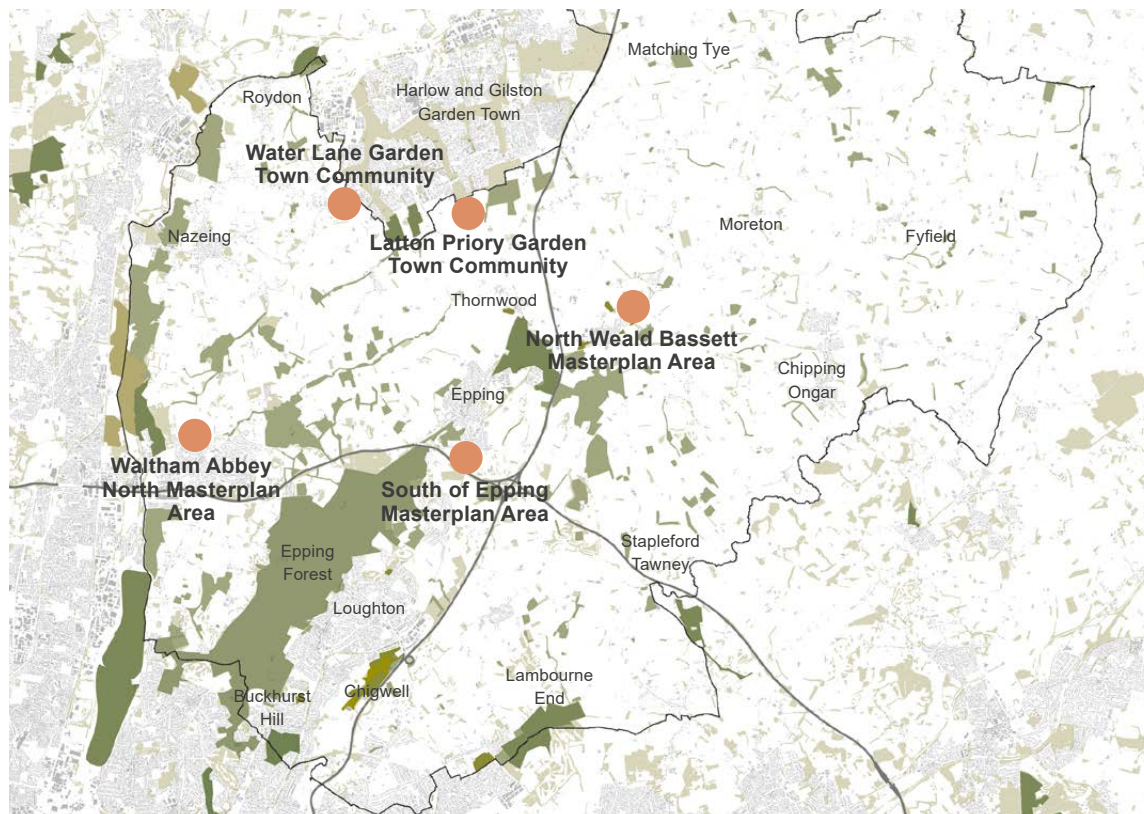
3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Overview

The development of the strategic allocations in the emerging Local Plan provides the opportunity to deliver an integrated and complementary GI offer that supports place-making principles, encourages healthy lifestyles and community cohesion, provides for a net-gain in biodiversity, responds to climate change issues. It also supports the objective of avoiding harm to the integrity of ecologically important sites such as the Epping Forest SAC including, where appropriate, through the provision of Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG). Further detail on the principles that should be applied to the development of SANG is set out in Part 3.2.

The development of masterplans, and the Landscape Frameworks within them, for the following locations will therefore be required to take a coordinated approach to the provision of a significant and varied amount of green infrastructure. In doing so the Council recognises that it will only be at the detailed planning application stage that a granular level of detail will be able to be provided. This Part of the Strategy has been developed to inform both the development of the Masterplans and subsequent planning applications.

- Latton Priory and Water Lane Garden Communities
- North Weald Bassett Masterplan Area
- Waltham Abbey North Masterplan Area
- South of Epping Masterplan Area



District map showing the location of Strategic Allocations

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

1. Summary for Latton Priory and Water Lane Garden Town Communities

Latton Priory

Residential capacity: **c. 1050 homes**

GI provision: **In accordance with emerging Local Plan policies SP4 and SP5**

Indicative SANG size: **20ha** (see page 123 for further information)

Preferred location: **Southern part of the Masterplan Area**

Future proofing required? **Yes**

Water Lane

Residential capacity: **c. 2100 homes**

GI provision: **In accordance with emerging Local Plan policies SP4 and SP5**

Indicative SANG size: **13ha** (see page 123 for further information)

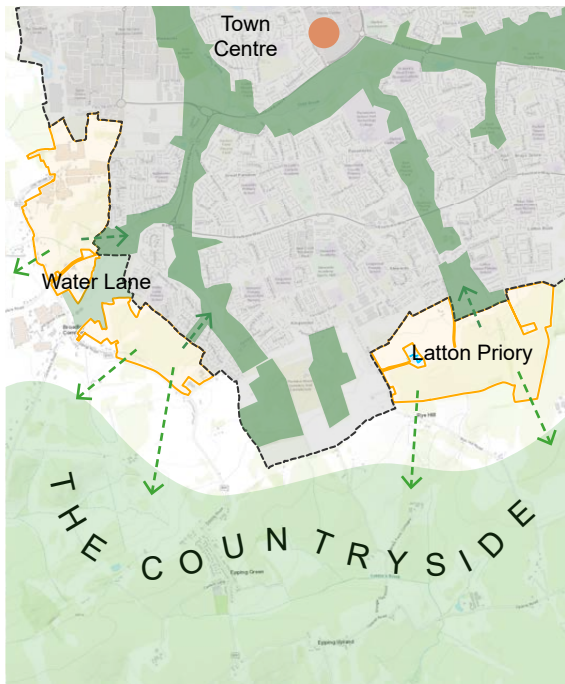
Preferred location: **Integrated with the West Sumners site**

Future proofing required? **Yes**

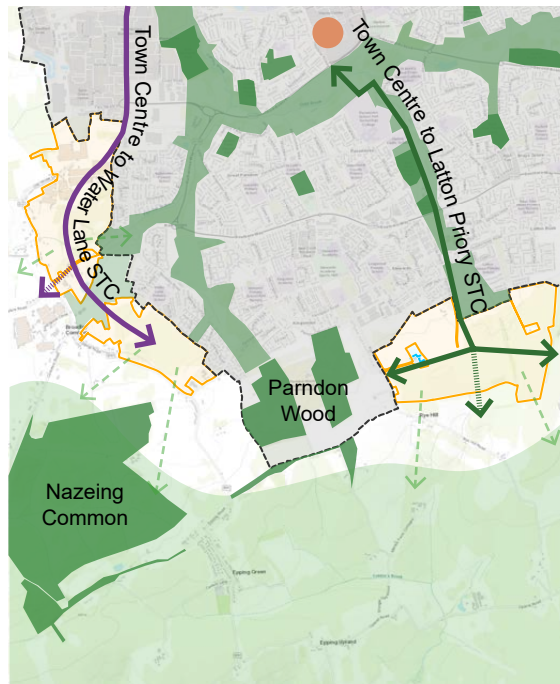
Green Infrastructure Key Characteristics:

1. **Connecting into the big landscape attractors including the Lea and Stort Valleys**
 - Link to the Stort Valley Way and Lea Valley
 - Connect into Harlow's Green Wedges to provide direct links to Harlow Town Centre, the surrounding countryside and other greenspaces
2. **Access between existing and proposed communities and into the surrounding countryside**
 - Achieving a network of greenspaces centred around safe walking and cycling connections
 - Connect new communities into the proposed Sustainable Travel Corridor (STC)
 - Develop local walks to connect communities with local Green Infrastructure assets including Nazeing Common
3. **Complimentary network of green open spaces tying together new and existing communities, including the provision of SANG**
 - Complete strategic scale ecological corridor between Long Green Lane and Marks Wood (Ware)
 - Enhance habitats by improving management of local woodlands and grasslands, including Harlow and Latton Commons
 - Include natural play elements along routes and in greenspaces
 - Develop a complementary network of new spaces – using a balanced variety of greenspace typologies
4. **Activation and interpretation projects to engage a wider range of people with the countryside**
 - Develop a network of interventions to increase understanding and appreciation for natural greenspace and encourage visitors
 - Provide initiatives to encourage social interaction between communities
 - Encourage community participation in greenspace through inclusion of productive landscapes.

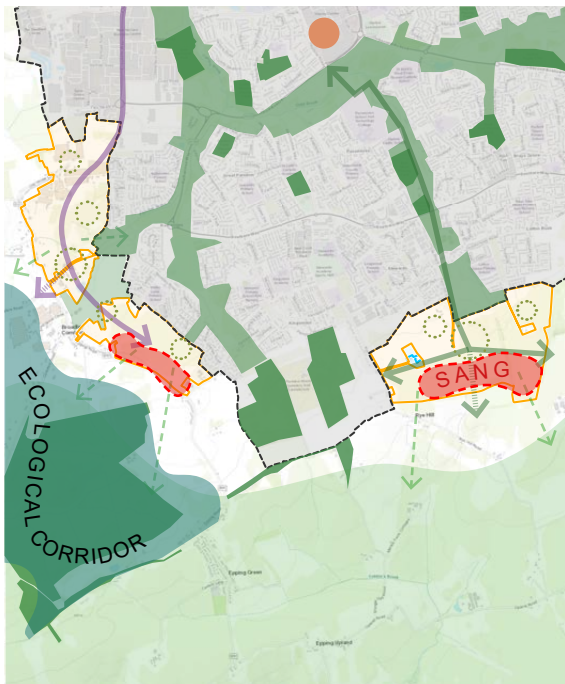
3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS



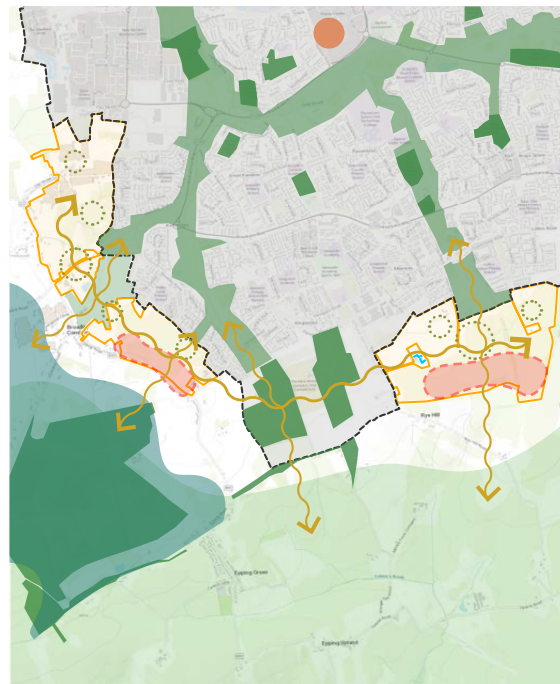
1. Connecting into the big landscape attractors including the Lea and Stort Valleys



2. Access between existing and proposed communities and into the surrounding countryside



3. Complimentary network of green open spaces tying together new and existing communities, including the provision of SANG



4. Activation and interpretation projects to engage a wider range of people with the countryside

Key

- New Pedestrian and Cycle Links
- Green Wedges and Fingers
- Sustainable Transport Corridor
- Nearby Greenspaces

- Ecological Corridor to Marks Wood near Ware
- Indicative SANG
- New Open Spaces
- Network of Interventions between Countryside and Communities

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Latton Priory and Water Lane Garden Town Communities

The Latton Priory and Water Lane Garden Communities are proposed for allocation in the emerging Local Plan as part of the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town. They are strategic sites which are required to have Masterplans in place prior to any planning application(s) for their development being determined.

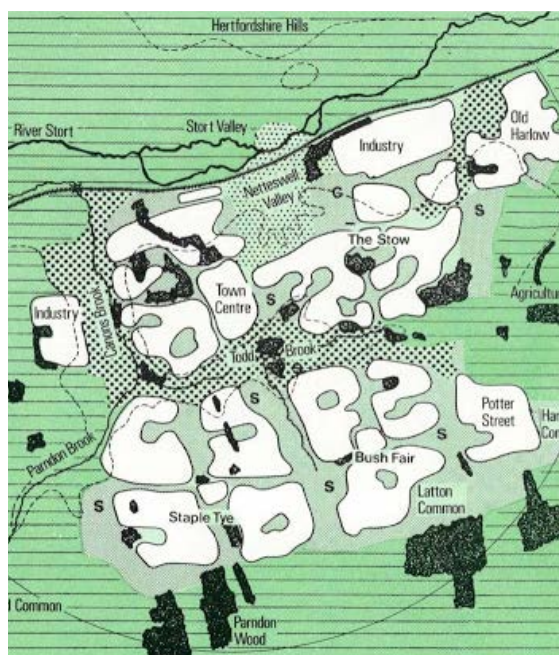
Landscape Context

Latton Priory sits on a prominent ridge between Jack's Hatch and Church Langley which is identified as 'Farmland Ridge' in the Council's [Landscape Character Assessment 2010](#) (EB709). The ridge forms the highest land point in the District and was a defining landscape feature in Sir Frederick Gibberd's planning of Harlow, with the town sitting in the dip in the landscape to the north of the ridge. There are views from the ridge south across gently undulating farmland towards the town of Epping and northwards towards Harlow - the centre of which is a prominent feature. However, in the surrounding residential areas it is mature trees rather than the built form which dominates the view. Trees are also a key component of the landscape character of the ridge with large blocks of ancient woodland defining the landscape.

Water Lane is located on the edge of an undulating landscape of predominately arable fields with mature hedgerows and veteran trees which is described as 'Farmland Plateau' in the Council's Landscape Character Assessment 2010. This landscape is part of the historic field patterns and settlements identified within the Nazeing and South Roydon Conservation Areas. As it is set on lower ground than Latton Priory, Water Lane is not as visually important to the setting of Harlow despite there being views back towards the town from it.



Farmland Ridge landscape character, Epping Forest District Council's Landscape Character Assessment

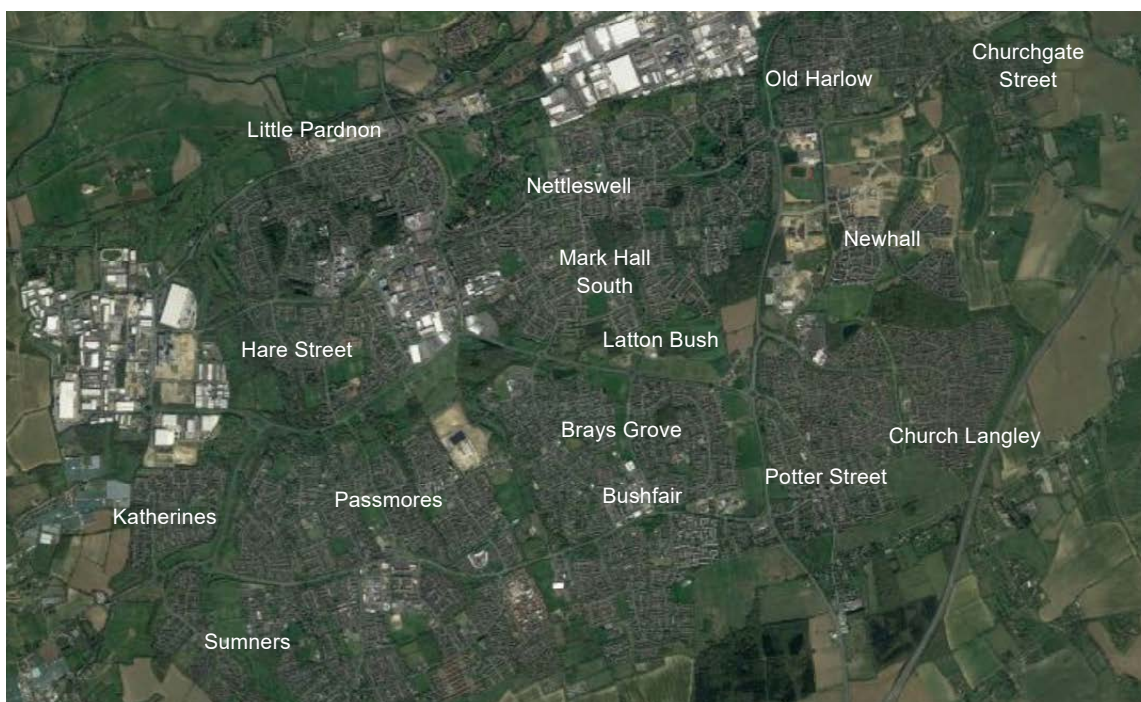


Harlow's Green Wedges as planned by Sir Frederick Gibberd

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Harlow's Green Wedges were a major feature of Sir Frederick Gibberd's design for bringing the countryside into the town and continue to have a significant influence on the design of the town. The aim of the approach was to give residents the opportunity to experience the best of town and country living. The Wedges provide amenity space for residents, habitats for wildlife, transport corridors, locations for schools and sport and community facilities. Harlow District Council has undertaken reviews of the individual Green Wedges in the context of the criteria relevant to them.

The Wedges relate directly to Latton Priory and Water Lane and the continuation of this landscape structure through the sites and its relation to the surrounding countryside and pedestrian rights of way will be key to creating an integrated landscape. In doing so regard should be had to the relevant policies set out in the [Harlow Local Development Plan](#) (adopted December 2020) including Policy WE2 (Green Belt, Wedges and Green Fingers).



Harlow's Green Wedges today

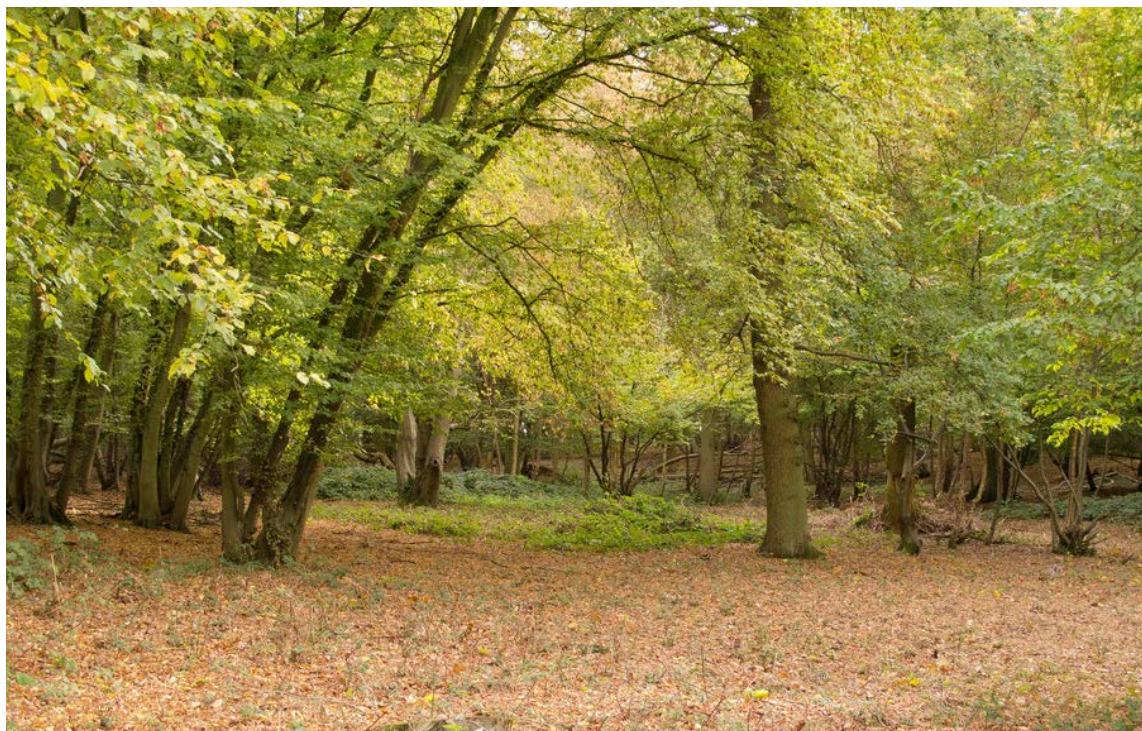
3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Communities

Latton Priory is located to the south of the Staple Tye and Latton Bush neighbourhoods within Harlow District. The emerging Local Plan proposes to allocate the site (SP5.1) for development including the provision of a minimum of 1050 new homes, traveller pitches, new employment opportunities, a new primary and secondary school and a new local centre. There is a policy requirement to provide strategic 'green infrastructure' comprising natural/ semi natural open space (including SANG), walking and cycling routes, flood mitigation, wildlife space and urban agriculture.

Water Lane (SP5.2) is located to the west of the existing Katherines, Sumners and Kingsmoor communities within Harlow District. The emerging Local Plan proposes that a minimum of 2100 new homes is provided for within the Masterplan area, together with a new primary school, traveller pitches, as well as local shops and services. There is a policy requirement to provide strategic 'green infrastructure' comprising natural/semi natural open space (including SANG), walking and cycling routes flood mitigation, wildlife space and urban agriculture.

Developing a cohesive urban and landscape structure that allows easy movement between communities (including those within Harlow), Harlow's local centres/hatches and landscape destinations (such as parks, woodlands or play spaces) will be key to creating connected, healthy and sustainable communities. In this it is essential that existing communities are able to see the benefits of development in their own neighbourhoods and that new development feels like a cohesive part of Harlow, where existing residents feel welcome.



Parndon Wood SSSI, located between Latton Priory and Water Lane Garden Town Communities

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Landscape and Ecology Assets

The [Green Infrastructure Plan for Harlow](#) (2005) identifies the landscape to the south and west of Harlow, within which the Latton Priory and Water Lane sites are located, as “a ‘heritage landscape’ which reflects key historic themes that are characteristic/ distinctive of the Harlow Area.

One of the defining features of this landscape is the significant blocks of ancient woodland that stretch from Copy Wood to Harlow Park Woods. Smaller relics of ancient woodland also appear within the urban form of Harlow at Burnett’s Wood and Maunds Wood. Within these various woodlands there are a variety of distinctive woodland characters such as the canopy of oak with coppiced hornbeam growing beneath it in Parndon Woods and the sparse canopy of elms with rich under-story and ground flora in Copy Wood. These habitats are a product of ancient ecologies intertwined with the cultural heritage of the area and provide a distinct experience of nature in an urban context. As such they have significant local value. This is evidenced by the Green Infrastructure Plan for Harlow which identifies Harlow Woods as having a district wide draw.

To the east, Latton Common and Harlow Common provide freely accessible common land which are designated as Local Wildlife Sites (LoWS) in recognition of their grassland habitats. They represent significant vestiges of the once large tract of common land which stretched from Harlow Common to close to Maunds Wood. To the west Nazeing Common is another significant area of common land which is the subject of the Nazeing Wood or Park Act 1947 and is regulated and managed by Trustees. It was originally part of Waltham Forest but was deforested in the 13th century for pasture. It was used in the early stages of the Second World War as a dummy airfield, designed to be a decoy for North Weald airfield, and was then put into agricultural production. It contains a Scheduled Monument encompassing an above ground and below ground night shelter from this time.



Harlow Common

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Running east - west Epping Long Green is an ancient landscape feature which pre- dates the town of Epping. It consists of a broad strip of semi-improved natural grassland and a footpath, bordered on both sides by ancient hedgerows. Epping Long Green was historically part of a network of drovers routes connecting, Waltham Abbey, Harlow, Latton Priory and surrounding villages. Together these natural greenspaces provide a distinctive landscape character while also offering a wide variety of culturally and ecologically rich places. Work to improve their legibility, access, habitat value and ecological connections would all contribute to strengthening a hugely valuable shared resource for current and future residents.

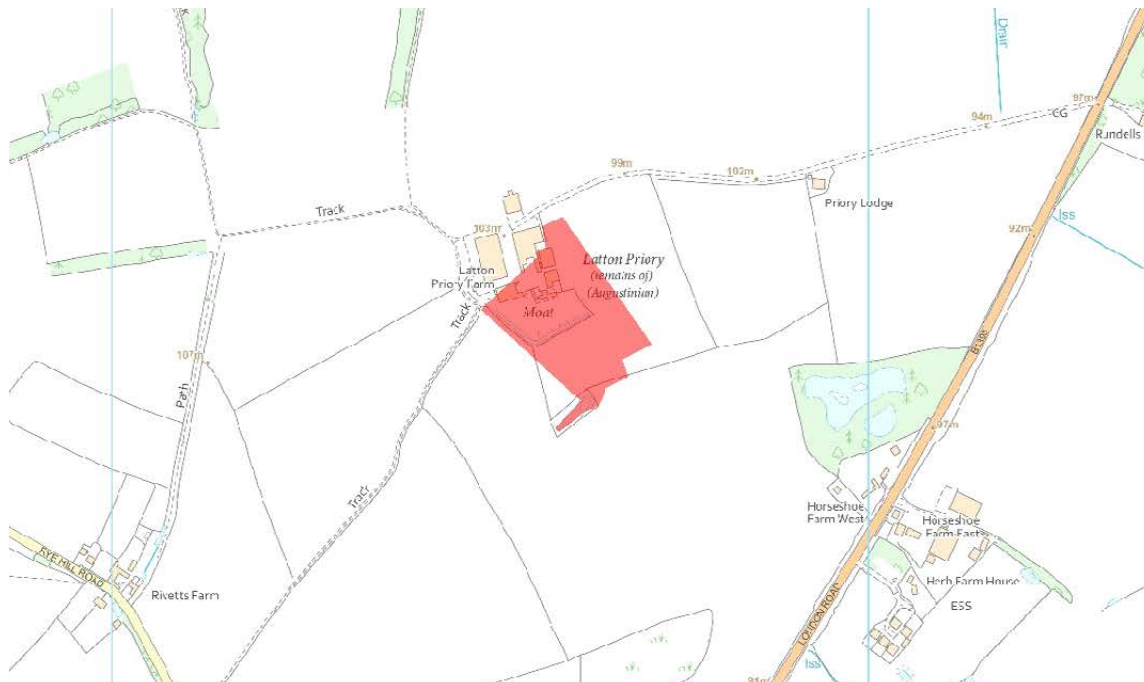


Epping Long Green

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Heritage

Latton Priory and Water Lane are located in areas which provide a rich diversity of landscape and heritage assets, from Ancient Green Lanes and Woodlands, through to the Scheduled Monument of Latton Priory. Developing and signing a clear network of footpaths is key to allow these assets to form an integrated part of the network of landscape assets.



Historic England map for the Scheduled Monument at Latton Priory - the site of an Augustinian priory

Amenity Greenspace and Public Parks and Gardens

The [Harlow Open Space and Green Infrastructure Study](#) assesses the quantity, quality and value of the open space and green infrastructure in Harlow District, and forms part of the Evidence base for Harlow District Council's adopted Local Plan. Amenity Greenspace and Public Parks and Gardens are assessed separately but here, given the similarities of the provision and the potential for overlapping functions, they are grouped together as this gives a more comprehensive picture of provision. The study showed that in terms of size 'Sumner, Kingsmoor and Staple Tye' (which are the closest neighbourhoods to the Latton Priory and Water Lane Masterplan areas) is currently above the advised minimum provision while 'Bush Fair and Harlow Common' has less provision. However, this shortfall is to some extent compensated for by the proximity of Latton and Harlow Commons.

Amenity greenspaces and parks are of mixed quality, with a number of parks assessed in the Harlow Open Space and Green Infrastructure Study (2013) falling below quality standards with the highest proportion being located on the southern side of Harlow.

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Allotments

The [Council's Open Space Strategy 2017](#) shows that allotments are generally well provided for across the District and the Harlow Green Infrastructure Strategy shows a similar position. Allotments and food growing are key components of the network of greenspaces as they provide the green social infrastructure that can support the creation of cohesive and healthy communities. To do this any new allotment provision should, through their location and allocation, serve new and existing communities. While limited public access can help build a strong community within allotment sites themselves it also limits the public engaging with food growing. Therefore, proposals should look to expand the variety of productive landscapes beyond just the provision of allotments and look to incorporate ways of engaging new users with them.

The Netteswell Common Allotments are located within the existing Green Wedge proposed to be extended into the Latton Priory Garden Town Community. The shortage of provision at Sumners, Kingsmoor and Staple Tye could be addressed through enhancements to provision within the Green Wedge.

Provision for Children and Young People

Current provision is located in the adjacent Harlow communities and consists of almost exclusively traditional equipment in fenced play areas. The condition of the equipment is mixed. There is therefore significant opportunity to enhance both the quality and variety of opportunities for children and young people of all age groups.



Playground at Maunds Hatch

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Movement

There is an established network of Public Rights of Way (PRoW) that runs through the surrounding countryside. These routes are well used but as with many routes across the District there is room for improving accessibility, legibility and wayfinding. Both sites are well linked into the wider PRoW network by local footpaths.

Regional walks such as the Nazeing Country Walk, the Stort Valley Way and the Forest Way Long Distance Walking Path (which runs from the edge of the Epping Forest to Hatfield Forest and crosses both Latton and Harlow Commons) highlight the draw of the local landscape. There are real opportunities to link the sites into this wider network, including to integrate different parts of the bridleway network and byway network.

The Harlow and Gilston Garden Town will be served by a network of Sustainable Transport Corridors (STCs) which will provide rapid transit, walking and cycling routes from the proposed Garden Town Communities through existing communities to Harlow town centre and its train stations. Two arms of the proposed STCs will extend to Water Lane and Latton Priory. There is potential to continue the walking and cycling component of these routes to connect Latton Priory and Water Lane. There is significant room to improve accessibility, legibility and wayfinding through the Green Wedges especially where the wedges link into Latton Priory and Water Lane. The existing PRoW network should also be enhanced to create an attractive connection between the two new communities and in particular the proposed secondary school in Latton Priory.

There are also two well-established walking routes known as [Millennium Walks 2 and 3](#), in Thornwood and Hastingwood, which were established to celebrate the turn of the millennium. There is a significant opportunity to link these existing routes through to the new development at Latton Priory, including to the proposed secondary school, and provide for their enhancement.



The Stort Valley Way at Harlow

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Opportunities

The opportunities set out below are in line with the key principles for the development of strategic sites:

1. Connecting into the big landscape attractors including the Lea and Stort Valleys
2. Access between existing and proposed communities and into the surrounding countryside
3. Complimentary network of green open spaces tying together new and existing communities, including the provision of SANG
4. Activation and interpretation projects to engage a wider range of people with the countryside

Connecting into the big landscape attractors

The Stort Valley Way offers an opportunity to link into a strategic route that ties into the Stort Valley. Alongside this the Green Wedges provide direct routes into Harlow's greenspaces and Harlow Town Centre. Existing routes also enable access to longer distance routes including to the Stort Valley as well as to more local destinations including Nazeing Common. Prioritising the enhancement of these routes to be able to accommodate additional users or including new links is key to the integration of the sites into their context and the promotion of destinations such as the Stort Valley as an accessible recreational landscape.

Access between existing and proposed communities and into the surrounding countryside

Easy, safe and attractive walking and cycling connections between neighbourhoods and open spaces are an important component of building a successful network of greenspaces. Consideration should also be given to the needs of horse-riders where appropriate. To deliver these connections improved accessibility, legibility and wayfinding will be needed. Key areas will include:

- Enhancements to the Green wedges that currently run out to the countryside in order to provide high quality connections into the Green Wedge network and on to Harlow Town Centre and the stations and facilitate local links into existing greenspaces and local centres
- Continuing the walking and cycling component of the proposed STC routes to connect Latton Priory and Water Lane, including in order to provide Water Lane residents with a safe and active route to the proposed secondary school in Latton Priory
- Develop a series of local walks that link communities with local GI assets. Routes should be planned to give a series of routes that are of an optimal distance for users including dog walkers and to provide variety in walking routes and lengths.

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Complimentary network of green open spaces tying together new and existing communities, including the provision of SANG

Local GI Overview

In line with the rest of the District an analysis of existing open space provision indicates that high quality Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace already exists both in the locality and further afield. However, some of this greenspace is itself under pressure (including both the Harlow Woods SSSI and the Epping Forest SAC) and therefore the provision of SANG will help to 'absorb' pressure arising from new residents by adding to the Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace offer.

Other types of open space, including parks, play and allotments are of average or lower quality and are generally under provided. These should therefore be integrated into the GI offer for the sites.

Reveal and Enhance

Specific opportunities to reveal and enhance the existing Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace offer include the following:

- Complete the ecological corridor from Long Green Lane to Marks Wood. Where it would not be harmful to the ecological and natural heritage value of the assets tree canopies could be lifted and scrub cleared to allow views into woodland areas
- Enhance habitats through improved management including to the grassland of Harlow and Latton Commons and woodlands in the locality
- Maximise opportunities to create an overlap between people and ecology such as leaving some large, felled trees in woodlands or retaining low branches on appropriate trees when pruning for play opportunities



Latton Common

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace

Initial design work has started on developing the approach to SANG provision for Latton Priory and Water Lane including how it relates to existing paths and habitats.

Latton Priory Garden Community:

This site has an indicative capacity for 1050 homes. Based on this indicative c. 20ha of SANG would be required. Whilst part of the site lies outside of the current 6.2 km Zone of Influence the full quantum of development would need to be mitigated recognising the need to 'future-proof' the development in light of the potential for the Zone of Influence to increase (as is already indicated in the 2019 Epping Forest SAC Visitor survey) and to minimise the potential for the site to contribute to this increase. The preferred location of the SANG is on land on the southern side of the Masterplan area. The detailed form of the SANG provision will be determined once the final location of the access road has been resolved. The site promoter has control over land contiguous with the southern boundary of the site allocation. This could be brought forward for SANG provision as indicated at the Local Plan Examination hearing sessions this land could be brought forward SANG provision. The priority for its use will be as mitigation for the development arising from the Masterplan area. Any residual carrying capacity which is potentially able to mitigate the impacts of development elsewhere will be subject to commercial arrangements.

Water Lane Garden Community:

The Masterplan area provides for some 2,100 new homes. Based on the total number of homes proposed within the Masterplan area the provision of SANG would equate to 39.68 ha. However, the Masterplan area comprises two distinct areas for development, the larger of which (West Katherine's) is located some distance from the current 6.2km Zone of Influence and a significant proportion of the smaller site (West Sumners) is also outside of the Zone of Influence. Nevertheless, as with Latton Priory, the Council considers that there is a need to 'future-proof' the development and to minimise the potential for the site to contribute to any extension to the Zone of Influence. The Council is therefore seeking an element of SANG provision based on the total indicative residential capacity of the West Sumners site. Assuming a capacity of c. 700 dwellings the size of SANG required would be c. 13ha.

The Masterplan should also identify greenspace connections to the Green Wedge and to the west towards Epping Long Green. GI beyond the provision of the SANG will also need to be developed as part of the emerging masterplan.

Complimentary Network

Provision of open space should be integrated as part of the Masterplanning of the Garden Town Communities and designed in such a way as to encourage integration between the new and existing communities. A balance of open space typologies across the wider area within both Epping Forest and Harlow Districts should also be planned for. Existing spaces that need to be addressed in qualitative terms are Rye Hill Road Recreation Ground, Paringdon Road Recreation Space, and Parsloe Road Open Space.

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Activation and interpretation projects to engage a wider range of people with the countryside

The landscape should be considered as forming part of the social infrastructure. This will help to support the creation of cohesive communities through engaging more people with outdoor space and creating opportunities for social interaction. This can be achieved in the following ways:

- Natural and Semi natural open space should be enhanced where possible to help increase peoples understanding and appreciation of nature and inspire new people to visit these places. Potential areas where this could be achieved are: Local woodlands, the three Commons, local Green Lanes, and the Scheduled Monuments at Latton Priory and Nazeing. Potential interventions could include: Bird Hides, Natural Play, Low key interpretation and Art
- Parks and amenity space should be brought to life with initiatives that encourage social interaction and which link help to tackle loneliness, obesity, and encourage healthy eating. Places where this could be achieved are: The Green Wedge north of Latton Priory, and the Parsloe Road Open Space. Initiatives could include: Multi-sensory planting, intergenerational and natural play, art, food growing
- Productive Landscapes should be developed beyond just the provision of allotments to encourage wider participation and engagement between communities. The main place where this could be achieved is at the Netteswell Common Allotments. Other potential opportunities include: Rye Hill Road Recreation Ground, Parsloe Road Open Space and the proposed schools to be developed within the Garden Town Communities.



The Kerb Garden, Stockwell by The Edible Bus Stop



Magneten Sensory Garden, Copenhagen by MASU Planning

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

2. Summary for North Weald Bassett Masterplan Area

Residential capacity: **c. 1050 homes**

GI provision: **In accordance with emerging Local Plan policies SP4 and SP5**

Indicative SANG size: **20ha** (see page 134 for further information)

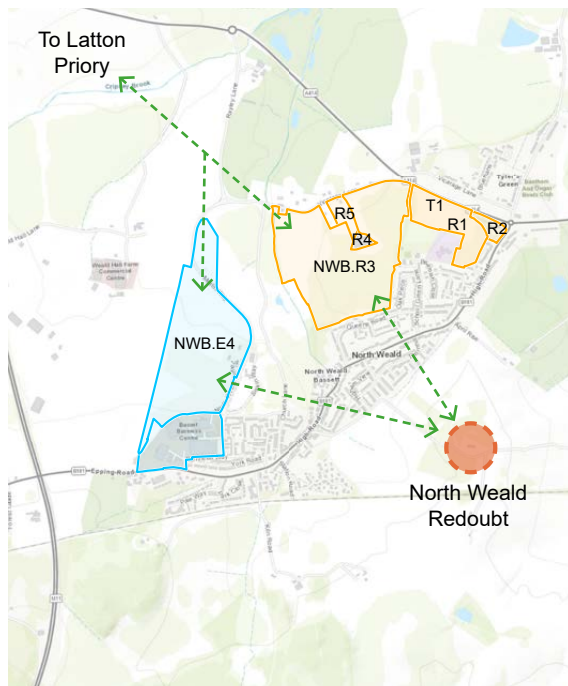
Preferred location: **Between the commercial and residential masterplans**

Future proofing required? **Yes**

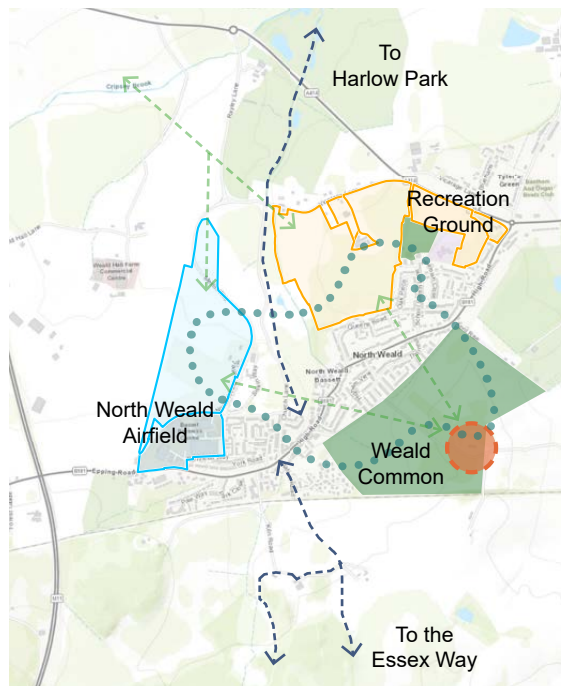
Green Infrastructure Key Characteristics:

1. **Connecting into the big landscape attractors**
 - The masterplan area is too far away from the Lea and Stort Valleys to make a significant connection
 - Therefore, walking routes to Latton Priory and nearby heritage landscapes are to be promoted
2. **Access between existing and proposed communities and into the surrounding countryside**
 - Create a 'Green Loop' connecting North Weald Airfield, Weald Common, North Weald Redoubt and the Recreation Ground
 - Connect to the Essex Way and develop a wider network of routes with improved wayfinding and accessibility, including to the Latton Priory Masterplan Area and its proposed secondary school.
3. **Complimentary network of green open spaces tying together new and existing communities, including the provision of SANG**
 - Provide new greenspaces within the masterplan with different types of open space than those currently in existence, for the benefit of new and existing communities
 - Consider improvements to existing greenspaces surrounding the site, such as the Recreation Ground and the court facilities within the Common
4. **Activation and interpretation projects to engage a wider range of people with the countryside**
 - Include initiatives such as sensitively integrated play, art and interpretation elements

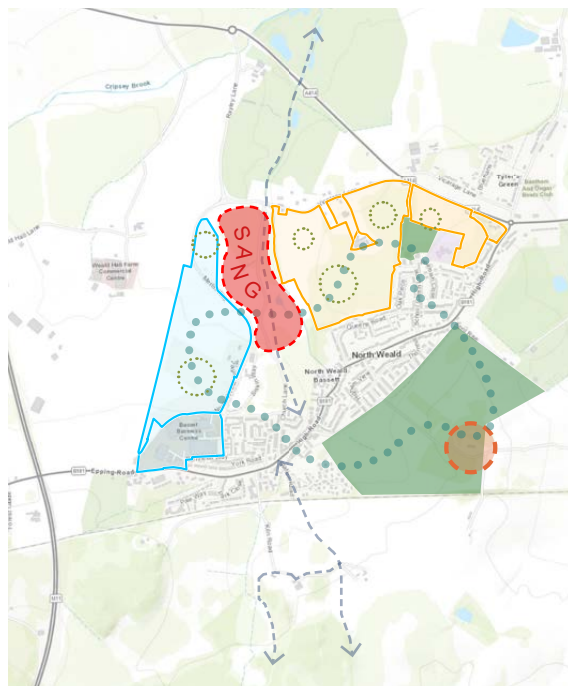
3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS



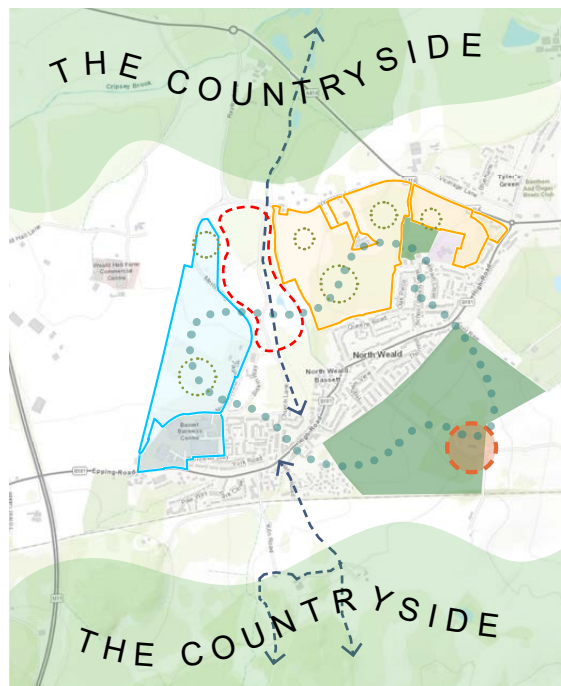
1. Connecting into the big landscape attractors



2. Access between existing and proposed communities and into the surrounding countryside



3. Complimentary network of green open spaces tying together new and existing communities, including the provision of SANG



4. Activation and interpretation projects to engage a wider range of people with the countryside

Key

- New Pedestrian and Cycle Links
- North Weald Redoubt
- Nearby Greenspaces
- Green Loop
- Existing PRoW Network
- Indicative SANG
- New Open Spaces

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

North Weald Bassett Masterplan Area

Landscape Context

North Weald Bassett lies in an area defined as 'Ridges and Valleys' in the Council's [Landscape Character Assessment 2010](#). The landscape is characterised by a patchwork of arable fields, with mature hedgerows. Mature trees are also a defining feature of the landscape both within hedgerows and in fields and there are a large number of trees in the village which are protected by Tree Preservation Orders. This landscape pattern provides for a number of open and framed views to the surrounding landscape. North Weald Airfield, which is defined by a strong fenced perimeter, is a significant presence in the landscape as is the M11 to the west.



Ridges and Valleys landscape character, Epping Forest District Council's Landscape Character Assessment

Natural and Semi Natural Greenspace and Landscape and Ecology Assets

There are a variety of lowland mixed deciduous ancient woodlands, located mainly to the south of North Weald Bassett. These woodlands include original and replanted ancient woodland with BAP Habitats designated as Lowland Mixed Deciduous Woodland (UK); and Ancient Woodland (Essex). An existing Nature Reserve is located adjacent to the proposed residential Masterplan Area and is a source of extensive biodiversity.

Woodlands include a variety of flora which provide a range of distinctive woodland characters including virtually pure hornbeam coppice (Reynkyns Wood); blocks of Scotts Pine (Birching Coppice Complex); and Hornbeam/ Pedunculate composition with scattered Rhododendron (Birching Coppice Complex).

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

These woodlands provide a significant natural resource within easy reach of North Weald Bassett. There is an opportunity to connect people to these ancient woodlands, through improved physical connections and legibility, to bring them into people's consciousness. This would need to be carefully managed to ensure that their ecological and natural heritage interest features are not harmed. There are a variety of species rich grasslands, wetland and reed beds that are also located in the area including relatively recent flood alleviation works.

There is significant potential to connect people to these landscape assets drawing out cultural and ecological heritage while building new relationships between local people and their environment. Carefully considered natural play opportunities, seating, low key interpretation and art, could engage local people to connect with these areas.

The provision of SANG should complement the existing provision of Natural Greenspace to provide a more coherent and attractive network of spaces and places.



Church Lane Flood Meadow Local Nature Reserve

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Heritage

North Weald Bassett has an interesting variety of built and landscape heritage. North Weald Airfield opened in 1916 to defend London against German air raids in World War I. Operational flying ceased in 1919 but restarted as an operational RAF Fighter station in 1927. Its role in the Battle of Britain resulted in enemy raids on the airfield with many bombs falling on the village and surrounding areas. Squadrons from many nationalities were based at North Weald during the course of the war, including Norwegians, Czechs, Poles, Canadians, New Zealanders and American volunteers. The last operational fighter squadron left in 1958 and the RAF vacated the airfield in 1964. A memorial is located at the former main entrance to the airfield dedicated to all who served there between 1916 and 1964. The airfield's control tower, which was built in 1952, is a Grade II Listed Building as is the former Officer's Mess. The control tower was one of only seven of its type to be constructed post-war and is a rare physical reminder of the role of RAF Fighter Command in the early years of the Cold War.

Ongar Park Woods (part of the Birching Coppice Complex) was historically part of the same woodland lying within the boundary of Ongar Great Park, the earliest deer park in Essex (dating back to the 11th century). The woodland remnants of Ongar Great Park still exist to the south of the town, while ancient woodlands with distinctive coppiced trees are landscape remnants of the formerly common practice of coppicing timber on rotation.

Immediately to the south of North Weald Bassett is the North Weald Redoubt Scheduled Monument. It was constructed in the 1890's as a mobilisation centre as part of a comprehensive military scheme known as the London Defence Positions drawn up to protect the capital in the event of enemy invasion. It was reused as a radio station after the First World War and has a remarkable level of survival. To the west, on the edges of Thornwood, lies the moated site known as Marshalls which is likely to have been constructed between 1250 and 1350, and which is also a Scheduled Monument.

There is significant potential to connect and illuminate the landscape and heritage assets of the area.



North Weald Redoubt Scheduled Monument

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Parks and Amenity Greenspace

The [Council's Open Space Strategy 2017](#) shows that there is an under supply of amenity greenspace in North Weald Bassett and that there are no parks. The existing amenity greenspace consists primarily of short cut grass and therefore has the potential to be enhanced in terms of its amenity, biodiversity and community offer.

The Memorial Playing Fields provides the main amenity greenspace within North Weald Bassett and includes play and sports facilities as well as a community hub. The Memorial Playing Fields have the potential to be enhanced to accommodate new residents if additional land is provided to ensure that this is not to the detriment of their enjoyment by existing residents. This would be a positive initiative in terms of creating a space for recreation, community activities and for quiet contemplation and as such would support community integration, by providing a place where people from new and existing communities can come. Any such initiative should provide the opportunity for existing and new communities to come together. Additional provision is supported by the Council's Open Space Strategy which identifies the need for an increased park offer in North Weald Bassett.

Provision for Children and Young People

There is currently a significant under supply of facilities in North Weald Bassett. The existing equipment is traditional and functional but lacks variety when measured against best practice. There is therefore a real opportunity to broaden the play offer to include natural play, multi-sensory play, play for all ages and play that is accessible for all. Consequently, new and enhanced provision should provide variety in the offer including using the provision of natural play opportunities as a means of encouraging people into the wider landscape and particularly as a means of bringing children into contact with nature.

Potential improvement to the existing basketball facilities, or the provision of other new ball courts, should look to MUF's social MUGA highlighted below and in [Part 2](#) of this Strategy as an example of best practice.



The social MUGA by MUF Architecture and Art

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Allotments

North Weald Bassett, in line with the District as a whole, has an adequate supply of allotments in relation to [Fields In Trust standards](#). Engagement with the North Weald Bassett community in the development of the emerging residential Masterplan should test the supply of allotments to ensure that provision continues to meet community needs.

Alongside this food growing opportunities should be developed in a wider sense. Allotments and food growing are key components of the network of greenspaces that will provide the green infrastructure that can aid the development of cohesive and healthy communities. To do this any new allotment provision should, through its location and allocation, serve as an integrated resource for both new and existing communities. While limited public access can help build a strong community within allotments it also limits the public engaging with food growing. Therefore, in addition to any allotment provision, proposals should look to expand the variety of productive landscapes and to look to engage new users with them.

Movement

There is an established network of both Public Rights of Way (PRoW) and informal routes that run through the surrounding countryside. This includes a well-used walking route around North Weald Village, known as [Millennium Walk 1](#), which was established to celebrate the turn of the millennium. There are a further two Millennium walks in the Parish of North Weald, in Thornwood and Hastingwood respectively. There is a significant opportunity to link these existing routes through to the new development at Latton Priory. These routes are well used but as with routes across the District there is room for improving accessibility, legibility and wayfinding. Such improvements should focus on promoting links between the existing community, the emerging masterplan areas, the surrounding countryside and between settlements. An existing bridleway runs through the site which will need to be preserved in a semi-rural state.

There is considerable community support for a wider active travel (walking and cycling) network to connect North Weald Bassett to both Latton Priory and Epping. As set out in [Parts 1](#) and [2](#) of the Strategy the Council supports active travel and will look to work with landowners/developers, the community and other stakeholders to secure these opportunities. In particular the route of the Epping-Ongar Railway line between North Weald Bassett and Epping should be explored as an opportunity for such a link to be provided adjacent to it.

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

The Essex Way, which runs 82 miles across Essex from Epping to the coast at Harwich, lies just to the south of North Weald Bassett. The development and enhancement of the local PRow network provides a good opportunity to link into this wider facility.

Significant barriers to movement are created by the M11 Motorway and the A414. Nevertheless, the Council will work with landowners, developers and stakeholders to explore ways of circumventing these barriers, and how any such initiative should be funded.



The Essex Way

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Opportunities

The opportunities set out below are in line with the key principles for the development of strategic sites:

1. Connecting into or creating landscape attractors.
2. Access between existing and proposed communities and into the surrounding countryside.
3. Complimentary network of green open spaces tying together new and existing communities, including the provision of SANG.
4. Activation and interpretation projects to engage a wider range of people with the countryside.

Connecting into the big landscape attractors

Due to the distance between North Weald Bassett and the Stort and Lea Valleys it is not envisaged that these will serve as significant attractions. However, the promotion of wider strategic footpaths including a route north to tie into Latton Priory and to heritage assets in the locality should be pursued.

Access between existing and proposed communities and into the surrounding countryside

Easy, safe and attractive walking and cycling connections between the residential and airfield Masterplan sites, existing neighbourhoods and open spaces are key to building a successful network of greenspaces. Such an approach also supports the objective of creating a connected community and place. To deliver these connections improvements to accessibility, legibility and wayfinding should be provided for including:

- To create a green Loop to link new green space with key existing local green spaces and attractors, including North Weald Airfield, North Weald Common and the North Weald Redoubt and the Recreation Ground. Wayfinding and easy links through North Weald Bassett will be key to achieving this. This will require a collaborative approach between developers, landowners and the Council and it is recognised that there are significant safety and accessibility challenges in relation to North Weald Redoubt itself.
- A series of wider routes with improved legibility and access would provide longer walks and provide connections that link to strategic routes such as the Essex Way to the south and to the development at Latton Priory.

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Complimentary network of green open spaces tying together new and existing communities, including the provision of SANG

The proposed network of paths described above aims to provide improved access to existing greenspaces where this would not affect their ecological interest features.

- Reveal and Enhance
- Build ecological links between established habitats
- Where it would not be harmful to the ecological or natural heritage value of the asset tree canopies could be lifted and scrub cleared to allow views into woodland areas
- Enhance habitats through improved management including to the North Weald Common
- Identify opportunities for tree planting at North Weald Common to establish future large field trees
- Look for overlap between people and ecology such as leaving some large, felled trees in woodlands or retaining low branches on appropriate trees when pruning for play opportunities.

Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace

The provision of SANG should complement the existing network of Natural Greenspace offer in North Weald Bassett. The preferred location for the SANG is between the emerging Local Plan's commercial and residential Masterplan Areas, as this area would best enable the creation of distinctive and valuable habitats, maximise access to the PRoW network as well as the opportunity to allow people to connect with these assets. This would provide a positive alternative offer to the Epping Forest SAC. The Council, in its landowner role, has indicated that it is proposing to provide an element of SANG to complement development within the North Weald Airfield Masterplan. In order to maximise this opportunity, the Council and the site promoters of the residential led Masterplan should work together to better understand how this land could support the delivery of an enhanced SANG offer in North Weald Bassett.

The Masterplan Area provides for some 1050 new homes. Based on the total number of homes proposed within the Masterplan area this equates to c.20 ha of SANG. It is recognised that a large part of the site lies beyond the current 6.2km Zone of Influence. As with the Latton Priory and Water Lane Masterplan Areas, there is a need to 'future-proof' the development recognising that the Zone of Influence could extend further, and that the development of the North Weald Bassett Masterplan Area should not contribute to that expansion. Therefore, there will be a need to ensure that sufficient SANG provision is provided. There are also opportunities within close proximity to the Masterplan site that could, with appropriate enhancements and financial contributions towards long-term maintenance costs, be used by dog- owners in particular. In the event that the quantum of SANG to be provided cannot adequately accommodate such activities without creating conflict with other users of the SANG, it may be possible to adopt a flexible approach if this can be fully justified in terms of protecting the Epping Forest SAC and be deliverable.

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Complimentary Network

Provision of other types of open space provision should be designed in as part of the masterplanning process for the new development. This should be designed in a way to encourage integration between the new and existing communities. The masterplanning process should ensure that there is a balance of types of open space across the wider area. Any approach should include improvements outside the site allocation boundary to develop the wider network. Some key opportunities include:

- The expansion of recreation opportunities at the Recreation Ground to include high quality play and park facilities to become a focal point for new and existing communities. This will require working with the Parish Council and ensure that it does not impact on its use by the existing community
- Broadening the food growing theme to outside of the allotment
- Enhancing the existing basketball court and facilities for young people in the existing play areas by the Common.

Activation and interpretation projects to engage a wider range of people with the countryside

This will involve initiatives including sensitively integrated play, art and interpretation. Opportunities that should be considered include those identified landscape and heritage assets set out earlier in this Part.



High quality play at Peckham Rye Park by Turkington Martin

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

3. Summary for Waltham Abbey North Masterplan Area

Residential capacity: **c. 740 homes**

GI provision: **In accordance with emerging Local Plan policy P3**

Indicative SANG size: **N/A**

Other requirements: **Contributions towards GI projects within the Lee Valley Regional Park** (see pages 142 and 143 for further information)

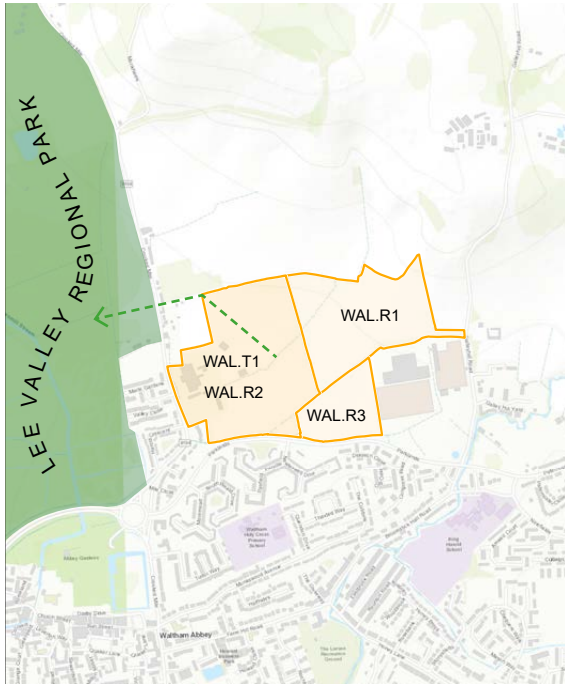
Preferred location: **N/A**

Future proofing for potential ZOI expansion? **N/A**

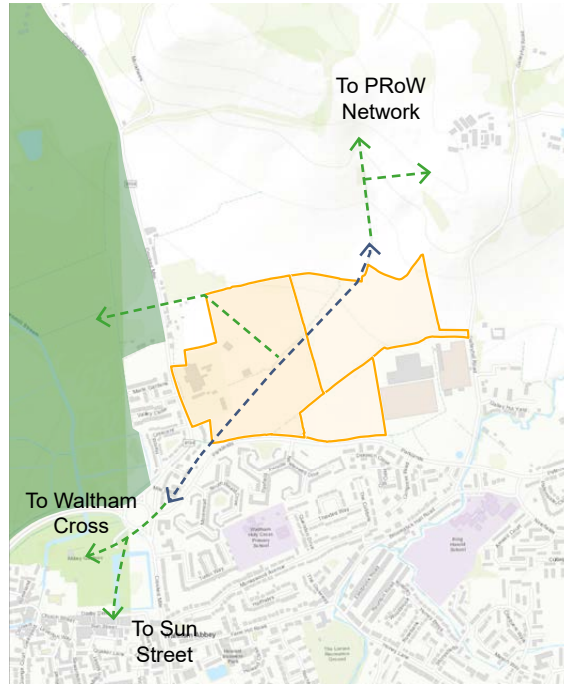
Green Infrastructure Key Characteristics:

1. **Connecting into the big landscape attractors**
 - Create new walking and cycling links into the Lee Valley Regional Park
2. **Access between existing and proposed communities and into the surrounding countryside**
 - Enhance the existing Public Right of Way through the masterplan area
 - Provide new and improved routes to connect to the PRow network, Waltham Abbey and Waltham Cross railway station
3. **Complimentary network of green open spaces tying together new and existing communities, including the provision of SANG**
 - Provide new greenspaces within the masterplan with different types of open space provision than those currently in existence, for the benefit of new and existing communities
 - Using the existing PRow through the site to develop a 'Green Corridor'
 - Integrate Green Infrastructure provision into the site's defensible edge condition
 - Secure Green Infrastructure improvements beyond the site boundary, such as enhanced water habitats along Cobbins Brook and improved facilities for young people at Town Mead and Honey Lane

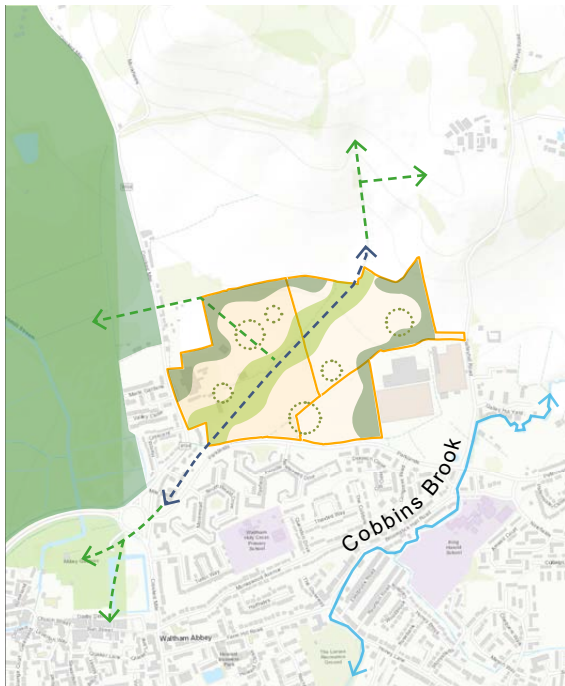
3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS



1. Connecting into the big landscape attractors



2. Access between existing and proposed communities and into the surrounding countryside



3. Complimentary network of green open spaces tying together new and existing communities, including the provision of SANG

Key

-  Green Belt Boundary and Defensible Edge
-  Green Corridor
-  Existing PRoW Network
-  New Pedestrian and Cycle Links
-  New Open Spaces

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Waltham Abbey North Masterplan Area

The Waltham Abbey North Masterplan Area is proposed for allocation within the emerging Local Plan and is located immediately to the north of the existing urban area of Waltham Abbey.

Landscape Context

The Masterplan Area lies at the southern end of the Holyfield Ridges and Valleys Character Area as defined in the [Council's Landscape Character Assessment 2010](#). The Landscape Character Area encompasses a patchwork of large, medium and small-scale irregularly shaped arable fields, some of which have wooded field boundaries. Fields are interspersed with patches of broadleaved woodland which are located on prominent ridges and slopes within the character area, which, in places results in views to wooded horizons. The southern part of the character area, to which this site relates, contains several modern nurseries and glasshouses.

The western boundary of the Masterplan Area is in close proximity to the Lea Valley Marshes Landscape Character Area, which is formed by the floodplain of the River Lea. However, it is visually separated from it by built development and an allotment site.



Holyfield Ridges and Valleys landscape character, Epping Forest District Council's Landscape Character Assessment

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Communities

The Masterplan Area is located to the north of the town of Waltham Abbey. Its southern boundary is defined by hedgerows with intermittent tree planting which form the edge of Parklands, the main northern road link serving Waltham Abbey. The Masterplan Area will provide for approximately 740 homes, up to five pitches for traveller accommodation, a new local centre and community facilities and the provision of public open space.

Landscape and Ecology Assets

The Masterplan Area does not contain any designated landscape or ecological assets and the land on the northern and western boundaries comprises open arable fields. The land to the north has a gentle incline leading to a belt of trees visible within the wider landscape.

To the west, and in close proximity to the Masterplan Area, lies the Lee Valley Regional Park (LVRP). The LVRP was created in 1967 and is a strategically important site for both recreation and nature conservation. It is a linear park which is some 26 miles long (running from the East India Dock Basin on the River Thames to Ware in Hertfordshire) and 10,000 acres in size and is the only regional park serving Essex, Hertfordshire and London. The LVRP is managed by the Lee Valley Regional Park Authority which has a duty to develop and preserve leisure, recreation, sport and nature throughout the Park.

The area of the LVRP to the west of the site contains a range of ecological habitats. Parts of the LVRP are designated as Sites of Special Scientific Interest and as a Special Protection Area and Ramsar site (which denotes it as an internationally important wetland habitat).

The Masterplan Area also falls within the recreational pressures 'Zone of Influence' of the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation, which lies to the east and south-east of Waltham Abbey but which is separated from it by the M25 Motorway.



Lee Valley Regional Park (LVRP)

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Heritage

There are no known heritage assets within the Masterplan Area itself. However, Waltham Abbey and its immediate environs have a wealth of history. The town takes its name from its former Abbey, the remains of which are designated as a Scheduled Monument and are located in Abbey Gardens, which is a Public Park. In 1177, as part of his penance for his part in the murder of Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, Henry II refound the existing church in Waltham (as it was then known) as an Augustinian Priory. The priory was enlarged and was founded as an Abbey in 1184. The majority of the Abbey itself and its associated buildings were demolished following the dissolution of the monasteries by Henry VIII. Only some remnants of the Abbey's structure and the parish church remained. Legend has it that the body of King Harold Godwinson, who died in the Battle of Hastings in 1066, was brought to Waltham to be buried. The town also lies on the Greenwich Meridian, which is demarcated by a number of markers within the town itself and within the LVRP.

To the west, within LVRP, lies the site of the historic Royal Gunpowder Mills, which contains a number of nationally listed buildings and is also a scheduled monument. The site originally housed a mill used initially for cloth and then vegetable oil production.

The mill was converted into gunpowder production in the 1660's and was one of the first examples in the 18th century of an industrialised factory system. It was purchased by the Crown in 1787 and provided gunpowder for both military and civil purposes until the Mills closed in 1943. The site is now home to a Museum including interactive educational exhibits, together with an important wildlife habitat, much of which is designated as a national important Site of Special Scientific Interest.

Parks and Amenity Greenspace

Abbey Gardens is one of only two Public Parks in the District. Abbey Gardens is an attractive and well-maintained site with wider than local significance due to its history (see Heritage Section above) and is located a short distance to the south west of the edge of the Masterplan Area. Waltham Abbey also has five sites classified as amenity greenspace and is assessed as currently having less amenity greenspace than recommended by the national Fields in Trust standards. The quality of the sites, as defined in the Council's Open Space Strategy 2017, is varied with Pick Hill and Thaxted Way being assessed as 'good', High Beech and the Linear Open Space at the Community Centre assessed as 'average' and Winter' Way 'poor'.



Waltham Abbey Gardens

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Provision for Children and Young People

Current provision for children's' play across Waltham Abbey is based primarily on traditional playgrounds (although the Townmead Sports and Social Club has a wider offer including a play park and skate park). In terms of quantity, provision is below that recommended by the Field in Trust standards. The sites are located at Harold Crescent, Pynest Green and Poplar Shaw (rated 'good' in terms of their quality) and Honey Lane (rated 'average'). The closest children's playground to the Masterplan Area is Harold Crescent, which lies to the south-west. The playground is located within a small grassed area surrounded by existing residential properties.

Allotments

Waltham Abbey Town Council manages three allotment sites. The Council's Open Space Strategy 2017 identifies Waltham Abbey as being the only settlement in the District with an under-provision based on national standards. In terms of quality these sites, which comprise Denny Avenue, Capershotts and Longfields, are rated as 'average'. These sites are located some distance from the Masterplan Area, being located to the south and east of the town. The Crooked Mile allotment site immediately adjacent to the Masterplan Area is in private ownership.

Movement

A Public Right of Way (PRoW) crosses the Masterplan Area from south-west to north-east and links into a wider network of public footpaths and bridleways. As such the Masterplan Area already has, for the main part, connections into the wider countryside including towards Warlies Park. Safe and direct walking and cycling opportunities for accessing the LVRP and its extensive GI offer are far more constrained with the main barrier being the Crooked Mile. The Crooked Mile lies immediately to the west of the proposed allocation, runs in a south to north direction and separates the site and its environs from the LVRP.



Warlies Park

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Opportunities

The opportunities set out below are in line with the key principles for the development of strategic sites.

1. Connecting into the big landscape attractor of the LVRP.
2. Access between existing and proposed communities and into the surrounding countryside.
3. Complimentary network of green open spaces tying together new and existing communities.

Connect into the big landscape attractors

The creation of new walking and cycling links to the LVRP provides a significant opportunity to provide access to its considerable range of recreational and natural environment assets. Such an approach is supported by both the LVRPA proposals for the River Lea Country Park (Area 6) and the Council's emerging Local Plan.

Access between existing and proposed communities and into the surrounding countryside

The enhancement of the existing PRow that runs across the site together with the provision of new and improved walking and cycling connections and wayfinding/signage are an important component of the Masterplanning of the proposed allocation. The approach would support greater opportunities for both new and existing residents to access existing networks into the countryside, Waltham Abbey, the LVRP and to the national rail station at Waltham Cross.

Complimentary network of green open spaces tying together new and existing communities

The development of the Masterplan Area provides the opportunity to take a multi-functional approach to the provision of spaces for people of all ages which provides a different experience to that provided elsewhere within Waltham Abbey. This will help to provide an offer which complements rather than competes with existing GI assets.

Existing natural features within the Masterplan area together with the PRows which cross the site provide the opportunity to create a corridor of natural greenspace through it. Whilst the Masterplan area is located within the Zone of Influence of the Epping Forest SAC, its proximity immediately adjacent to the LVRP is such that the provision of a meaningful proportion of bespoke SANG would be difficult to justify. A more robust and appropriate response, having regard to the site-specific circumstances, is for investment to be made to providing safe walking and cycling connections into the LVRP (in accordance with Policy P3) and for financial contributions to be made to support enhancements within the LVRP itself (as included in the IDP under reference WLA15).

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

These financial contributions would be secured to support the LVRPA's adopted proposals including for example:

- For Gunpowder Park to create a more flexible visitor hub and provide the core range of services including refreshment facilities, an indoor public visitor space and park information point
- For the management and enhancement of Gunpowder Park, Sewardstone Marsh and Patty Pool Mead as a key access to nature site with habitat improvements to be undertaken throughout
- Management activities for the existing wet woodland habitats at Osier Marsh and Sewardstone Marsh in order to maintain and expand their special wildlife interest
- Enhancements to visitor access by extending boardwalks and improving interpretation
- The enhancement of floodplain grassland and fen habitat on Sewardstone Marsh and the wet grassland habitat of Patty Pool Mead to be improved to provide nesting opportunities for breeding waders.

Wider opportunities within the Waltham Abbey area include:

- Working with landowners to secured enhanced ecological habitats and improved water quality including along the Cobbins Brook corridor.
- Work with Essex County Council and Hertfordshire County Council to support the development of high-quality walking and cycling networks to local schools, Waltham Abbey Town Centre and Waltham Cross railway station.
- Create more cohesive and connected green spaces and enhance existing facilities including those for young people at Town Mead and Honey Lane.
- Improved access and more welcoming entrances to the three allotment sites, including through the provision of productive landscaping.

Amenity greenspace and Natural and semi-natural greenspace should be planned as an integrated asset which is varied and has the potential to incorporate SuDS features within it. The provision of a defensible boundary to the site should be integrated as part of the GI offer rather than developed separate to it. The boundary has the opportunity to support the creation of new habitats for wildlife and should make reference to the wooded field boundaries which form part of the character of the Holyfield Ridges and Valleys Landscape Character Area.

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

4. Summary for South of Epping Masterplan Area

Residential capacity: **c. 450 homes**

GI provision: **In accordance with emerging Local Plan policy P1**

Indicative SANG size: **10ha** (see page 150 for further information)

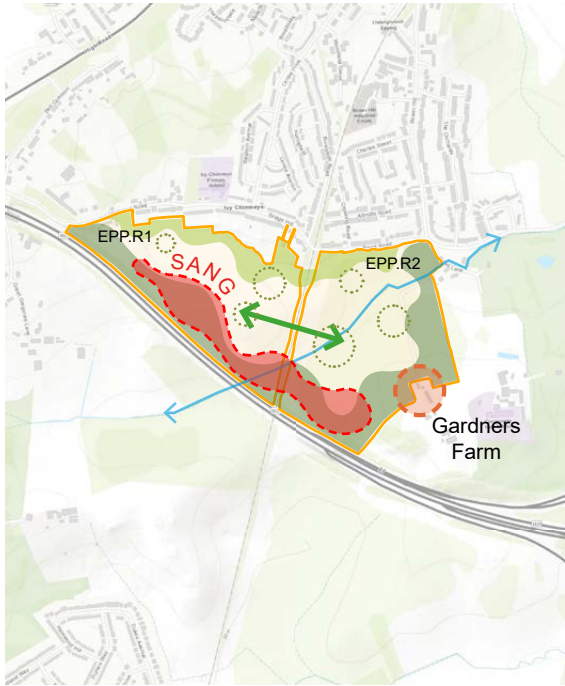
Preferred location: **Between the residential development and the M25 motorway**

Future proofing for potential ZOI expansion? **No**

Green Infrastructure Key Characteristics:

1. Complimentary network of green open spaces tying together new and existing communities, including the provision of SANG
 - Secure walking and cycling opportunities between the two sites by improving the accessibility of the existing footbridge link over the London Underground Central Line
 - Regard the prominence of Gardners Farm listed building in the landscape and maintain their setting
 - Integrate Green Infrastructure provision and visual enhancement opportunities into the southern M25 noise mitigation measures and Green Belt boundaries
 - Enhance northern site boundaries for biodiversity gain and visual buffer for adjacent existing properties
 - Retain and integrate all Public Rights of Way across the site, plus existing watercourses and associated vegetation
 - Ensure play for all ages and public open space are integrated as part of the overall Green Infrastructure offer
2. Access between existing and proposed communities and into the surrounding countryside
 - Enhance existing walking and cycling routes in addition to providing new ones, particularly to the eastern part of the masterplan

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS










1. Complimentary network of green open spaces tying together new and existing communities, including the provision of SANG



2. Access between existing and proposed communities and into the surrounding countryside

Key

-  Improved footbridge link over the Central Line
-  Gardners Farm
-  Green Belt Boundary and Noise Buffer
-  Biodiversity Boundary and Visual Buffer
-  Indicative SANG
-  Existing PRoW Network
-  New Open Spaces

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

South of Epping Masterplan Area

The South of Epping Masterplan Area is proposed for allocation for residential development in the emerging Local Plan and is located on the southern side of the existing built-up area of the town of Epping.

Landscape Context

The site lies on the northern edge of the Theydon Garnon Wooded Ridges and Valleys Landscape Character Area as defined in the [Council's Landscape Character Assessment 2010](#). The northern boundary of the site abuts the built-up edge of the town of Epping whilst its southern edge is strongly defined by the M25 motorway. The Masterplan area is bisected from north to south by the London Underground Central Line and comprises a number of arable fields. The western, northern and eastern boundaries are, for the main part, defined by established planting including mature trees.



Theydon Garnon Wooded Ridges and Valleys landscape character, Epping Forest District Council's Landscape Character Assessment

Communities

The Planning Inspector who is examining the emerging Local Plan has supported the principle of allocating the South of Epping Masterplan Area for primarily residential development. However, in her advice note of [2 August 2019 \(ED98\)](#) she identified a number of matters which required further assessment including Green Belt and Habitats Regulation Assessment considerations as well as the need to respond to noise and air quality issues associated with the M25 Motorway. In response a review of the level of development that can be accommodated within the Masterplan Area and the infrastructure needed to support new residents has been undertaken. The Council now considers that the indicative number of dwellings that can be accommodated across the Masterplan area is c.450.

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Landscape and Ecology Assets

The northern most part of the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation (SAC) lies very close to the south western part of the Masterplan Area in EPP.R1. The SAC is recognised as being under pressure from recreational use and impacted by atmospheric pollution, primarily as a result of vehicle emissions. The western part of the Masterplan Area contains a Public Right of Way (PRoW) that crosses over the M25 Motorway and provides easy access to the SAC. In addition, the Bell Common/ Ivy Chimneys Local Wildlife Site (LoWS) is located on the north side of Ivy Chimneys Road in close proximity to the western side of the Masterplan Area.

The western part of the Masterplan Area (EPP.R1) has several detracting characteristics including high voltage pylons which run across the south part of the site together with the M25 Motorway along its southern boundary, which is elevated at this point. The core of the site also lacks some of the more valuable landscape and ecology elements such as hedgerows, trees and woodland blocks. The site is enclosed by existing residential development, woodland and planting, and man-made structures. Views across the site can be gained from the existing Public Rights of Way (PRoW) which cross the centre of the site and run along its eastern and northern boundaries. The Central Line, which bisects the Masterplan Area north to south is well planted and a wooded ridge is located beyond the site to the west.

The northern boundary to the eastern part of the Masterplan Area (EPP.R2) is formed by planting, including mature trees. The western boundary is formed by the London Underground Central Line, the southern boundary by the M25 Motorway, and to the east by mature planting, including trees. This part of the Masterplan Area is currently used as arable land. The main landscape feature within the site comprises an existing water course, within a mature planted setting, which runs from the north east corner of the site to the centre of the western boundary. The watercourse is crossed at several points by existing PRoWs that cross the site. The topography is undulating and rises up to the south towards Gardners Farm which is located immediately adjacent to the site and at a high point in the landscape and is therefore a prominent feature within it.



London Underground Central Line bisecting the masterplan

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Heritage

Gardners Farmhouse, and an associated barn, are Grade II Listed Buildings lie within the context of the built-up area of Epping Town to the north, and in close proximity to the M25 motorway and electricity pylons. The farmhouse is believed to date back to at least the 15th century (but with later additions) and is mainly timber framed and plastered with some red brick and a red plain tiled hipped roof. The barn is 18th century, with a timber frame, weatherboarding and a plain red tiled roof.

Coopersale Hall which lies to the south east of the site is also Grade II Listed. It dates back to the late 18th /early 19th century and is screened from the site primarily by established planting and trees.

In medieval times, the precursors to what is now the town of Epping, Epping Street and Epping Upland, were sited on a long-distance south-east to north-west trade route. The town owed much of its development to its main road position and its proximity to London. The improvement of the main road through Epping by the Epping and Ongar Highway Trust (1769-1870) increased the amount of traffic using this route on the way to and from London, Norwich, Cambridge, and Bury St. Edmunds amongst other places. The building of a railway line to Loughton in 1856 by the Eastern Counties Railway Co. started the decline in the coaching trade. In 1865 this line was extended to Epping and High Ongar. Epping railway station was built about half a mile to the east of the High Street in order to avoid the high ridge on which the town is built. House building to the east of the town was encouraged by this development. The old steam railway was electrified after the Second World War (1948/1949) and became part of the London Underground Central Line.

Parks and Amenity Greenspace

Despite having twelve sites identified as amenity greenspace in the [Council's Open Space Strategy 2017](#), in terms of quantity Epping has a slight under- provision. From a quality perspective Thornwood Common, Ivy Chimneys Road, High Street/Church Hill, Broadoaks, Station Road and High Street/Hemnall Street are all rated as 'good'. Frampton Road, Lower Swaines, Brook Road, Central Avenue North, Western Avenue South and Hemnall Street are rated as 'average'.



View of Copped Hall from Bell Common

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Provision for Children and Young People

There are a number of existing sites within Epping Town itself with facilities for children and young people. In terms of quantity there is considered to be an under-provision. In qualitative terms Ivy Chimney Road and Stonards Hill were rated as 'good' in the Council's Open Space Strategy 2017, Frampton Road as 'average' and Lower Swaines is 'poor'. Ivy Chimney Road, which is the closest site to the western part of the Masterplan Area, was refurbished in 2015 and caters for a number of different age groups. It includes flat swings, a junior swing, a nest, multi-play, roundabout, seesaw, zip line, activity panels, infinity bowl and seats and benches.

Allotments

Epping is considered to be well served by allotment sites, but the quality of the sites is mixed. All of the existing allotment sites are located some distance from the Masterplan Area.

Movement

The Masterplan Area contains a number of PRoWs which link into a wider network, including the Essex Way, which is a long-distance footpath of some 82 miles that runs across Essex. The PRoW which runs north to south through the western part of the Masterplan Area provides access to Theydon Bois and the Epping Forest SAC via a footbridge over the M25 motorway. The PRoW network on the eastern part of the Master Plan Area links into a much wider network via an underpass beneath the M25 and then beyond via an underpass beneath the M11 Motorway. However, this route is currently unattractive for walkers and cyclists and there are opportunities for these to be improved as part of the development of the Masterplan area.

The Masterplan Area lies a short distance from Epping Station. However, there is currently no attractive walking and cycling provision linking from the site through to the built-up parts of Epping including to the High Street. There are opportunities to improve these links as part of the integration of the Masterplan area with Epping Town Centre and the Station.

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

Opportunities

The opportunities set out below are in line with the key principles for the development of strategic sites but by necessity differs in relation to connections to big landscape attractors which in this case is the Epping Forest SAC.

1. Complementary network of green open spaces tying together new and existing communities, including the provision of SANG.
2. Access between existing and proposed communities and into the surrounding countryside.

Complementary network of green open spaces tying together new and existing communities, including the provision of SANG

The Masterplan Area provides a significant opportunity to provide an integrated approach towards GI both within the site and into the wider area. A key component of the approach will be the provision of Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) in order to provide an attractive alternative recreation destination to the Epping Forest SAC. This is in order to avoid placing additional recreational pressure on the SAC. Taking into consideration the site's close proximity and the ease of access to the SAC by using the existing PRow link from the western part of the Masterplan Area on-site SANG provision will be critical. In addition, walking and cycling opportunities between the two parts of the Masterplan Area should be secured through the improvement of the existing footbridge over the London Underground Central Line.

Based on the indicative capacity of the site to accommodate 450 dwellings and the need to ensure that the SANG can accommodate a reasonable length walking route within it (reflecting the site's close proximity to the SAC) the quantum of SANG to be provided should be a minimum of 10ha. The location of the SANG will be critical to its success and should therefore be located between the residential development and the boundary with the M25 which separates the site from the SAC and its buffer lands. Also, of importance will be the pedestrian links to the SANG from other parts of the site to provide ease of access for all of the new residents across the Masterplan area.

3.1 STRATEGIC ALLOCATIONS

As well as the provision of SANG the Masterplan, and the Landscape Framework within it, should take account of, and provide for, an integrated approach which responds to the following:

- The setting of the Listed Buildings in Gardners Farm and regard to the prominence of the buildings within the landscape;
- That noise mitigation measures in the vicinity of the M25 Motorway and the buffer to the electricity pylons across the western part of the site are designed in such a way as to maximise GI and visual enhancement opportunities;
- That protected trees form part of the wider GI offer;
- That the northern boundaries of the site in particular are enhanced where necessary to provide biodiversity opportunities and act as a visual buffer for existing properties adjacent to, or in close proximity of, the site;
- That the strengthening and/or creation of new Green Belt boundaries are a component of, rather than separate to, the GI offer;
- That the PRoW and existing watercourse and its vegetation, are integrated, retained and improved as part of the GI offer;
- Using the provision of SuDS as a GI opportunity;
- That provision of play for all ages as well as wide public open space opportunities (including the replacement of the Brook Road Informal Recreation Ground) are designed as an integrated part of the overall GI offer; and
- The Ancient woodland assets, the BAP Priority Habitat within the site and the nearby Local Wildlife Site are protected, and if possible enhanced.

Access between existing and proposed communities and into the surrounding countryside

The enhancement of the existing PRoWs that run across the site together with the provision of new and improved walking and cycling connections and wayfinding/ signage will be an important component of the masterplanning of the proposed allocation. This should ensure the provision of attractive and safe access from Epping through the site and into the surrounding countryside. Significant focus should be given to the PRoW network within and beyond the eastern part of the Masterplan Area to provide an enhanced offer which acts as an alternative to the SAC for walking and dog-walking in particular. This could include enhancing and signposting a range of circular walking routes. This approach would support greater opportunities for new and existing residents to access existing networks into the wider countryside and help to avoid placing further recreational pressure on the SAC.

DELIVERING SANG

3.2

Page 156

3.2 DELIVERING SANG

This section sets out some of the key principles that should be considered in the design of bespoke SANG provision where this is required as set out in [3.1 Green Infrastructure in Strategic Allocations](#).

The responsibility for the development of an approach to avoid or mitigate any harm to the Epping Forest SAC lies with the competent authorities. Competent authorities are any organisation or individual that has a statutory role as defined in UK legislation and have a legal responsibility to help safeguard the features of an internationally designated site in undertaking their work and thereby achieve the aims of the Habitats Directive.

The competent authorities for the Epping Forest SAC include (but are not limited to) EFDC and the London Boroughs of Waltham Forest and Redbridge. We will continue to work with the other competent authorities, Natural England (as the responsible statutory body) and with the Conservators of Epping Forest (as the body responsible for the management of the Epping Forest) to take a joined up approach to protecting the Epping Forest SAC where this is appropriate. This reflects the fact that the Epping Forest SAC extends across local authority administrative boundaries and we know, having undertaken surveys in 2017 and 2019 that it is not just people who live, or will live, in Epping Forest District who use, or will be likely to use, the Epping Forest SAC on a regular basis in the future. People from the surrounding local authority areas, including a number of London Boroughs and from further afield also use the Epping Forest SAC.

In recognition of this we have been working with adjoining local authorities to develop approaches to managing the effects of development on the Epping Forest in a co-ordinated way. Whatever approach we take through this Strategy we know that not all recreational pressure can be avoided. We have already developed an [‘Interim Approach to Managing Recreational Pressures on the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation’](#) in conjunction with our partners. This was agreed by the Council’s Cabinet in October 2018. The Interim Approach identifies a number of projects and programmes to be delivered within the Epping Forest itself, together with monitoring measures, and how these will be delivered through the securing of financial contributions. The Interim Approach will be updated in due course, including in light of the latest information from the [2019 Visitor Survey](#) and will sit alongside this Strategy as set out in the [Primer \(Part 0\)](#).

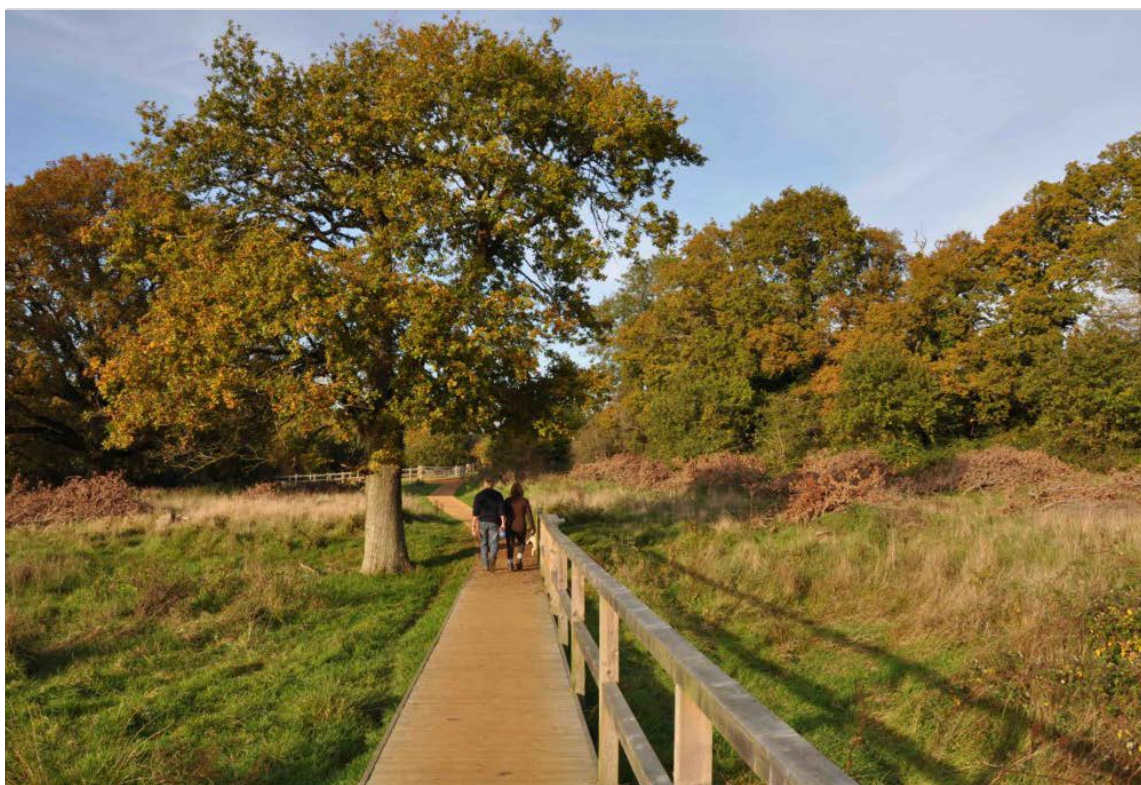


An entrance to the Epping Forest at High Beech

3.2 DELIVERING SANG

The Epping Forest Visitor surveys undertaken in [2017](#) and [2019](#) provide a wealth of information about the characteristics of existing visitors. This means that we have a better understanding of not just where people come from, but also when they visit, how often they visit, why they visit, what attracts them to use the Epping Forest and what types of activities they undertake. Consequently, the information contained in these surveys should be used to help inform the design and form of the site specific SANG provision within the context of the specific characteristics of each site and their context. This will help to ensure that the design approach taken is appropriate, follows a Landscape Led design approach and forms part of the Landscape Framework element of the site-specific Masterplan produced. Taking this approach will provide for a holistic and coherent approach to the provision of green and blue infrastructure which provides a high-quality offer for residents. In doing so the provision of green and blue infrastructure, including the SANG provision, will contribute to attracting people away from using the Epping Forest to avoid as much as possible putting extra pressure on it.

This Strategy is a key tool to achieving this ‘avoidance’ not just through the provision of SANG but also through the provision and enhancement of GI to attract existing residents who currently use the Epping Forest to other GI opportunities instead. Whilst there is a focus on avoiding placing pressure on the Epping Forest SAC the approach should also be considered where it is necessary to relieve pressure on other important sites of ecological and natural heritage importance affected by recreational use, such as Sites of Scientific Interest (SSSIs).



Naishes Wood SANG at Crookham Park, Fleet

3.2 DELIVERING SANG

Principles

The provision of SANG in order to avoid and/or mitigate recreational pressure on internationally designated sites is not a new concept and there is now a large amount of best practice available in terms of approaches to delivery. This includes the quantum of SANG considered necessary to positively influence visitor choice. One of the international sites where a SANG approach has now been operating for over 10 years in order to avoid an adverse effect on its integrity is the Thames Basin Heath Special Protection Area (TBHSPA). The approach taken by the authorities in terms of the quantum of SANG that should be provided is 8ha per 1,000 population. This level of SANG was based on the recommendations of the South East Plan Technical Assessor. It is recognised that the recreational impact pathway for the TBHSPA was focused on the disturbance of ground nesting birds from dog-walking activities.

For the Epping Forest SAC the recreational pressure impact pathway is focused on the harm to its woodland and other habitats caused by walkers, horses and cyclists, including as a result of deposition of dog faeces. We know from the [2017](#) and [2019](#) Epping Forest Visitor Surveys that dog-walkers make up a significant component of the visitor profile followed by walkers. Whilst the interest features of the TBHSPA and the Epping Forest SAC differ, the visitor profile with the greatest impact and therefore the most appropriate approach to avoiding and mitigating that harm is similar. Consequently, the Council considers that, with the exception of the South of Epping Masterplan Area (see Section 3.1 above) the use of the 8ha per 1,000 population figure to guide the quantum of SANG required is a reasonable and justified approach.

In order to undertake the assessment of the quantum of SANG required based on the increase in the population likely to arise as a result of new development the Council is proposing to use the latest nationally derived household projections (which are currently 2018 based). These household projections suggest that the average household size in Epping Forest District in 2033 will be 2.34 persons.

Incorporating SANG within the Masterplan Landscape Framework will have the added advantage that it can be identified within the context of other aspects of GI provision including sustainable drainage, public open space, green infrastructure, play and take account of visual amenity considerations. These can be clearly articulated without having to provide full details at such an early stage.



Chobham Water Meadows SANG, Chobham

3.2 DELIVERING SANG

It is recommended that the approach taken to developing the Masterplanning Landscape Framework is as follows:

- Show the existing landform and landscape features of the site that will influence the design
- Show the location and dimensions of major green areas
- Show the broad concept for drainage for the major green areas (and any provision for taking surface water from within the development areas)
- The broad treatment types applicable to each area of land and the management aspirations for each (for example: woodland; meadow; amenity grass; natural play)
- Identifies a network of connections and circular walks and their hierarchy.

The SANG elements of the Landscape Framework should look to articulate or explain briefly by, for example, a table or list explaining how the proposal intends address a range of matters such as:

- Good pedestrian connections with residential areas
- Linkages with other open spaces, streets, walking routes (and how these will be achieved)
- Provision of attractive walking routes with appropriately surfaced paths
- Open sight lines along walking routes, avoiding overhanging vegetation where this exists
- Access for dog walking with off-lead areas and facilities to attract dog walkers
- Secure boundaries where needed
- Biodiversity enhancements
- Seating, litter and dog waste bins
- Signage and interpretation
- Ongoing landscape management.

It is suggested that the following are also illustrated on the Landscape Framework:

- Play,
- Tree groups,
- Holding ponds,
- Scrapes and swales,
- Furniture and features,
- Any underground constraints or legal constraints.



Kentwood Meadows SANG, Wokingham

3.2 DELIVERING SANG

The location, type and level of provision for these individual elements will help ensure that land is used efficiently whilst maximising the offer - not only for diverting trips from the Epping Forest or other ecological sites but also to ensure that character of place and quality of life achieves their full potential through good design.

Taking a Landscape Framework approach provides the opportunity at an early stage to identify, where appropriate, an element of multi-functionality of provision can be achieved. For example Sustainable Drainage System (SuDs) features can also support biodiversity net gain objectives and create a natural interest feature which provides variety of landscape for the visitor.

SANG is not, however, intended to address the other functions of greenspace. Nevertheless, there are some functions which may be appropriate to incorporate within SANG where it adds value to the attractiveness of the provision and is appropriate within the context of the character of the Natural Greenspace. For example, appropriately designed natural children's play and SuDS provision may be acceptable. To support the attractiveness of the SANG for all appropriately designed and located seating will be acceptable.

SANG may be created from:

- Existing open space of SANG quality with no existing public access or limited public access, which could be made fully accessible to the public.
- Existing open space which is already accessible but is underused and which could be enhanced so that it is more attractive to residents.
- Land in other uses which could be converted into SANG

As SANG is intended to attract new residents arising from the relevant Masterplan areas the SANG provision should be located adjacent to the built parts of the site and designed to be visually and physically linked with it. This does not necessarily need to be within the Masterplan area as proposed to be allocated but can be adjacent/ in close proximity to it. The 'test' will be that it can be demonstrated through the site wide masterplanning process and at the detailed planning application stage that its location will be effective in attracting new residents to it. In particular, easy access to the site should be created. This should be via clear and 'logical' access points from the new development that the SANG is intended to serve and wherever possible, new points of access should be created to make it easy for the existing community to access the SANG in order to support community cohesion. In exceptional circumstances, consideration may be given to making contributions to a quantum of off-site provision where it can be clearly demonstrated that such an approach will be effective in providing an appropriate SANG offer in relation to the requirements of the Habitats Regulations.

In order to be effective, the land to be used as SANG will need to be available from first occupation of the first phase of the residential development proposed. This will be secured through Section 106 planning obligations and will need to be supported by a phasing and delivery plan for the implementation of the works required to create the full SANG offer.

3.2 DELIVERING SANG

SANG must be designed so that it is perceived to be safe by users and should seek to avoid sites of high nature conservation value where increased visitor numbers would adversely affect that value. Such damage may arise, for example, from increased disturbance, erosion, input of nutrients from dog faeces, and increased incidence of fires. If any sites of high nature conservation value are considered as SANG, the impact on their nature conservation value will need to be assessed and a clear justification for its inclusion provided. This should include the measures needed to ensure the protection of its nature conservation value and how this will be secured.

What types of visitors should the SANG be designed to accommodate?

We know from surveys undertaken in [2017](#) and [2019](#) of people visiting the Epping Forest that the two main user groups who visit on a very regular basis are dog-walkers and walkers. Consequently, any SANG provision and its integration within the wider locality, including, for example, links into the local Public Rights of Way network will need to be designed to provide an attractive 'offer' that supports such activities.

The SANG should be well publicised in order to attract people to use it instead of the Epping Forest or other relevant ecologically important sites. Consequently, initiatives such as providing information for new residents promoting the existence of the SANG as well as other GI assets and encouraging their use should be explored. This could be through leaflets or a phone app. This would also help to support wider ambitions such as supporting Healthy Lifestyles.

Walking and Cycling Routes

SANG should seek to provide a choice of circular routes of around 2.3km – 2.5km in length to cater for dog-walkers. Longer circular routes of at least 3km as part of the choice will be expected to support other walkers.

For smaller scale SANG the provision of circular walking routes do not need to be entirely within the SANG itself but can include connected Public Rights of Way (PRoW), or the creation of connections to existing PRoW and other areas of Natural Greenspace in close proximity to the site where dogs are allowed off the lead. The key consideration will be that a variety of routes and opportunities are provided to dog-walkers and walkers.

Opportunities to provide cyclists and, where appropriate, horse riders with safe access to off-road or 'traffic light' routes should be identified.

Paths must be easily used and well maintained and if surfacing is to be provided in order to support greater accessibility this should be done in a sensitive way so as to avoid the site becoming too urban in feel.

3.2 DELIVERING SANG

Natural Play

Appropriately designed Natural play provision is considered to be an important element of the design to support the attractiveness of the SANG to families and would be an acceptable feature.



Hogmoor Inclosure SANG, Bordon

Wayfinding

Routes should be shown on way markers and visitor boards of a design and in a location, which would not undermine the naturalness of the space. Digital tools to facilitate wayfinding should also be explored.

Appearance

A semi-natural looking landscape with plenty of variation will be required although it will not be necessary to reproduce the landscape types within the Epping Forest.

Sport facilities and formal public open space will not be considered as contributing toward the provision of SANG.

SANG needs to reproduce the quality of the experience that a visit to other ecologically important sites would provide, so an air of relative wildness will be an important feature of SANG design.

Avoiding Conflicts

Careful consideration will need to be given to the design of the SANG and routes within it to avoid conflicts between walkers, cyclists and dogs and in some cases horse-riders. There will also be a need to consider locations for areas of natural play and their relationship with areas used for dogs which are off the lead.

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY

IMPLEMENTATION: INFRASTRUCTURE ENHANCEMENT PROJECTS

4

You should read this document after reading [The Primer](#) if you are:

Epping Forest District Council and their Partners who are delivering Green Infrastructure enhancements to the Buckhurst Hill, Loughton, Debden and Theydon Bois areas.

CONTENTS

How To Use This Document	163
4.1 PROJECT 1: RODING VALLEY	165
Opportunities	167
Steps to Delivery	168
Funding	169
The Council's Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP)	169
4.2 PROJECT 2: LINKS TO THE THEYDON BOIS WOOD	170
Opportunities	173
4.3 COSTS	174
Project Development, Support and Awareness Raising Costs	175
Implementation and Maintenance Costs	175
Overall Costs and Cost Per Proposed Dwelling	176

HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

Purpose of the Strategy and Parts

The purpose of the Strategy is to ensure a strategic and holistic approach is taken to protecting, maintaining and enhancing the ecology, landscape and heritage in the District.

The Primer (Part 0) provides an overview of the Strategy and its purpose, commentary on the existing Green Infrastructure assets in the District, and the Vision and Objectives of the Strategy. The other Parts of the Strategy should be read in conjunction with the Primer. These are:

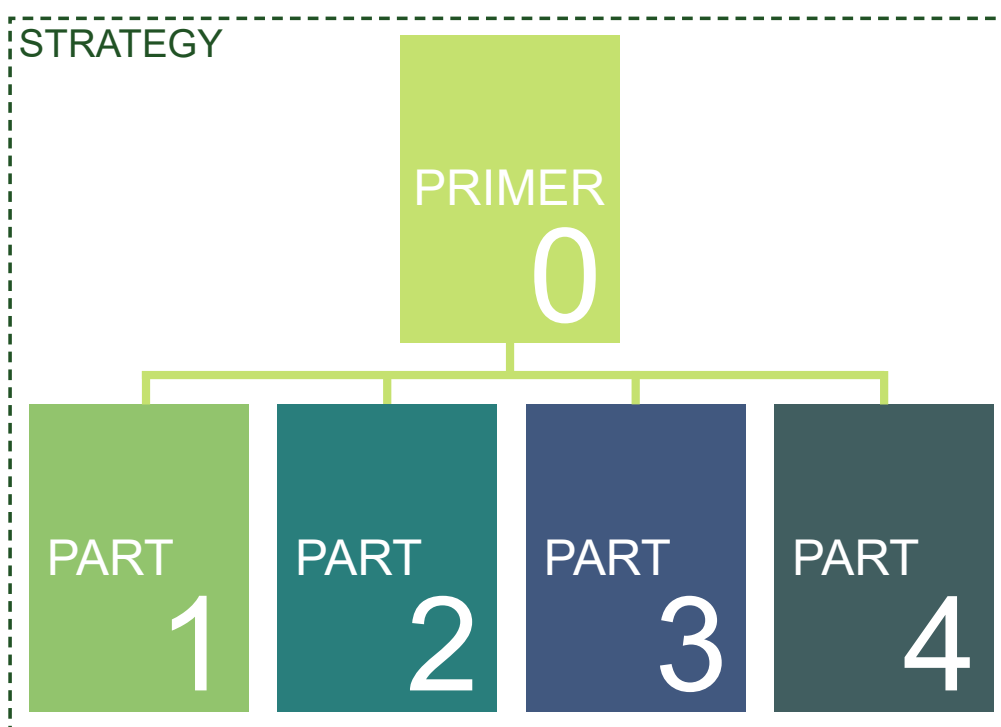
1. Implementation: Enhancing our Existing Network
2. Implementation: Landscape-Led Design
3. Implementation: Green Infrastructure in Strategic Allocations

This Part provides guidance on:

4. Implementation: Infrastructure Enhancement Projects

It provides:

- Specific infrastructure projects that are required to be delivered in order to avoid or mitigate an adverse effect on the integrity of the Epping Forest SAC



HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

Who will use the Strategy and Part 4?

The Strategy comprises four parts. Anyone using the Strategy and the associated guidance and projects should read the Primer first, to familiarise themselves with the purpose, context and vision of the Strategy.

This Part of the Strategy (4. Implementation: Infrastructure Enhancement Projects) identifies specific infrastructure projects that are required to be delivered in order to avoid an adverse effect on the integrity of the Epping Forest SAC. The projects relate specifically to development proposed in Debden, Theydon Bois, Loughton, and Buckhurst Hill and all new residential development will be required to make a financial contribution towards their delivery. These settlements have been identified for additional measures beyond payment of SAMM because all lie within easy walking distance of, and have direct access to, Epping Forest SAC by virtue of directly abutting the site. In contrast, none of the allocations at Chigwell, Epping or Waltham Abbey are within walking distance of the SAC except arguably South Epping Strategic Masterplan Area, which in any event is required to provide a bespoke SANG by virtue of its combination of size, proximity to the SAC and presence of a connecting footbridge over the M25.

The two Infrastructure Projects are intended as a minimum to address the recreational impact of the c. 300 dwellings expected at these settlements over the first five years of the Local Plan. As the infrastructure projects are developed, they may well be able to address all c. 600 dwellings allocated at these settlements. For example, if SANG were to be provided for these 300-600 dwellings it would require c. 6ha to c.11.5ha of SANG using the 8ha/1000 population metric. In other words, that is the amount of newly accessible natural greenspace required assuming it was currently entirely unused for recreation. The two Infrastructure Projects discussed below are already subject to recreational use but total more than 50ha (discounting the playing fields and cricket pitch). There should thus be ample capacity for these sites to accommodate the additional visitors from the allocated sites (which will represent just a 3% increase in total households in these settlements compared to the 19,472 existing households*¹, assuming that all c.600 dwellings are occupied by people who don't currently live in these settlements), particularly since these projects are intended to increase their existing recreational capacity. This will be further investigated as each project is developed.

The two projects identified in this Part are intended as a starting point from which a broader list of Infrastructure Projects can be identified through the Local Plan Review process as necessary to ensure that development in these settlements can be addressed. It is therefore not envisaged that these two projects will be the only such projects to be brought forward over the plan period and the list of Infrastructure Projects will be kept live.

*¹ Source 2011 Census: 1613 existing households in Theydon Bois ward, 1907 in Loughton Alderton ward, 1965 in Loughton Broadway, 1840 in Loughton Fairmead, 1795 in Loughton Forest, 1943 in Loughton Roding, 1773 in Loughton St Johns, 1742 in Loughton St Marys, 1985 in Buckhurst Hill East and 2909 in Buckhurst Hill West. Total of 19,472 households

PROJECT 1: RODING VALLEY

4.1

4.1 PROJECT 1: RODING VALLEY

The Roding Valley Recreation Ground project area collectively comprises over 50ha of land. The Recreation Ground is located between the built-up areas of Loughton and Buckhurst Hill and the River Roding. The Recreation Ground links into, and is contiguous with, the Roding Valley Nature Reserve to the north east.

The Recreation Ground currently used for a mix of organised sport and informal recreation. Specifically, it contains:

- Football: Adult, Junior and mini pitches
- Cricket: Two pitches – one to the northern end (Loughton Cricket Club) and one to the southern end (Roding Valley Cricket Club)
- Tennis: outdoor courts
- Two playgrounds and a Multi-Use Games Area.

Several Public Rights of Way and informal footpaths cross the site. Section 19 of the London Loop between Chingford and Chigwell crosses its southern end.

There are numerous connection points into the Recreation Ground from the residential areas to the west and Roding Lane to the south. Links across the Roding Valley Nature Reserve in the north east into the Recreation Ground can be achieved from Oakwood Hill and Chigwell Lane. There are also access points from the Project site into the Roding Valley Meadows on the eastern side of the River Roding. Part of the Roding Valley Meadows is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest and is also a Local Nature Reserve. Roding Valley Lake, located at the southern end of the area, is a key landscape feature and provides opportunities for fishing. Some areas are served by seating and bins and there is some signage.

The eastern boundary of the site is defined by the River Roding with views across it to the Roding Valley Meadows in many places.



Aerial view of Roding Valley Playing Fields in Loughton

4.1 PROJECT 1: RODING VALLEY

Opportunities

The area of the Project comprises both the Recreation Ground and the Roding Valley Nature Reserve to the north east which is contiguous with it. There are significant opportunities to enhance the visual amenity and biodiversity of the whole of the Project area through planting and other enhancements. This would provide opportunities to development a more natural greenspace in places which would complement the setting of the Roding Valley Meadows.

The area comprising the Roding Valley Nature Reserve is designated as either and SSSI or a Local Nature Reserve. It has public access and has a number of footpaths running through it. Any improvements will therefore need to be carefully designed in order to avoid causing harm to its ecological value.

Enhancements across the Recreation Ground part of the Project site would help to create more visual interest, increase biodiversity and enhance its usability. This could be achieved without impacting on the formal sports pitches and would enhance their context – building on the ‘Best Kept Pitches in Essex’ award made to Loughton Town Council in 2018.



View over the Recreation Ground



Signpost within the Recreation Ground



Entrance from Oakwood Hill

4.1 PROJECT 1: RODING VALLEY

There are also opportunities to create more places to sit and dwell across the site including adjacent to the River Roding and the Roding Valley Lake as these are known to be key focal points which would be attractive for local residents to visit rather than the Epping Forest. In enhancing the site, care would be taken to ensure that it does not encourage greater use of the Roding Valley Meadows SSSI on the opposite bank of the river.

There is potential to build on the existing PRow network and informal paths and to enhance links with the London Loop and the PRow network beyond the site.

Taking these opportunities forward would provide for an enhanced amenity to support opportunities for new residents within these parishes to access natural greenspace as an alternative to the Epping Forest. There is also the potential, in places, to enhance cycling opportunities, as well as attractive areas for quiet contemplation and other opportunities for example for picnics and informal play for families.

Steps To Delivery

Development of Masterplan for the Project working with:

- Loughton Town Council,
- Buckhurst Hill Parish Council
- Essex Wildlife Trust
- EFDC Countrycare Team
- EFDC Grounds Maintenance Team
- Roding Valley Meadows Consultative and Management Groups
- Local Sports Clubs
- Local communities
- Access Forum
- Walking and Cycling Groups
- Essex County Council
- Environment Agency

This would be supported by a Wayfinding Strategy to identify locations for enhancing signage, and the enhancement of existing, and provision of new, links including access points. This will build on initiatives such as Loughton Town Council's 'Quietways' Initiative and the Buckhurst Hill Residents Society's Walks. It will also include the development of a comprehensive information resource for residents to be accessible via an 'app' (as suggested by ECC) and also in paper form.

EFDC will provide the officer support to develop the Masterplan and Wayfinding Strategy.

4.1 PROJECT 1: RODING VALLEY

Funding

Recognising that this project is aimed at relieving recreational pressure on the Epping Forest SAC arising from new residential development in the Loughton/ Debden/Buckhurst Hill/Theydon Bois areas then contributions will be sought from all new residential development where there is a net increase in units arising within these parishes.

The Council's Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP)

Currently, the IDP contains the following interventions related to Project 1:

- Upgrading of Roding Valley Recreation Ground (LOU 28)
- Enhanced signage at the seven natural and seminatural greenspace sites in Loughton, including Roding Valley Meadows (LOU 29)

The costs are noted as 'dependent upon exact size and nature of scheme.'



Roding Valley Lake

PROJECT 2: LINKS TO THE THEYDON BOIS WOOD

4.2

Page 174

4.2 PROJECT 2: LINKS TO THE THEYDON BOIS WOOD

The Woodland Trust acquired the land in 2006 as part of the 'Tree for All' project and planted with a mix of native broadleaf species between 2006 and 2009, helped by local community groups to create Theydon Bois Wood. Essex County Council paid for 30,000 trees, and the Buddhist religious order, Fo Guang Shan, paid for and planted 4,500 trees. In 2009, the Booker Prize judges planted an oak avenue. This planting symbolised the replenishment of trees that had been felled to produce the novels submitted for the prize. Local school children also planted a new orchard of 45 apple trees. The site is some 38.29 ha.

The mixed broadleaved trees of this young woodland are now establishing themselves and forming a bridge between the ancient and mature woods nearby. Animals and birds are moving in and the site also has wildflower meadows and a spectacular giant earth sculpture.

The land is gently sloping grade III agricultural land immediately west of the M11 near Theydon Bois. It is close to Epping Forest and it is believed may have once formed part of it. A small stream cuts through the site. The entrance to the site is on the Abridge Road, heading out of Theydon Bois just before the M11 motorway flyover and parts of the site are very visible from it. Public Rights of Way outside of the site provide links into it from both Theydon Bois and Debden. There is a good network of paths through the wood, including two linked public rights of way and a surfaced path. Part of the site has been kept free from planting in order to retain important views from the site across London.



Aerial view of The Woodland Trust Site in Theydon Bois

4.2 PROJECT 2: LINKS TO THE THEYDON BOIS WOOD

The Woodland Trust's guidelines for managing its sites including 'We provide free public access to woods for quiet, informal recreation and our woods are managed to make them accessible, welcoming and safe.' In line with this the site has open public access across it. This has meant that two previously unlinked PROW are now linked greatly improving the access opportunities for local people. A new surfaced path has been established through the site and links with a PRow through to Debden. There is no car park at the site for the public, but a hard-standing area is available for keyholders for use on events and is capable of accommodating coaches. The remote location of the site and the high risk of fly-tipping has meant that there are no plans to open up the parking area. The site is intended as a focus for quiet informal access for local people who can walk or cycle to the site.

Information on visiting Theydon Bois Wood can be found [here](#). The Management Plan 2017-2022 can be found [here](#).



Views to Central London across the site

4.2 PROJECT 2: LINKS TO THE THEYDON BOIS WOOD

Opportunities

The site provides a unique resource for local residents. The development of the site has linked two previously disconnected parts of the ProW network. However, the links from both Theydon Bois and Debden are, for the main part, of a poor quality and wayfinding and signage is poor. In order to provide for access to it to support its use as a natural green space the PProW network from both Theydon Bois and Debden into the site require enhancements in terms of surfacing, improving its accessibility for all and enhanced signage. Improvements of links within Debden itself to the site will also be explored.



PRoW access from Theydon Bois



PRoW access from Debden

COSTS

4.3

Page 178

4.3 COSTS

The costs set out below have been developed as an indication of the range of improvements likely to be required to support the delivery of the Infrastructure Enhancement Projects. This has been developed following an analysis of the sites and infrastructure requirements to support enhanced connectivity. These costs will be reviewed following the development of the Masterplan and Wayfinding Strategy and will be updated at first review of the Strategy and incorporated into the next update of the Council's Infrastructure Delivery Plan. The costs below have been informed by work undertaken by LUC for the Conservators of Epping Forest in September 2020 and Spon's External Works and Landscape Price Book 2021. They are therefore considered to be up-to-date and appropriate for use to inform the costs of the implementation and maintenance costs set out in the table below.

Project Development, Support and Awareness Raising Costs

- Development of Masterplan for Roding Valley Recreation Ground (integrating with Roding Valley Meadows Nature Reserve): **£40,000**
- EFDC Staff costs for overseeing Masterplanning and implementation: **£26,000**
- Development of Wayfinding Strategy: **£10,000**
- Development of Awareness raising package (including mobile phone app): **£5,000**

Implementation and Maintenance Costs

Activity	Quantum	Initial Capital Cost	Maintenance Cost (25 years)
Footpath improvements (granular base, wooden edging, self-binding surface) 1.5m width	1800m	£81,000	£67,500
Footpath Improvements (loose surface path (e.g. woodchippings) 1.5m width	300m	£2,250	£2,850
Footpath Improvements (granular base, wooden edging, self-binding surface) 2m width	180m	£10,800	£9,000
Replacement bridges	2 x 5m span	£12,000	£12,500
Wayfinding/signage	37no. timber post signs/ finger posts	£12,765	£33,300
Seating	10no.	£18,500	£12,500
Litter/dog bins	10no.	£4,000	£10,000
Wooden interpretation signs	5no.	£1,250	£4,500
Replacement stiles	2no.	£1,000	£2,500
Specimen Tree Planting	500 sqm	£45,000	£0
Whip Planting	1000 sqm	£4,700	£0
Total		£193,265	£154,650

4.3 COSTS

Overall Costs and Cost Per Proposed Dwelling

Overall costs: £428,915

Cost per dwelling based on 599 dwellings proposed for allocation in the emerging Local Plan within the parishes of Loughton, Buckhurst Hill and Theydon Bois. Therefore, it is calculated as **£716** per dwelling.

This page is intentionally left blank

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE STRATEGY

APPENDICES



CONTENTS

A.1	GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE IN PLANNING	180
	Legislative And Policy Context	181
	Legislative Framework	181
	Regional Context	184
A.2	RESOURCES	186
A.3	GLOSSARY	190

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE IN PLANNING

A1

Page 185

A.1 GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE IN PLANNING

Legislative And Policy Context

A significant amount of legislation and national and local planning policy and guidance provide the context to the production of this draft GI Strategy for Epping Forest District. The following section outlines the international, national, regional and local legislation and/or policies that have influenced the development of this draft Strategy.

Legislative Framework

Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 places a duty on all public authorities in England and Wales to have regard, in the exercise of their functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity. A key purpose of this duty is to embed consideration of biodiversity as an integral part of policy and decision making throughout the public sector, which should be seeking to make a significant contribution to the achievement of the commitments made by government in its 25 Year Environment Plan. It therefore goes wider than just a local authority's planning functions.

The Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) and the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, provide the primary legislative framework for the protection wildlife, nature conservation, the countryside, national parks and public rights of way in the UK. This includes the legislative framework in relation to Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), of which there are a number across the district.

The conservation of the natural environment as it relates to sites of international importance is enshrined in legislation through the EU Habitats Directive the requirements of which have been encapsulated in the Conservation of Habitats and Species (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 which came into force on 1 February 2020. The ultimate aim of the Directive is to "maintain or restore, at favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of Community interest" (Habitats Directive, Article 2(2)). The Directive established internationally designated sites of importance for biodiversity (Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), Special Protection Areas (SPA) and Ramsar sites). The District has two internationally designated sites, being the Epping Forest SAC and the Lee Valley SPA and Lee Valley 'Ramsar' site. The Epping Forest (including that area designated as SAC) is legally protected. The Epping Forest Act 1878 established that the unenclosed parts of the Forest should be preserved and maintained as an open space for the recreation and enjoyment of the public and named the City of London Corporation as its conservators.

As well as the statutory designations set out above the district contains a number of local established designations including Local Nature Reserves, County Wildlife and Local Wildlife sites.

A.1 GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE IN PLANNING

The role of GI in responding to the Climate Emergency should also not be underestimated. Global climate change and species protection provide clear drivers to introduce measures such as local GI networks. International agreements and legislation make provision for addressing both climate change and species protection whilst a growing body of evidence identifies the value of nature to human health and well-being.

At a national level, legislative imperatives are included in the UK Climate Change Strategy with the overarching 'net zero' emissions target by 2050 arising from the Climate Change Act 2008. The Government's 25 Year Environment Plan, 'A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment' sets out a framework to maintain and improve the environment for the next generation. It commits to:

- Making sure that there are high quality, accessible, natural spaces close to where people live and work, particularly in urban areas, and encouraging more people to spend time in them to benefit their health and well-being; and
- Focusing on increasing action to improve the environment from all sectors of society.

To complement its 25 Year Environmental Plan, Industrial Strategy and Clean Growth Strategy, the UK government launched a Clean Air Strategy in 2019. The Clean Air Strategy setting out comprehensive actions required across all parts of government and society to improve air quality. The strategy sets out how we will protect the nation's health, the environment, secure clean growth and innovation, reduce emissions from transport, homes, farming and industry and monitor our progress.

Importantly, Government re-introduced the Environment Bill on 30 January 2020. The Bill sets out how the government plans to protect and improve the natural environment in the UK. There are a number of elements within the Bill which are relevant to this Strategy including the proposed introduction of a mandatory requirement for biodiversity net gain in the planning system to ensure that new developments enhance biodiversity and create new greenspaces for local communities to enjoy. In introducing the Bill Government has made it clear that net gain requirements will supplement, not replace or undermine, existing protections for protected sites or irreplaceable habitats.

The National Planning Policy Framework ('NPPF') (February 2019) sets out national policy for local planning authorities and decision-takers. The NPPF states that there is a presumption in favour of sustainable development (paragraph 11), with sustainable development having economic, social and environmental objectives. The environmental objective is that development should protect and enhance the natural, built and historic environment as well as protecting biodiversity, minimising pollution and adapting to climate change and the demands of a low carbon economy. The NPPF defines Green Infrastructure (which also includes Blue Infrastructure) as:

"A network of multi-functional greenspace, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities."

A.1 GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE IN PLANNING

The NPPF outlines the relevance of GI to the development of policies within local plans and neighbourhood plans:

- Paragraph 20 highlights that 'Strategic policies should set out an overall strategy for the pattern, scale and quality of development, and make sufficient provision for...conservation and enhancement of the natural, built and historic environment, including landscapes and green infrastructure'.
- Paragraph 91 requires that planning policies and decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive and safe places; referencing safe and accessible green infrastructure, sports facilities and high-quality public space as a means to achieving this.
- Paragraph 150 states that 'New development should be planned for in ways that avoid increased vulnerability to the range of impacts arising from climate change... including through the planning of green infrastructure'.
- Paragraph 171 states that 'Plans should...take a strategic approach to maintaining and enhancing networks of habitats and green infrastructure'.
- Paragraph 181 links the requirement for the identification of green infrastructure provision and enhancement at the plan making stage to the improvement of air quality or mitigation of impacts relating to this issue.

The National Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) encourages a strategic approach to incorporating GI into local plans and implementing planning decisions through an evidence-based approach. It emphasises the importance of GI to the delivery of high-quality sustainable development, alongside other forms of infrastructure such as transport, energy, waste and water. GI provides multiple benefits, notably ecosystem services, at a range of scales, derived from natural systems and processes.

The PPG states that local authorities are required to provide suitable mitigation for potential impacts on international nature conservation sites and recommends the provision of open space to deliver a range of benefits and mitigation measures.

The PPG also requires the sustainable management of GI, which should be identified at the earliest stage, alongside the determination of sources of funding for its on-going management.

A.1 GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE IN PLANNING

Regional Context

At the strategic / cross-boundary level, Essex County Council's emerging Green Essex Strategy takes into consideration priorities offset out in the 25 Year Environment Plan, and other key national, regional and local policies, strategies and plans, including the Essex Growth Infrastructure Framework, that influence action to protect, manage and enhance our GI network. The emerging Vision and objectives in the Green Essex Strategy and those in this emerging GI Strategy align.

The aim of the Council is to manage the potential impact of development on GI with the strategic objective, working in partnership with other groups, of maintaining and where possible enhancing the ecological, recreational and conservation role of GI within a wider context. Within this strategic, cross-boundary context, the Council will collaborate with partners to:

- Protect and enhance the natural environment of the London Stansted Cambridge Corridor (LSCC) Core Area;
- Protect the natural biodiversity of the Lee Valley Regional Park SPA and Ramsar Convention on Wetlands Site (a wetland of international importance), and support the utilisation of natural assets for recreation purposes where appropriate; and
- Conserve and enhance the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation (SAC).

The Council is taking a comprehensive approach to managing, protecting and enhancing the GI network through this Strategy. It will support the implementation of a range of policies in the emerging Local Plan to ensure development is delivered in the context of maintaining a high quality built and natural environment. Whilst the emerging Local Plan is yet to be adopted and some changes are proposed to be made to it, the overarching approach to the built and natural environment, including the relevant policies, have been supported.

A.1 GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE IN PLANNING

These policies include:

- The location of development (Policy SP 2 and Chapter 5)
- Green Belt and District Open Land (Policy SP 6);
- The Natural Environment, Landscape Character and Green and Blue Infrastructure (Policy SP 7);
- Visitor Economy (Policy E 4);
- Supporting sustainable transport choices (Policy T 1);
- Protecting habitat and improving biodiversity (Policy DM 1);
- Epping Forest SAC and the Lee Valley SPA (Policy DM 2);
- Landscape character, ancient landscapes and geodiversity (Policy DM 3);
- Sustainable urban drainage systems (Policy DM 16);
- Green and Blue Infrastructure (Policy DM 5);
- Open space, sport and recreation provision (Policy DM 6);
- High Quality Design (Policy DM 9);
- Managing and reducing flood risk (Policy DM 15);
- Sustainable drainage systems (Policy DM 16);
- Protecting and enhancing watercourses and flood defences (Policy DM 17)
- On site management of waste water and water supply (Policy DM 18)
- Air Quality (Policy DM 22)

Policy DM 5 (Green and Blue Infrastructure) in particular sets out the Council's expectations as to how development proposals should respond to the GI needs of the District to ensure that GI assets are protected and enhanced or new provision made to ensure that a network of multi-functional green and blue assets is created across the District.

RESOURCES

A2

A.2 RESOURCES

Epping Forest District Council Local Plan

[EFDC Local Plan Submission Version 2017 \(EB114\)](#)

[EFDC Local Plan Submission Documents](#)

Epping Forest District Council Local Plan Evidence Base

[EFDC Local Plan Evidence Base](#)

[EFDC Open Space Strategy 2017 \(EB703\)](#)

[EFDC Open Spaces, Sport and Recreation Audit \(EB706\)](#)

[Council's LoWS Review \(EB708\)](#)

[EFDC Landscape Character Assessment 2010 \(EB709\)](#)

[EFDC Visitor Survey August 2017 \(EB715\)](#)

[EFDC Visitor Survey February 2019 \(EB716\)](#)

Epping Forest District Council Relevant Guidance and Strategies

[EFDC Sustainability Guidance / Major Developments \(+10 units\) Draft October 2020](#)

[EFDC Sustainability Guidance / Minor Developments \(1-9 units\) Draft October 2020](#)

EFDC Interim Air Pollution Mitigation Strategy 2021

[EFDC Strategic Masterplanning Briefing Note October 2018](#)

[Interim Approach to Managing Recreational Pressures on the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation October 2018 \(EB134\)](#)

Harlow and Gilston Garden Town Relevant Guidance and Strategies

[HGGT Vision Document 2018](#)

[HGGT Design Guide 2018](#)

HGGT Stewardship Advice Stage 2 Report 2020

[Harlow Local Development Plan \(adopted 2020\)](#)

[Green Infrastructure Plan for Harlow 2005](#)

A.2 RESOURCES

[Harlow Open Space and Green Infrastructure Study 2013 Chapters 1-5](#)

[Harlow Open Space and Green Infrastructure Study 2013 Chapters 6-9](#)

Essex County Council Relevant Guidance and Strategies

[Essex Design Guide - Landscapes and Greenspaces](#)

[Essex Design Guide - Sustainable Drainage Systems \(SuDS\)](#)

[Essex Design Guide - Garden Communities](#)

[Green Essex Strategy](#)

[Essex County Council Local Flood Risk Management Strategy](#)

National Relevant Guidance and Strategies

[National Planning Policy Framework](#)

[National Planning Practice Guidance - Natural Environment](#)

[National Design Code Consultation Version January 2021](#)

[The Habitats Directive 1992](#)

[The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2019](#)

[The Agriculture Act 2020](#)

Further Reading

[EFDC Environmental Services](#)

[EFDC Interactive Planning Map](#)

[Essex County Council Public Rights of Way \(PRoW\) Map](#)

[Fields in Trust Guidance for Outdoor Sport and Play](#)

[Harlow Art Trust](#)

[Harlow Sculpture Town](#)

[Landscape Institute's Green Infrastructure: An Integrated Approach to Land Use](#)

[Natural England's Green Infrastructure Guidance 2009 \(NE176\)](#)

A.2 RESOURCES

[North Weald Bassett Parish Council Millennium Walks](#)

[The Wildlife Trust Living Landscapes](#)

[Public Health England's Improving Access to Greenspace 2020](#)

[Rewild My Street](#)

[River Stort Catchment Management Plan](#)

[TCPA Built Today, Treasured Tomorrow 2014](#)

[Urban Design London - Designing Rain Gardens: A Practical Guide](#)

[Woodland Trust Theydon Bois Wood](#)

GLOSSARY

A3

Page 195

Air Pollution Mitigation Strategy

A document produced by the Council with Natural England setting out the steps that will be taken to reduce pollution within an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA). This could include steps to reduce car usage and promote public transport.

Amenity Space

Outdoor space that may be private or communal but enables the enjoyment of the property. If the space is private this is for the enjoyment of the occupants of the dwelling for relaxing, drying washing etc.

Ancient Woodland

An area that has been wooded continuously since 1600 AD.

Biodiversity

The variety of plant and animal life in the world or in a particular habitat, a high level of which is usually considered to be important and desirable.

Biodiversity Net Gain

A metric used to ensure habitats for wildlife are enhanced and left in a measurably better state than they were pre-development.

Blue Infrastructure

Infrastructure provision relating to water. This includes natural features such as rivers, streams and ponds, semi-natural features such as sustainable drainage systems, bio-swales and canals, and other engineering features such as dams, weirs and culverts.

Connectivity

The state of being connected, or degree to which places and people are connected e.g. by transport systems including footpath networks.

Conservation Areas

A Conservation Area is an area of special architectural or historic interest, with a character or appearance which is considered to be desirable to preserve or enhance.

Development

'Development' includes building operations (e.g. structural alterations, construction, rebuilding, most demolition); material changes of use of land and buildings; engineering operations (e.g. groundworks); mining operations; other operations normally carried out by a person operating a business as a builder; subdivision of a building (or any part of it) used as a dwelling house for the use as two or more separate dwelling houses. As defined by s55 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990.

Development Proposals

Any proposed development scheme presented/ submitted to the Council for consideration or determination. This includes, planning applications (outline or full) and proposals submitted as part of pre-application enquiries.

District Open Land

Land outlined in this Local Plan that is intended to be afforded the same protection as Green Belt land via the use of a Local Green Space designation.

Epping Forest Buffer Land

Areas of land around the fringes of Epping Forest owned by the City of London Corporation and managed by the Conservators of the Forest. The purpose of Buffer Land is to protect the rural environment of the Forest and by providing a natural barrier of land which is safeguard from encroachment of development. The land also provides areas of recreation and complementary wildlife habitats.

Evidence Base

The information and data gathered to justify the "soundness" of the policy approach set out in the Local Development Plan, including physical, economic, and social characteristics of an area.

Geodiversity

The range of rocks, minerals, fossils, soils and landforms.

Garden Town Communities/ Garden Villages

Large scale development planned in a holistic and comprehensive way, including extensions to existing settlements. Development of this nature is based on the 'garden town' principles developed by the Town and Country Planning Association. These aim to improve quality of life by providing high quality design; infrastructure appropriate for the needs of the society such as public transport, public services, education and health facilities as well as community facilities and provision of green spaces, gardens, open spaces and landscaped areas integral to their design.

Green Belt

Land protected by a policy and land use designation to protect areas of largely undeveloped or agricultural land surrounding or neighbouring urban areas. Review of Green Belt boundaries is undertaken as part of the production of Local Plans where Green Belt exists.

Green Infrastructure

Green Infrastructure is a network of high quality greenspaces and other environmental features such as parks, public open spaces, playing fields, sports pitches, woodlands, and allotments. The provision of Green Infrastructure can provide social, economic and environmental benefits close to where people live and work.

Green and Blue Corridors

A natural linear feature/habitat that supports biodiversity, primarily by enabling wildlife to move along it and connect other wildlife populations and habitats as part of a network. Green Corridors include features such as woodland and hedgerows, railway embankments or grass verges. Blue Corridors include features such as rivers, streams, ponds, wetlands and sustainable drainage measures and can facilitate natural hydrological processes while minimising flooding.

Habitats Directive

Is a Directive adopted in respect of the conservation of natural habitats of wild plants and animals transposed into UK law through the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010.

Habitat Regulation Assessment (HRA)

A process whereby the potential impact of development on sites protected by the Habitats Directive is assessed.

Heritage Asset

A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. Heritage asset includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing).

Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP)

This will contain the key infrastructure required to support the homes and commercial development in the Local Plan. This includes physical infrastructure such as transport energy and water, social and community infrastructure such as health, education and emergency services and green infrastructure such as open spaces and allotments. The IDP sits alongside the Local Plan and will contain a programme identifying when items of infrastructure are expected to be in place, funding and costs. It will be regularly updated as more information becomes available.

Landscape Character Assessment

An assessment to identify different landscape areas which have a distinct character based on a recognisable pattern of elements, including combinations of geology, land-form, soils, vegetation, land use and human settlement.

Listed Building

A building or structure considered to be of special architectural or historic interest that appears on the National Heritage List for England.

Local Nature Reserve (LNR)

Places with wildlife or geological features that or special interest locally. These are normally owned and statutorily designated by the local authority. In Epping Forest District, Local Nature Reserves are managed by the Essex Wildlife Trust

Local Plan (LP)

The plan for the future development of the local area, drawn up by the local planning authority in consultation with the community and stakeholders. Once adopted the Local Plan will legally form part of the Development Plan for the District, superseding the Replacement Local Plan (2006).

Local Wildlife Sites (LWS)

Local Wildlife Sites, whilst not of national status, have a county-wide significance. Each site identified provides a high-grade habitat for a diverse range of flora and fauna meriting careful conservation. Sites are evaluated according to criteria, including: diversity of species; features of wildlife importance; rarity of habitat and species in local and county context; management and current use; public access and linkages with other sites and areas.

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

A formal agreement between two or more parties, not legally binding but carrying a degree of seriousness and mutual respect.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

Sets out the Government's planning policies for England, and provides a framework within which local people and their accountable councils can produce their own distinctive local and neighbourhood plans, which reflects the needs and priorities of their communities.

Open Space

All open space of public value, including not just land, but also areas of water (such as rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs) which offer important opportunities for sport and recreation and can act as a visual amenity.

Place-making

The process through which communities shape their public and open spaces. It involves the planning, design, management and programming of open spaces to improve a community's cultural, economic, social and ecological situation.

Planning Obligation

A legally enforceable obligation entered into under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 to mitigate the impacts of a development proposal.

Planning Practice Guidance

Online guidance from government that expands upon the provisions in the National Planning Policy Framework.

Quality Review Panel (QRP)

An independent panel of planning, architecture, urban design and construction experts set up by the Council to provide impartial expert advice to both applicants and local authorities on design issues in relation to important new development schemes and proposals for important public spaces including significant minor applications, major planning applications, preapplication development proposals, strategic masterplans and concept frameworks. The Quality Review Panel's feedback is a material consideration for local authorities and the planning inspectorate when determining planning applications. The purpose of the Quality Review Panel is to ensure that new development is of a high quality and contributes to place making.

Ramsar Site

A wetland of international importance, protected under the Ramsar Convention on the sustainable use and conservation of Wetlands.

Registered Parks and Gardens

Are to be found on the Register of Parks and Gardens of Historic Interest in England that recognises the importance of these as heritage assets of particular significance.

Section 106 Agreement

A mechanism to make a development proposal acceptable in planning terms that would otherwise not be acceptable, focused on site-specific mitigation of the impact of development. They can involve the provision of facilities or contributions toward infrastructure.

Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

Sites designated to protect their wildlife or geology including those designated under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

Area given special protection under the European Union's Habitats Directive which is transposed into UK law by the Habitats and Conservation of Species Regulations 2010.

Special Protection Area (SPA)

Area that has been identified as being of international importance for the breeding, feeding, wintering or the migration of rare and vulnerable species of birds found within European Union countries. They are European designated sites, classified under the Birds Directive.

Strategic Allocations

Allocations for specific or mixed uses of development contained in Development Plan Documents. The policies in the document identify any specific requirements for individual allocations.

Strategic Masterplan

A masterplan is the process by which organisations undertake analysis and prepare strategies, and the proposals that are needed to plan for major change in a defined physical area. It acts as a context from which development projects come forward for parts of the area.

Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS)

These are drainage systems designed to manage surface water and groundwater to sustainably reduce the potential impact of new and existing developments on flood risk.

Sustainable Transport

Efficient, safe and accessible means of transport with overall low impact on the environment, including walking and cycling, low and ultra-low emission vehicles, car sharing and public transport.

Swale

A marshy depression that can be man made as part of a sustainable drainage system.

Tree Preservation Order (TPO)

An order made by a local planning authority to protect specific trees, groups of trees or woodlands in the interests of amenity

Veteran Tree

A tree which, because of its great age, size or condition is of exceptional value for wildlife, in the landscape or culturally. Ancient trees are all veterans but veterans are not all ancient.

Engagement Session	Commentor	Commenting On	Date Received	Comment	Section	Response
Developer Forum	Breakout Group 1	SANG Principles: Appendix 3 sets out the principles for SANG. Are there any barriers or obstacles that you can see with these principles and your site?	19-Jun-20	RE: quantum of SANG guidance – has 8ha per 1000 population been agreed with Natural England?	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.
Developer Forum	Breakout Group 1	SANG Principles: Appendix 3 sets out the principles for SANG. Are there any barriers or obstacles that you can see with these principles and your site?	19-Jun-20	Lack of clarity in the document on what constitutes SANGS.	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.
Developer Forum	Breakout Group 1	SANG Principles: Appendix 3 sets out the principles for SANG. Are there any barriers or obstacles that you can see with these principles and your site?	19-Jun-20	How will the delivery of SANGS be secured/provided for the Water Lane allocated site – is it to be provided on another allocation (ie. Latton Priory) and how would that work if so?	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.
Developer Forum	Breakout Group 1	SANG Principles: Appendix 3 sets out the principles for SANG. Are there any barriers or obstacles that you can see with these principles and your site?	19-Jun-20	Confusion over the multifunctionality of SANGS as green space and still being required to provide other open space within developments.	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.
Developer Forum	Breakout Group 2	SANG Principles: Appendix 3 sets out the principles for SANG. Are there any barriers or obstacles that you can see with these principles and your site?	19-Jun-20	Clarification required on quantum of SANG provision and whether they are just required for larger sites.	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.
Developer Forum	Breakout Group 2	SANG Principles: Appendix 3 sets out the principles for SANG. Are there any barriers or obstacles that you can see with these principles and your site?	19-Jun-20	Clarification required on whether the Landscape Framework is separate from the Strategic Masterplan.	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.
Developer Forum	Breakout Group 2	SANG Principles: Appendix 3 sets out the principles for SANG. Are there any barriers or obstacles that you can see with these principles and your site?	19-Jun-20	Concerns around choice of precedent for SANG strategy – using the Thames based method instead of the East Coast RAMS strategy	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.
Developer Forum	Breakout Group 2	SANG Principles: Appendix 3 sets out the principles for SANG. Are there any barriers or obstacles that you can see with these principles and your site?	19-Jun-20	Clarification required around the Memorandum of Understanding mechanism bringing multiple landowners together	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.
Developer Forum	Breakout Group 2	SANG Principles: Appendix 3 sets out the principles for SANG. Are there any barriers or obstacles that you can see with these principles and your site?	19-Jun-20	Concerns over SANG identified in Strategy which are not within the Developers/Councils control	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.
Developer Forum	Breakout Group 3	SANG Principles: Appendix 3 sets out the principles for SANG. Are there any barriers or obstacles that you can see with these principles and your site?	19-Jun-20	General acceptance of SANG principles, however concerns around the timing of publication of SANG principles and the impact on sites in the advanced masterplanning stages.	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.
Developer Forum	Breakout Group 3	SANG Principles: Appendix 3 sets out the principles for SANG. Are there any barriers or obstacles that you can see with these principles and your site?	19-Jun-20	Cost is a barrier to the implementation of SANG, and clear direction required on including SANG in the design of masterplans.	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.
Developer Forum	Breakout Group 3	SANG Principles: Appendix 3 sets out the principles for SANG. Are there any barriers or obstacles that you can see with these principles and your site?	19-Jun-20	More definitive guidance on quantum of SANG - fundamental to delivering land and is currently halting progress. Mixed messages over quality/quantity and whether SANG is required beyond the Epping Forest SAC ZOI	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.
Developer Forum	Breakout Group 3	SANG Principles: Appendix 3 sets out the principles for SANG. Are there any barriers or obstacles that you can see with these principles and your site?	19-Jun-20	Are SUDs included in the SANG guidelines? And is the protection of wildlife included?	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.
Developer Forum	Breakout Group 2	Measuring quality: Section 3 sets out expectations of quality. How will you ensure and/or measure quality of green infrastructure on your site?	19-Jun-20	Requirement for further design guidance on green infrastructure in developments. Ongoing engagement with EFDC on design matters would prove beneficial	Section 3	Part 2 Landscape Led Design explores the Role of Design and Multifunctional Design in Green Infrastructure, and therefore should act as a guide for what the Council seeks in developments. Engagement with EFDC Officers is actively encouraged throughout the design and planning process.
Developer Forum	Breakout Group 2	Measuring quality: Section 3 sets out expectations of quality. How will you ensure and/or measure quality of green infrastructure on your site?	19-Jun-20	Examples of landscape led design project include Beaulieu Park, Chelmsford – where Countryside worked with the local land trust and local authority to bring forward multi-functional open spaces, and Marham Park in Bury St Edmunds – where linking green and blue spaces via green corridors sets out a framework in which residential developments sit within.	Section 3	The Strategy has been amended to include good examples of Landscape-Led Design in masterplanning. Part 2 Landscape Led Design looks at stewardship models of new Green Infrastructure, where Beaulieu is used as a case study for Community Land Trusts.

Developer Forum	Breakout Group 2	Measuring quality: Section 3 sets out expectations of quality. How will you ensure and/or measure quality of green infrastructure on your site?	19-Jun-20	Important to engage landscape and ecology officers early in the design process and need to integrate all relevant interest groups	Section 3	The Strategy actively encourages this approach throughout the design and planning process.
Developer Forum	Breakout Group 3	Measuring quality: Section 3 sets out expectations of quality. How will you ensure and/or measure quality of green infrastructure on your site?	19-Jun-20	Some agreed landscape led design would ensure a higher quality masterplan design process, whilst others were keen to understand in more detail what would be needed	Section 3	Part 2 Landscape Led Design explores the Role of Design and Multifunctional Design in Green Infrastructure, and therefore should act as a guide for what the Council seeks in developments. Engagement with EFDC Officers is actively encouraged throughout the design and planning process.
Developer Forum	Breakout Group 3	Measuring quality: Section 3 sets out expectations of quality. How will you ensure and/or measure quality of green infrastructure on your site?	19-Jun-20	Potential need for quality metrics in relation to biodiversity and ecology	Section 3	Whilst quality metrics are difficult to define, the Council has been developing a Green Infrastructure Sustainability 'checklist' in the EFDC Sustainability Guidance (due to be published Spring 2021). Links to the checklist can be found in the Green Infrastructure Strategy.
Developer Forum	Breakout Group 2	Stewardship: Section 4 sets out stewardship models. What is your approach to long term maintenance and management of green infrastructure including biodiversity net gain?	19-Jun-20	Some shared experience of working with different stewardship models – primarily with land trusts and forms of management companies. Regarding smaller sites, less experience was held by group members	Section 4	The Strategy has been amended to provide more information on stewardship of new and existing Green Infrastructure in the Strategy, including referencing the HGGT Stewardship Report published June 2020.
Developer Forum	Breakout Group 3	Stewardship: Section 4 sets out stewardship models. What is your approach to long term maintenance and management of green infrastructure including biodiversity net gain?	19-Jun-20	Concerns around cost of maintenance of open space and how those costs would be recovered	Section 4	The Strategy has been amended to provide more information on stewardship of new and existing Green Infrastructure in the Strategy, including referencing the HGGT Stewardship Report published June 2020. Further information has also been included on potential funding sources for the creation and stewardship of Green Infrastructure.
Developer Forum	Breakout Group 3	Stewardship: Section 4 sets out stewardship models. What is your approach to long term maintenance and management of green infrastructure including biodiversity net gain?	19-Jun-20	Previous preference for management companies as a client – to ensure control over the provision and development of open space, whilst also maintaining their relationship to adjacent housing	Section 4	The Strategy has been amended to provide more information on stewardship of new and existing Green Infrastructure in the Strategy, including referencing the HGGT Stewardship Report published June 2020. This report identified a number of preferred stewardship models, which are reflected in the Strategy.
Developer Forum	Breakout Group 3	Stewardship: Section 4 sets out stewardship models. What is your approach to long term maintenance and management of green infrastructure including biodiversity net gain?	19-Jun-20	Lessons learnt from group members in relation to stewardship – to consider right from masterplanning stage and develop in parallel to the design process	Section 4	The Strategy has been amended to provide more information on stewardship of new and existing Green Infrastructure in the Strategy, including referencing the HGGT Stewardship Report published June 2020. Early engagement with the Council on the development of stewardship principles is strongly encouraged.
Developer Forum	Breakout Group 3	Stewardship: Section 4 sets out stewardship models. What is your approach to long term maintenance and management of green infrastructure including biodiversity net gain?	19-Jun-20	Ownership vs management – the stewardship of open space largely depends on local scenarios – some local authorities are willing to take on long term management. There appears to be a trend to steer away from traditional management companies as stewardship models	Section 4	The Strategy has been amended to provide more information on stewardship of new and existing Green Infrastructure in the Strategy, including referencing the HGGT Stewardship Report published June 2020. This report identified a number of preferred stewardship models, which are reflected in the Strategy.
Developer Forum	Other comments	Other	19-Jun-20	Queries raised regarding the extent to which the requirement of SANG has been accounted for in EFDC's revised capacity analysis and whether the GI Strategy will be re-consulted upon or amended once the HRA work has been completed – and whether that would affect the approach to the scale of SANG		See overarching SANG response.
Youth Council Workshop	Group A	Think of a green space that you love visiting – and one or two words to sum it up e.g. picnic, huge trees, football	23-Jun-20	Local green space - secluded and easy to walk to, Roding Valley Meadows - close by with trees providing shade, Epping Forest - close enough to travel to alone, Richmond Park - a nice open space with wildlife, Connaught Water - lovely however parking is difficult and people park on verges		Comment noted. A number of these attributes are included in the SANG Guidance in Part 3 of the Strategy.
Youth Council Workshop	Group B	Think of a green space that you love visiting – and one or two words to sum it up e.g. picnic, huge trees, football	23-Jun-20	Local park - big open space with grass, Green space near home - range of activities for all ages, Fields near home - space to walk and climb trees, The Forest - dog walking, fresh air, place to chill, Fields and forest behind home - peaceful and fresh air.		Comment noted. A number of these attributes are included in the SANG Guidance in Part 3 of the Strategy.

Youth Council Workshop	Group A	How many of you visit Epping Forest? What would make you want to go to new outdoor spaces instead of the forest?	23-Jun-20	Majority have visited. Refreshments, a centre or facilities, open and nice views, wildlife to photograph, activities such as white water rafting, live music/outdoor concerts during evenings, accessible by public transport, outdoor lidos or other exercise/social aspects.		Comment noted. Whilst the desire for the range of activities identified to be provided they would, for the main part, be inappropriate within a SANG.
Youth Council Workshop	Group B	How many of you visit Epping Forest? What would make you want to go to new outdoor spaces instead of the forest?	23-Jun-20	Approx. 3 have visited. Spaces to chill, large open space, somewhere explorable, isolated and calm away from town, connected to nature, tree houses and picnic areas, enclosed spaces to walk dogs safely with agility space		Comment noted. A number of these attributes are included in the SANG Guidance in Part 3 of the Strategy.
Youth Council Workshop	Group A	What is the main thing that adults forget when designing or considering green and blue spaces for young people?	23-Jun-20	To include signposting/information stands, unique elements such as 'listening bench', Bike stands/cyclist friendly amenities, Youth shelters		The Strategy highlights such design considerations for young people in Part 2: Landscape Led Design
Youth Council Workshop	Group B	What is the main thing that adults forget when designing or considering green and blue spaces for young people?	23-Jun-20	Provide information/history of the place, Too many restrictions, Spaces for young children and older children, Make it exciting/draw people in, Skate parks, Safety/security and maintenance		The Strategy highlights such design considerations for young people in Part 2: Landscape Led Design
Youth Council Workshop	Group A	Are you involved with any of these kinds of projects or would you like to be?	23-Jun-20	Some take part and many would like to take part in Allotments, Epping in Bloom, Countrycare		Comment noted.
Youth Council Workshop	Group B	Are you involved with any of these kinds of projects or would you like to be?	23-Jun-20	Some go litter picking. Many would like to be more involved.		Comment noted.
Members Workshop	Breakout Room 1	Looking at the SANGS principles – do you think that the principles we have identified for the creation of SANG will create an attractive alternative to the Epping Forest for residents? If not, what do you think needs to be included?	02-Jul-20	Suggestion to design places without trees (as they take a long time to grow) instead create wetlands, meadows or other natural landscapes. Include walking trails. Pockets of small green spaces rather than one large open space.		SANGS will vary in character and landscape type across the District depending on microclimate conditions, existing landscape features, local character and design development processes.
Members Workshop	Breakout Room 2	Looking at the SANGS principles – do you think that the principles we have identified for the creation of SANG will create an attractive alternative to the Epping Forest for residents? If not, what do you think needs to be included?	02-Jul-20	Need to better understand the details of SANGS (size, distance). Need to consider who the users of the sites are. SANG should be away from the SAC – it should be large enough, meaningful and purposeful to encourage a wide range of activities.		See overarching SANG response.
Members Workshop	Breakout Room 1	In appendix 4 we have identified a number of potential sites for enhancement, are there any other sites that you think would work well as SANG and if so, what do you think needs to be done in terms of enhancement to make them an attractive alternative offer?	02-Jul-20	Lee Valley. Consider how people will get to the alternative sites.	Appendix 4	See overarching SANG response.
Members Workshop	Breakout Room 2	In appendix 4 we have identified a number of potential sites for enhancement, are there any other sites that you think would work well as SANG and if so, what do you think needs to be done in terms of enhancement to make them an attractive alternative offer?	02-Jul-20	Engine Shed, Hertford - could be used for cycling hub - and currently sits as empty space. Chigwell - on the border and an urban area. North Weald site and the Golf club - could work as extension to the SANG. Need to look at more sustainable areas - link infrastructure and transport links. Walking, cycling and horse riding should be encouraged. Built-in walking and cycle routes across developments. Consider allowing scooters and e-bikes within sites. Use of Countrycare. Include electric charging points in car parks/solar panel powering. Could mirror HGGT's STC across the larger sites	Appendix 4	Comment noted. The guidance in the Strategy supports policies within the emerging Local Plan which seek to achieve reductions in vehicle use. The provision of Electric Vehicle Charging points is not a matter for this Strategy but rather the Council's adopted Interim Air Pollution Mitigation Strategy (IAPMS).
Members Workshop	Breakout Room 1	Thinking about the project pages in Appendix 1 (Movement and Wayfinding, Roadside and Wildflowers, Tree planting – A Call for sites, Community Greenspace Improvements) and the opportunities identified in Appendix 2 in relation to different parts of the District (strategic allocations and communities) have we missed anything or are you aware of particular priorities for projects in your local area?	02-Jul-20	Concerns around the inclusion of sculptures - need to be sympathetic to the environment. Traditional EF signage to be used in strategic locations. Questions around placement, scale and size of tree planting and look at use of funding, Hedgerow, Tree Wardens.	Appendix 1 & Appendix 2	Comment noted. The provision of Art in the Landscape will need to respond positively to its surroundings and this is reflected in the Strategy.
Members Workshop	Breakout Room 2	Thinking about the project pages in Appendix 1 (Movement and Wayfinding, Roadside and Wildflowers, Tree planting – A Call for sites, Community Greenspace Improvements) and the opportunities identified in Appendix 2 in relation to different parts of the District (strategic allocations and communities) have we missed anything or are you aware of particular priorities for projects in your local area?	02-Jul-20	Limes Farm is a good example to start exploring sustainability (tree planting to mitigate car pollution). Two Brewers in Chigwell have walking routes which can be combined as a rest stop - connect walking routes/where the London Loop breaks. Consider art local to Epping/show off local skills. Get landowners to lease small parts of (under-utilised land) for public use (create smaller versions of wooded forested area). Composter toilets should be encouraged. Consider connecting Essex forest & landowners. Community engagement is vital. All SANGS should have a water feature of some sort	Appendix 1 & Appendix 2	These helpful comments are noted and will be considered further as part of the development of specific projects.
Members Workshop	Other comments	Other	02-Jul-20	How does Lee Valley fit into the strategy?		The Strategy has been amended to include information on and references to the Lee Valley Regional Park including in relation to the Waltham Abbey North Masterplan Area.
Members Workshop	Other comments	Other	02-Jul-20	Concerns around the cost of SANGS to local council/residents		See overarching SANG response.
Members Workshop	Other comments	Other	02-Jul-20	The GI Strategy document is not reaching people - needs more publicity		Despite the restrictions created by the COVID-19 crisis the consultation undertaken was in accordance with the Council's adopted Statement of Community involvement. The Council will engage with residents and local community organisations on individual projects where appropriate in due course.

Members Workshop	Other comments	Other	02-Jul-20	Need a clear definition of SANG and how long it lasts i.e. is there a protection to a SANG?		See overarching SANG response.
Members Workshop	Other comments	Other	02-Jul-20	How can we attract landowners to lease their land for SANGS and how can we encourage farmers to increase biodiversity?		See overarching SANG response. The government is developing proposals through the Environment Bill and is undertaking a review of subsidies to farmers including to increase biodiversity.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Society	Feedback on the document	19-Jun-20	Disagree with car park charging within the forest for a number of reasons	Para 1.26	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Society	Feedback on the document	19-Jun-20	Funding mechanisms are implausible		Further information on funding mechanisms has been provided in Part 1: Enhancing Our Existing Network
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Society	Feedback on the document	19-Jun-20	Lack of info on SSSI in the District - suggest a list or map of them?		Mapping has been updated in the Strategy, including on Page 32 of the Strategy Primer where all SSSI sites within the District have been highlighted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Society	Feedback on the document	19-Jun-20	Photographic example used does not represent the area's true condition	Page 25	The image provides an example of how Public Rights of Way (PRoW) can be clearly identified through agricultural fields to avoid damage to crops whilst maintaining access.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Society	Feedback on the document	19-Jun-20	The Wayfinding Strategy should seek input from people who use footpaths (example included)	Page 59	The 'Movement and Wayfinding' project has been updated to include local ramblers groups as Key Stakeholders
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Society	Feedback on the document	19-Jun-20	Dispute that Epping South is a green infrastructure asset		The South of Epping Masterplan Area has been included as it is a Strategic Masterplan site rather than a green infrastructure asset.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Society	Feedback on the document	19-Jun-20	Quite a lot of the Strategy is interwoven with the Local Plan. Is there an intention to reserve the former, until the later has been resolved?		The Strategy will help to inform the implementation of relevant policies within the emerging Local Plan. There is no legal requirement to wait until the adoption of the Local Plan before endorsing the Strategy as a material consideration in planning related matters because of the advanced stage of the Plan. References to the Strategy are being proposed to the Inspector as part of any Main Modifications.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Society	Feedback on the document	19-Jun-20	Lack of Tree Preservation Orders mentioned. Suggest list map or of 'local interest' trees		The Strategy makes reference to 'protected trees' which would include those covered by Tree Preservation Orders and those within Conservation Areas. As there are a significant number of such trees it would be impractical to either list or map such assets and there would be a potential that such information would become out of date very quickly.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Society	Feedback on the document	19-Jun-20	Air Quality is mentioned but not emphasised. Suggest reference to the District's AQMA		The Strategy has been amended to include reference to the Council's adopted Interim Air Pollution Mitigation Strategy which provides more information on air quality considerations.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Society	Feedback on the document	19-Jun-20	Unclear what "well connected" means	2.41	This is a commonly used phrase and relates to, primarily, being able to get between places and key destinations easily.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Society	Feedback on the document	19-Jun-20	Suggestion to include "other green measures" for which the Council has plans/responsibilities		The Strategy has been amended to include more projects and associated information.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Peter Gedling	Feedback on the document	23-Jun-20	Suggest a summary of the document be issues		The Strategy has been amended to make it more succinct and easier to navigate.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Peter Gedling	Feedback on the document	23-Jun-20	Constant use of unfamiliar abbreviations		A Glossary has been included in the Appendices of the Strategy.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Peter Gedling	Feedback on the document	23-Jun-20	Not user friendly to members of the public	The Strategy has been restructured into a Primer and four Parts, specifically aimed at different audiences to make it more user-friendly.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jean Juniper	Feedback on the document	23-Jun-20	The document is not specific enough to Epping Forest and its community and it should be written in 'plain English' with technical terms fully explained	The Strategy has been revised to improve readability and ease of use. Opportunities to make it more specific to Epping Forest District and its landscapes have also been taken.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jean Juniper	Feedback on the document	23-Jun-20	The document lacks real vision for the future and provides no detail of how it will provide environmental provision.	The Council considers that the Strategy as revised sets out a clear and focussed Vision for Green and Blue Infrastructure provision in the District, and how this will be achieved.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jean Juniper	Feedback on the document	23-Jun-20	Hypocritical to use Jessel Green as an illustration of the green spaces when it was only saved from developers by residents.	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jean Juniper	Feedback on the document	23-Jun-20	The District has allowed development on the green space on the corner of Rectory Lane and Borders Lane in Loughton which is incongruent with the protection and enhancement of green spaces.	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jean Juniper	Feedback on the document	23-Jun-20	The current District plans are to allow further building on the Forest's borders (Latton Priory and North Weald Bassett) inflicting more environmental damage to the ancient woodland of Epping Forest, instead of expanding it to protect the environment.	The allocation of sites for development is not a matter for the Strategy. The Strategy identifies ways in which these sites (and others) can make a positive contribution to the District's Green and Blue Infrastructure assets and ensure that there would be no adverse effect on the integrity of the Epping Forest arising from development.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jean Juniper	Feedback on the document	23-Jun-20	The District's solution is to restrict access to the Forest and introduce parking charges. Imposition of parking charges favours the wealthy and deprives disadvantaged people, fuelling social injustice and inequality and is contrary to the common rights. Using financial constraints to restrict access to one of the most valuable common areas is abhorrent.	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jean Juniper	Feedback on the document	23-Jun-20	The document provides no vision, specific information or aspiration as to how the inadequacy of the current provision of parks and playgrounds would be rectified.	The Council's aspirations and expectations for children's and young people's outdoor spaces are set out in Part 2: Landscape Led Design.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jean Juniper	Feedback on the document	23-Jun-20	There are no 'formal' parks within the area that provide a pleasant environment to walk with prams/pushchairs or suitable terrain for elderly residents. Suggest the strategy addresses this even if it does not intend to provide such a facility for its residents.	The Strategy makes it clear that enhancements to existing, and provision of new, assets should be designed to make them accessible to all.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jean Juniper	Feedback on the document	23-Jun-20	The strategy gives no indication of the vision for young adults i.e. locations or how facilities can be provided.	The Council's aspirations and expectations for children's and young people's outdoor spaces are set out in Part 2: Landscape Led Design.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jean Juniper	Feedback on the document	23-Jun-20	Appears the District is keen to change the culture of allotments to multi-use spaces and the document specifically mentions children's play areas. Rather than multi-functional, is the District trying to gain financially viable land and move allotments not in line with environmental objectives but for financial reasons?	Part 2: Landscape Led Design in the Strategy refers to the inclusion of productive landscape principles as an element of multi-functional design for new spaces. No change to the culture of existing allotments is proposed.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Jean Juniper	Feedback on the document	23-Jun-20	This section does not focus enough on rectifying the deficiencies already in existence that need addressing across the District, it is only devoted to the ongoing development that the District is proposing.	Implementation	The revised Strategy has Part 1: Enhancing Our Existing Network identifies deliverable projects aimed at enhancing the District's Green Infrastructure assets.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jean Juniper	Feedback on the document	23-Jun-20	The report needs to specify what exactly stewardship options mean. Stewardship needs to be explored more honestly and open with full details of what exactly it would mean for all housing across the District.	Implementation	The Strategy has been amended to provide more information on stewardship of new and existing Green Infrastructure, including referencing the HGGT Stewardship Report published June 2020.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jean Juniper	Feedback on the document	23-Jun-20	The provision of Green Strategy for the building expansion programme across the District seems inadequate. It appears to place a 'catch all' approach with Developers having little or no constraints on what they provide.		The Strategy provides guidance on what is required on development sites of all sizes. This supports achieving the delivery of Green Infrastructure and other requirements set out in the Council's emerging Local Plan, including site specific requirements.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jean Juniper	Feedback on the document	23-Jun-20	Developers can give an undertaking to make provisions but as the building programme proceeds the initial promises do not materialise and there is no enforcement by District Councils to ensure they adhere to initial details.		Developments are required to be built out in accordance with the plans approved at the detailed planning application stage. These are secured through planning conditions and S106 planning obligations. The Council's Planning Enforcement service will investigate and take appropriate action when it is aware that a breach has occurred.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jean Juniper	Feedback on the document	23-Jun-20	Suggest details of what green spaces Developers are providing are listed in full in the document, as well as what provisions are being put in place to ensure Developers meet the initial undertaking by the District.		The provision of this level of detail is not appropriate for a Strategy of this nature nor would it be possible, as the Strategic Masterplans are in the early stages of design development. This level of detail will be required as part of any planning application submitted to the Council for planning permission.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jean Juniper	Feedback on the document	23-Jun-20	Failure to recognise that the Queens Rooms land in North Weald Bassett was donated to the village and should not be used by Developers, seeking to make a profit, to avoid providing full and adequate provision of green spaces on the new development sites. Suggest details of Developers provisions for the land in North Weald Bassett is detailed fully in the document as well as how the Developers are meeting their obligation to provide green spaces for new residents.		Development proposals will need to be supported by sufficient evidence to demonstrate that any off-site provision is justified and is beneficial to achieving overall place-making objectives. The provision of this level of detail is not appropriate for a Strategy of this nature nor would it be possible, as the Strategic Masterplans are in the early stages of design development. This level of detail will be required as part of any planning application submitted to the Council for planning permission.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jean Juniper	Feedback on the document	23-Jun-20	The document conveys an impression of a strategy dictated by finance, rather than vision and forward thinking.		Comment noted. It is unfortunate if this is the impression that is given as this is not the purpose of the Strategy. It is important to note, however, that the Council has to have regard to the deliverability of the Strategy and ensure that it is not including requirements which would render development schemes unviable within the context of other planning obligations including for the delivery of affordable housing. The Council considers that the Strategy achieves this balance.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Phase 2 Planning OBO Mrs Louise Barr and Manor Oak Homes	Feedback on the document	29-Jun-20	Generally in support of references in the strategy to multifunctional use of green space which is in accordance with a number of emerging proposals for Waltham Abbey North Masterplan.		Comment noted and welcomed.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Phase 2 Planning OBO Mrs Louise Barr and Manor Oak Homes	Feedback on the document	29-Jun-20	Unclear what assumptions the viability assessment has made in respect of any over/extra costs for the design of green infrastructure. This would need to take into account both the implementation costs for the green infrastructure, and potentially the long term stewardship costs, if that were to require maintenance payments.		The provision of Green Infrastructure was considered as part of the viability assessment undertaken as part of the emerging Local Plan. See also the response to Comment 75 above.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Phase 2 Planning OBO Mrs Louise Barr and Manor Oak Homes	Feedback on the document	29-Jun-20	Concerns around the general assumption that SANG provision (a) needs to be at a level of 8 ha per 1000 population and (b) would be provided on-site. The Waltham Abbey Masterplan is obviously of a finite size (approx. 32 ha), and is required to deliver 740 new homes, a local centre, 5 pitches for gypsy and travellers and all of the necessary physical site infrastructure. At 8ha per 1000, the guidance in Appendix 3 would suggest that a SANG of some 14 ha would be required. This is not far short of half of the allocated site.		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Phase 2 Planning OBO Mrs Louise Barr and Manor Oak Homes	Feedback on the document	29-Jun-20	Natural England's approach to relieving recreational pressure on the Essex Coast is much more relevant due to the size of the site, and is far more likely to be deliverable within (and adjoining) the strategic development sites.		See overarching SANG response.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Phase 2 Planning OBO Mrs Louise Barr and Manor Oak Homes	Feedback on the document	29-Jun-20	Were advised at the recent Developer Forum that the Council considers a hybrid approach between the Thames Basin SANG methodology and the Essex Coast methodology would be pursued, they believe that the Essex Coast RAMS approach should be adopted.	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Phase 2 Planning OBO Mrs Louise Barr and Manor Oak Homes	Feedback on the document	29-Jun-20	Should the Council continue with SANG provision in the manner currently set out, then the Strategy needs to be clear as to (a) what the total green infrastructure requirements for sites are, taking in to account the 'dovetailing' of different multifunctional uses (b) that the Strategy can be flexible as to the area of land required for SANGs and whether SANG provision is provided on-site, off-site (by either the Council or the developer), or through a combination of both.	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Vincent Gorbing OBO Wates Development	Feedback on the document	01-Jul-20	The strategy lacks coherent detail on how much SANG will be needed and where	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Vincent Gorbing OBO Wates Development	Feedback on the document	01-Jul-20	Lack of clarity evident in the section on SEMPA	The draft Strategy included a similar level of detail for the SEMPA site as for the other Masterplan sites. See also overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Loughton Residents Association	Feedback on the document	08-Jul-20	The proposals lack an explicit strategy to protect existing Urban Open Space or a strategy to join up existing and proposed green spaces	Existing urban open spaces will be protected in accordance with the relevant policies contained in the emerging Local Plan. The Strategy identifies the Council's expectations as to how existing and new Green Infrastructure in the District can be integrated and connected.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Loughton Residents Association	Feedback on the document	08-Jul-20	No space in Loughton for SANGS or other new green spaces	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Loughton Residents Association	Feedback on the document	08-Jul-20	Vital that existing green spaces are protected and not lost to wholesale or piecemeal development. Any Urban Open Spaces affected by allocation must be immediately withdrawn from it in order to make the Strategy intelligible and consistent (for example Luctons Field)	This is not a matter for the Strategy. See also response to Comment 84 above.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Loughton Residents Association	Feedback on the document	08-Jul-20	The document does not address the overall air quality problem in the SAC	The Strategy has been amended to make specific reference to the Council's adopted Interim Air Pollution Mitigation Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Loughton Residents Association	Feedback on the document	08-Jul-20	Disagree with the allocation of 12 acres of land at Luctons Field for intensive development	This is not a matter for the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Loughton Residents Association	Feedback on the document	08-Jul-20	Inappropriate to suggest using Jessel Green as a SANG because it is already public amenity space.	Jessel Green was included as it had been suggested by residents as an alternative space to Epping Forest in response to the Epping Forest Visitors Survey 2019. It is now referenced as an amenity space
Draft v2 - June 2020	Loughton Residents Association	Feedback on the document	08-Jul-20	If the Council is serious about protecting play areas, then a further reason for protecting from future development at Rochford Green is that it has a children's play area which is regularly used by residents.	Para 3.38 This is not a matter for the Strategy. See also response to Comment 84 above.
Draft v2 - June 2020	West Essex Ramblers	Feedback on the document	13-Jul-20	The document would benefit from quantitative analysis of trends in population growth, employment patterns, car use and air quality over the last thirty years	The Strategy has been developed using the Local Plan Evidence Base, which contains a wealth of relevant data on the profile of the District.
Draft v2 - June 2020	West Essex Ramblers	Feedback on the document	13-Jul-20	An early glossary of terms would be helpful covering e.g. GI, SANG, Ramsar	A Glossary has been included in the Appendices of the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	West Essex Ramblers	Feedback on the document	13-Jul-20	Suggest using 'obesity' rather than 'Childhood obesity'	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.

Draft v2 - June 2020	West Essex Ramblers	Feedback on the document	13-Jul-20	Loneliness is an important issue but is only one aspect of 'mental wellbeing'		The Strategy recognises that there are a number of aspects of 'mental wellbeing' that Green Infrastructure can be important to.
Draft v2 - June 2020	West Essex Ramblers	Feedback on the document	13-Jul-20	It would be helpful if the document contained more detail on firm, achievable proposals. A rationalisation of the PRow network, for example, would be sensible.		The Strategy has been amended to incorporate all projects into the relevant Parts, removing them from the Appendices. This ensures they are easily found by those wishing to undertake such projects. Further information in relation to timelines for delivery have been included. These will be used by the Council to monitor progress.
Draft v2 - June 2020	West Essex Ramblers	Feedback on the document	13-Jul-20	The North Weald Millennium walks are mentioned – but the Hastingwood walk has never been walkable due to the lack of a footpath north-south through Sewalds Hall.		This walk is publicised by North Weald Bassett Parish Council and the route is shown on Essex County Council's interactive Public Rights of Way map. The Council will raise this issue with Essex County Council.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Xavier Preston, Hertfordshire County Council	Feedback on the document	13-Jul-20	Hertfordshire County Council should be included in the list of partners going forward	Para 1.32	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Xavier Preston, Hertfordshire County Council	Feedback on the document	13-Jul-20	A very clear and useful structure for each project to follow which could also be embedded in the main text of Section 4 further once the good practice cases are prioritised, as already referred to in paragraphs 4.2 and 4.7	Appendix 1	Comments welcomed. The Strategy has been amended to incorporate all projects into the relevant Parts, removing them from the Appendices. This ensures they are easily found by those wishing to undertake such projects. Further information in relation to timelines for delivery have been included. These will be used by the Council to monitor progress.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Xavier Preston, Hertfordshire County Council	Feedback on the document	13-Jul-20	Realising and delivering on the opportunities listed in paragraphs 1.21 and 1.24 is very important	Appendix 2	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Xavier Preston, Hertfordshire County Council	Feedback on the document	13-Jul-20	Details of Epping Forest's "Sites for Enhancement" and related green infrastructure elements is a very useful list of potential projects that could again be prioritised and showcased in the main text further	Appendix 4	Comment noted. See also overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Xavier Preston, Hertfordshire County Council	Feedback on the document	13-Jul-20	Any appropriate elements of the Historic Environment which are identified and conserved as part of Green Infrastructure should be considered holistically with those in Hertfordshire. It is considered that a separate paragraph or section would be appropriate, considering the historic environment plays a large role in the landscapes we see and enjoy today		The Strategy has been amended to include the role that Green Infrastructure can play in revealing and enhancing the historic environment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Xavier Preston, Hertfordshire County Council	Feedback on the document	13-Jul-20	It would be useful to consider the emerging work of the Hertfordshire Growth Board in the context of the draft Epping Forest GI Strategy		Comment noted however it is not clear in what way this work should be considered within the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Xavier Preston, Hertfordshire County Council	Feedback on the document	13-Jul-20	The document should consider the changing landscape in relation to COVID-19 and the impact this will have on ways of working		The long-term effects arising from COVID-19 are not yet known. However, the Strategy is an important tool in responding to the need for high-quality Green Infrastructure which has been highlighted by the pandemic. Furthermore there is sufficient flexibility within the Strategy to be able to respond to changing needs and attitudes.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Xavier Preston, Hertfordshire County Council	Feedback on the document	13-Jul-20	The vision and delivery mechanisms will need to be robust to ensure success for nature in our communities		Comment noted. The Strategy has been amended to include more information on delivery.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Carter Jonas OBO Pigeon Investment Management	Feedback on the document	14-Jul-20	Cannot see how this Strategy can be used to help shape and steer the emerging Local Plan – reasons set out fully		The Strategy has been developed in part to inform the implementation of relevant policies within the emerging Local Plan. There is no legal requirement to wait until the adoption of the Local Plan before endorsing the Strategy as a material consideration in planning related matters because of the advanced stage of the Plan. References to the Strategy are proposed as part of the Main Modifications stage.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Carter Jonas OBO Pigeon Investment Management	Feedback on the document	14-Jul-20	Generally agree with the multi-functional approach, however have significant reservations in respect of the statement made in paragraph 3.9.	Para 3.9	Paragraph 3.9 has been removed recognising that the requirement for off-site contributions will be considered on a case by case basis. The Council considers that on-site provision should always be the 'default' position. Only in exceptional circumstances would off-site contributions be acceptable and such an approach would need to be clearly justified.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Carter Jonas OBO Pigeon Investment Management	Feedback on the document	14-Jul-20	If financial contributions are to be made there would be a significant risk that the green spaces to be created will be delivered after the new development areas are occupied		See response to Comment 106 above.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Carter Jonas OBO Pigeon Investment Management	Feedback on the document	14-Jul-20	Because this Strategy is being published so late in the Draft Local Plan preparation process it is not possible to consider the strengths and weakness of the planned locations for growth in terms of their potential contribution to GI against reasonable alternatives	Appendix 2	The Strategy supports the implementation of policies within the emerging Local Plan. The planned locations for growth were determined using a robust site selection methodology which incorporated a wide range of considerations.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Carter Jonas OBO Pigeon Investment Management	Feedback on the document	14-Jul-20	Example of South Epping used to illustrate concerns associated with the retrofitting of this Strategy to pre-selected allocations – key observations outlined fully		See response to comment 108 above.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Historic England	Feedback on the document	14-Jul-20	Request to amend paragraph 1.13 to highlight the role of GI in: Improving the setting of heritage assets; Improving access to heritage assets; Creating a sense of place and tangible links with local history; Creating linkages between heritage assets and other green infrastructure	Section 1	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Historic England	Feedback on the document	14-Jul-20	Expect to see the historic environment properly referenced in the interventions outlined in this strategy, with explicit consideration of: The role that Green Infrastructure can play in conserving and enhancing the historic environment; The setting of heritage assets, including any opportunities for enhancement; Opportunities for improved access to heritage assets	Appendix 1	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	John Manning	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Contains no details of proposed routes for additional walking and cycling paths in the area		Part 1: Enhancing Our Existing Network includes a Movement and Wayfinding District-wide project setting out a brief to improving existing routes. The Council will be working with local communities and relevant organisations to identify potential projects. In addition Part 2: Landscape Led Design sets out the Council's expectations for new movement routes as part of a multifunctional design approach, and Part 3 'Strategic Allocations' also identifies potential opportunities. The inclusion of proposed routes would therefore be premature to identify and include within the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	John Manning	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Reference to "A map showing the location of the assets for the area will be provided in the final document". But no detailed drawing of routes, widths, surfaces, junctions, supporting infrastructure provided.		The assets referred to are those Green Infrastructure Assets that already exist in the area. The level of detail suggested is not appropriate for inclusion in a high-level Strategy such as this.
Draft v2 - June 2020	John Manning	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	The photographs culled from other locations are misleading. Where are we to have an Edible Bus Stops, (page 76) or multifunctional spaces like the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, Stratford, (page 32)?		Many of the images in Part 2: Landscape Led Design are included as examples that could be incorporated, including as part of the Strategic Masterplan areas, with the intention of demonstrating how places that have succeeded in achieving multifunctional design and helping to inspire such approaches within the District. Locations and designers of case studies are listed clearly.
Draft v2 - June 2020	John Manning	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Increased traffic generation acknowledged in the document but no firm proposals for separation of modes made. Unlikely to be a satisfactory solution for the South Epping proposals.		This is not a matter for the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	John Manning	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Concerns re: conflict between EFDC and Forest Conservators		The Council has been working in partnership with the Conservators of Epping Forest, including in the development of this Strategy, and will continue to do so. It is important to recognise that the Council and the Conservators have different roles and responsibilities.
Draft v2 - June 2020	John Manning	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Contains no information on how the proposals are to be funded		The Strategy has been amended to provide further information on funding mechanisms.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Roger Anthony	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Need to explain why the Forest cannot be enlarged to both alleviate those pressures and cater for increasing demands		The Epping Forest is a protected, ecologically significant ancient woodland, the attributes of which cannot be replicated. In this Strategy, we have provided guidance on the approach that the Council will take to ensure the provision of viable alternative greenspaces so that new development does not have an adverse effect on the integrity of the Forest. The City of London Corporation has also, over a number of decades, purchased land adjacent to the Forest to act as 'buffer lands' in order to protect it.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Roger Anthony	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Too many abbreviated terminologies		A Glossary has been appended to the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Roger Anthony	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	The strategy needs to clarify whether it means the removal of Green Belt status from more land in the District once it becomes for recreational use		This is not a matter for the Strategy but is rather a site-specific planning matter.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Roger Anthony	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Should demonstrate the degree of active support amongst the Partners		A range of key stakeholders were consulted on the draft Strategy and, whilst they made detailed comments on the contents, were supportive of the purpose of the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Roger Anthony	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Need to plan for travel by motor vehicles – High Beech and Chingford, reflects this problem. Dog walkers parking at the village hall in North Weald is another example		Comment noted. This not a matter for the Strategy. The Council's approach to planning for travel is set out in the Council's emerging Local Plan and the policies within it.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Roger Anthony	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Funding is weakly covered in the strategy		The Strategy has been amended to provide further information on funding mechanisms.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Boyer Planning OBO CEG and Hallam Land	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	The GI Strategy should not add additional layers of unnecessary complexity or otherwise duplicate work that is being taken forward via separate processes		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Boyer Planning OBO CEG and Hallam Land	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Concerns re: the appropriateness of the detailed requirements that the GI Strategy suggests will be necessary to demonstrate an acceptable SANG design		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Boyer Planning OBO CEG and Hallam Land	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Paragraphs 1.5 to 1.30 set out specific proposals to apply to the Water Lane and Lutton Priory Garden Town Masterplan Areas – the strategy should acknowledge that only at the reserved matters/ detailed planning stage will a granular level of detail become feasible	Appendix 2	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment. Also see the overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Boyer Planning OBO CEG and Hallam Land	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	The document should be revised to confirm expressly that aspirational future linkage (Appendix 2) does not pre-suppose the route of the link road, which will need to be provided (through Lutton Priory) on an alignment that it acceptable to the Highways Authority, Historic England, Natural England, and others	Appendix 2	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment. Also see the overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Boyer Planning OBO CEG and Hallam Land	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	It should be understood that whilst there is potential to provide additional SANG land at Lutton Priory, the arising capacity for mitigation will be prioritised for development taking place within the masterplan area		The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment. Also see overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Boyer Planning OBO CEG and Hallam Land	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	It should be made clear that, if there is residual SANG capacity (which is potentially able to mitigate the impacts of development) elsewhere within the district, the SANG will remain under private ownership and the use of this resource will be subject to the usual commercial arrangements		The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment. Also see the overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Boyer Planning OBO CEG and Hallam Land	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Paragraph 1.3 represents an additional requirement, which has not been previously discussed with the promoters of the strategic allocations	Appendix 3	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment. Also see the overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Boyer Planning OBO CEG and Hallam Land	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Paragraphs 1.18 to 1.34 sets out a range of detailed requirements to be included in a Landscape Framework, this approach is prescriptive and potentially problematic as the level of detail envisaged would not be compatible with the strategic masterplans being prepared, nor would it be achievable with the parameters of an application for outline planning Permission. The level of detail provided should simply be equivalent to that which Natural England deems necessary (at a particular stage in the planning) to assess whether a proposed SANG is likely to be effective at mitigating impacts on the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation	Appendix 3	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment. Also see the overarching SANG response.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Boyer Planning OBO CEG and Hallam Land	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	If a proposed SANG is shown to be effective as a form of mitigation, it follows that it meets the tests set out in the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations (2010). Therefore not appropriate for the Council to introduce policies or guidance, that require SANG to achieve more than this. However, this does not preclude the potential to integrate SANG provision within a holistic scheme design to promote good practice and achieve additional benefits.	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Bedford House Community Association	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	A clearer timeline for implementation required	The Strategy has been amended to include more information on delivery, including an indication as to how much Green Infrastructure is to be implemented, and by when, based on the latest information available where it relates to specific development proposals.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Bedford House Community Association	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Requirement for a clearer funding outline	The Strategy has been amended to provide further information on funding mechanisms.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Bedford House Community Association	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Concerns around the differential between the two key elements, e.g. SANGS and the Green & Blue plans	SANGS are a specific type of GI which are intended to provide residents with an alternative recreational offer to the Epping Forest and therefore have an important role to play in the future provision of GI in the District. The Strategy makes it clear that SANG should integrate with, and complement, the District's wider Green and Blue Infrastructure networks.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Bedford House Community Association	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	It will be impossible to achieve the level of development proposed and also achieve the relatively modest environmental ambitions contained in the document	The Council considers that through the application of the policies in its emerging Local Plan, supported by this Strategy, development will make a meaningful contribution towards Green Infrastructure and environmental enhancements.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Bedford House Community Association	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Concerns around the "fallout" from Covid	The long-term effects arising from COVID-19 are not yet known. However, the Strategy is an important tool in responding to the need for high-quality Green Infrastructure which has been highlighted by the pandemic. Furthermore there is sufficient flexibility within the Strategy to be able to respond to changing needs and attitudes.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Bedford House Community Association	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Concerns around how the strategy can be delivered and how it can be effectively monitored	The Strategy has been amended to include information on delivery and how the Strategy will be monitored.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Bedford House Community Association	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Concerns around the fact that EFDC and several other authorities are using same "Epping Forest and its buffer lands" in proposed plans, without adding to the land available for the purpose, in many ways increasing the impact rather than reducing it	The policies contained in the Council's emerging Local Plan and the Strategy set out how development arising in the District will respond to Epping Forest SAC considerations. This includes a requirement for the provision of new spaces which will add to the amount of land available for recreational uses. Also see the overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Susan Warren	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Although there are references to improving and enhancing the existing natural 'assets' of the District, there does not seem to be a clear strategy	The Strategy identifies a range of mechanisms for doing this including in Part 1: Enhancing Our Existing Network and through the design and implementation of development sites.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Susan Warren	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Need more emphasis on assessing and protecting what is already there before development takes place or before disturbing/destroying part of an environmentally important landscape to create new, tailor made, activity environments on a large scale	The Landscape-Led approach within the Strategy supports this objective.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Susan Warren	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Need comprehensive surveys covering the existing landscape and not just the obvious assets of Epping Forest	The Strategy has been developed using the Local Plan Evidence Base, which contains a wealth of relevant information on our District, including a detailed assessment its existing Green and Blue Infrastructure assets. Links have been provided in the Strategy to this evidence base.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Susan Warren	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Where are the mature trees, hedgerows, natural grasslands and meadows etc?	The Strategy has been developed using the Local Plan Evidence Base, which contains a wealth of relevant information on our District, including a detailed assessment its existing Green and Blue Infrastructure assets. Links have been provided in the Strategy to this evidence base.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Susan Warren	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	The importance of residential garden as green corridors in urban areas, which ultimately connect with the wider countryside have been overlooked	The Strategy has been amended to include information for developers of smaller sites and homeowners as to how they can contribute to the provision of Green and Blue Infrastructure. This includes the importance of gardens as green corridors, and how they can be enhanced.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Susan Warren	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Do not agree with the multi-functional approach and concerned about the emphasis on providing alternative sites (SANGs) primarily for dog walkers in an attempt to attract them away from Epping Forest	The purpose of SANG is to provide an alternative destination for visitors of the Epping Forest, many of which are dog walkers as evidenced by 2017 and 2019 Epping Forest Visitor Surveys. Therefore, in order to be effective, SANG need to be designed to attract such users.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Susan Warren	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	I have doubts about the concept of linking SANGs with the wider network of footpaths	SANG should be easily accessible by foot, and to provide a range of walking, cycling and where appropriate horse riding opportunities. Therefore they must connect into the PROW network either using existing networks or through the creation of new links.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Susan Warren	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Do not want to see a SANG with a car park close to a station – it will encourage more commuters to drive to a station	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Susan Warren	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Separate cycle routes would be preferable although these can work with walking routes	Comment noted. This will be a matter for the detailed design of individual projects based on the site specific circumstances. However, the Strategy reflects Essex County Council's (as Highways Authority) preferred approach.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Susan Warren	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Cyclists do use the main trackway alongside Theydon Wood	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Susan Warren	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	There are also shared trackways along the Lea Valley with varying degrees of success	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Susan Warren	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	All for planting new trees but they need to be the 'right trees in the right places	The Council will use the 'Right Tree Right Place' principle in tree planting work going forward in the 'Tree Planting - A Call for Sites' project.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Susan Warren	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Farmers/landowners should be encouraged to plant strips of wild flowers at field boundaries and maintain hedgerows (rather than grubbing them out) which will create and improve the connectivity of green corridors	Comment noted. The Council has no control over the removal of a hedgerows unless it falls within the definition of a protected hedgerow set out in legislation.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Susan Warren	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	There is a real opportunity for landowners to work with schools – a project, which involved schoolchildren planting/improving hedgerows has been successfully carried out for many years in Theydon Bois Parish with the support of the local landowner	Work currently being undertaken by the Council for the 'Tree Planting - A Call for Sites' project will begin to involve local schools in the coming months.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Susan Warren	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Encouraging natural play in areas such as woodlands will need to be carefully monitored as this must not be to the detriment of the existing wildlife	Comment noted. This is recognised within the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Susan Warren	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	How are Blue infrastructures monitored to ensure that they are well managed?	This is a matter for the relevant responsible body depending on the type of Blue Infrastructure. Where appropriate this is included within the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Susan Warren	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Suggest including a list of contacts to advise who is responsible for ditches, watercourses, rivers and would deal with blocked or overgrown streams, an invasive species or potential contamination issue	Weblinks have been included within the Strategy where appropriate. Specific maintenance issues are not applicable to the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Susan Warren	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Public Rights of Way – list how these are monitored and who is responsible for their maintenance in the document	This information can be found in the Movement and Wayfinding project in Part 1: Enhancing Our Existing Network, under 1.2 Stewardship for District-Wide Projects

Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Forest Forum	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	The Copped Hall and Warley's sites that are outlined as proposals are not deliverable	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Forest Forum	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Need to retain agricultural land for food production – taking food producing land and turning it into non-productive space is short sighted and a mistake	The Council recognises the importance of food production and has taken a balanced approach in retaining agricultural land whilst providing for the needs of future communities and support the District's environmental needs.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Forest Forum	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	The strategy is unable to deliver enough open accessible green space with the current high demand for open natural green space and the extreme pressure on Epping Forest	The Council considers that through the application of the policies in its emerging Local Plan, supported by this Strategy, development will make a meaningful contribution towards the provision of natural greenspace. Also see the overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Forest Forum	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	The sites suggested in the strategy would mean car travel for the majority of users to visit which is contradictory to the point of accessible natural green space	SANG should be easily accessible by foot, therefore there is an emphasis on connecting sites with communities and to the PROW network. See also overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Forest Forum	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Lack of understanding of the pressures and influence this strategy proposes towards the Epping Forest SAC	The Strategy forms part of the Council's approach to managing the pressures on the Epping Forest SAC. The Strategy provides information on the issues that relate to the Forest and, in its role as a competent authority, the Council is very aware of the pressures on the Forest. See also overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Forest Forum	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	There are no specific provisions for Loughton which is set to receive a some additional of development	The Strategy has been amended to include 'Part 4: Infrastructure Enhancement Projects' which makes specific provisions for Loughton. See also the overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Forest Forum	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	To suggest using sites in Copped Hall and Warleys would mean car journeys for anyone from Loughton straight through the Epping Forest SAC	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Forest Forum	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	It seems to have been overlooked that there is a railway line dividing access to the Roding Valley Nature Reserve as this area is not easily accessible for people north of the railway line	Comment noted. The Roding Valley Nature Reserve was put forward by a number of individuals in response to a question posed in the 2019 Epping Forest Visitor Survey.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Forest Forum	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	EFDC could be forcing car parking charges onto the public for using the "peoples Forest"	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Ongar Railway	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Support the development of better cycling and walking links specifically between Epping and North Weald	Comment noted and welcomed.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Ongar Railway	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Other heritage railway sites, such as the Nene Valley Railway, have successfully built paths alongside sections of their track	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Ongar Railway	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	There is potential for a sympathetic path to open the existence of the Railway to a wider audience than would otherwise be the case and thereby drive the future success of the Railway and the local visitor economy	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Ongar Railway	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	The scope for such a trail to be useful as part of the Council's main transport infrastructure however must be limited	Comment noted. This will be explored further as part of the development of the sustainable transport solutions for the two North Weald Masterplan sites.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Ongar Railway	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Support the development and enhancement of the local cycle paths and PROW network	Comment noted and welcomed.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Ongar Railway	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	The M11 and A414 barriers could be overcome with suitable funding and innovative ideas. See Thames River Path (section built out at Thames Barrier opposite Tate and Lyle factory), the new towpaths added to the canals and river network in and around the A12, Bow Interchange, and Mile End where a park was built in the air that now carries people and bicycles over the A12	These helpful examples are noted and will be reviewed.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Ongar Railway	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	The space under the bridge at Epping Ongar Railway is very limited and a solution could present itself, without too much diversion, to the place where the M11 crosses over the A414 for this. This point could be a useful junction to have a spur towards Latton Priory	This is a helpful suggestion and will be considered further in the development of the detailed proposals in relation to the Strategic Masterplan sites in North Weald Bassett and Latton Priory or as part of the District Wide Projects.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Forest Heritage Trust	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Supportive of multi-purpose green spaces however the document does not provide sufficient assurances that these aspirations can or will be met	The Council will require the integration of multi-functional design principles in relevant planning applications.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Forest Heritage Trust	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Proposed measures should ensure high quality Green Infrastructure is delivered alongside proposed growth in the District whilst complying with the District's general obligations as a competent authority under the Habitats Directive (article 6(3) and the Species and Habitats Regulations 2018 (Regulation 9(1))	The policies in the Council's emerging Local Plan will ensure that the timely provision of high quality Green Infrastructure is secured using appropriate mechanisms as part of the determination of planning applications. See also overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Forest Heritage Trust	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	The focus for SANGS should be on the total quantum of housing growth taking place over the District, to make an effective impact and to increasingly allow for a joined-up network for people and wildlife across the District	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Forest Heritage Trust	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	The first priority on protecting the Epping Forest SAC from the impacts of development should be on 'avoidance' of activities which threaten the SAC, not on 'mitigation' measures	Under the Habitats Regulations there is no hierarchy and therefore avoidance and mitigation measures have equal priority. Also see overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Forest Heritage Trust	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Insufficient evidence in this document that the Council is able to comply with the Habitats Regulations 2017	The Strategy has been amended to provide more information on the mitigation measures that the Council has adopted which, when considered collectively with the relevant Parts of this Strategy, ensures compliance with the Habitats Regulations. Also see overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Forest Heritage Trust	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	No provision made for a governance structure for agreeing and delivering Epping Forest SAC mitigation works	The Strategy has been amended to make reference to the mechanisms for delivering mitigation measures. See overarching SANG response. Governance mechanisms for the delivery of SAMMS measures are currently being developed in partnership with neighbouring local authorities and the Conservators of Epping Forest.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Forest Heritage Trust	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Lack of a hierarchy of SANGS delivery, and no clear guidance on how SANGS will be managed in perpetuity, puts wildlife and high quality provision for people at risk	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Forest Heritage Trust	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	This Strategy needs to be agreed across the relevant London and Essex authorities and thus will need to address the regional requirements for SANGS	See overarching SANG response. Neighbouring authorities were consulted on the draft Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Forest Riders Association	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Horse riders are only mentioned in the document as regular users only once – from then on everything concentrates on use by cyclists and walkers. Horse riders should be considered equally as long term users of both the Forest and the Buffer Lands	The Strategy has been amended to include reference to the needs of horse riders.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Forest Riders Association	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	Many areas and how they are used for recreational purposes are not suitable for a 'one-size fits all' approach. Neither are they suitable for a 'formal park' approach. The whole attraction of areas to users such as these are that they are not formal or organised	Comment noted. The Strategy does not adopt a 'one size fits all' approach but rather recognises, and encourages, the need for locationally specific responses to the design of Green and Blue Infrastructure.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Forest Riders Association	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	The Buffer Lands, especially Warlies, are an area used by many horse riders, especially because it is a quieter, safer place to ride than many others due to the massive increase in cyclists and walkers. The plan you propose only encourages the expansion of cyclists and walkers to the detriment of horse riders	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Forest Riders Association	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	The document, whilst possibly fulfilling certain planning obligations doesn't truly reflect the nature of all the areas covered by it	The Strategy has sought to achieve a balance between reflecting the varied character of the District and its places and not being overly lengthy. The Landscape-Led approach contained within the Strategy requires an analysis of the local context to be undertaken at the first stages of designing a scheme.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Forest Riders Association	Feedback on the document	15-Jul-20	The approach needs to be more flexible and suitable for the needs according to the specific area and its current users, not an overall blanket approach	Comment noted. The Strategy does not adopt a 'one size fits all' approach but rather recognises, and encourages, the need for locationally specific responses to the provision of Green and Blue Infrastructure.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Roydon Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	2.41 Should be clearer that the work doesn't stop in 2033. For example, by adding "...and secured for the future" after "protected and enhanced"	The Vision	The Vision has been amended to reflect the Council's ambition to continue the protection and enhancement of Green Infrastructure beyond the Local Plan period. The Delivery Plan also reflects this.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Roydon Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	2.26 The action to be taken to improve the River Stort's ecological quality status to "good" is not discussed - it would be helpful to have an indication of action to be taken	The Vision	The Strategy now includes references and links to the River Stort Catchment Management Plan.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Roydon Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	3.12 Management/upkeep – Introducing small wild animals to assist with land management might promote public interest in the environment and get individuals and/or groups involved in the management/use of these spaces	Multifunctionality	The appropriateness of this approach will be dependent on the nature of the asset being managed.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Roydon Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	3.16 Local educational art programmes or undiscovered talent could provide input and/or create art in the Green and blue spaces which would be more cost effective and will help local talent	Multifunctionality	The Council will engage with local art programmes, educational facilities and artists in the implementation of the Art in the Landscape project, as detailed in Part 1: Enhancing Our Existing Network.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Roydon Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	EFDC could partner with horticultural centres/Capel Manor for ideas/practical projects	Multifunctionality	The Council will engage with community groups and interested parties in all District-wide projects, as listed in Part 1: Enhancing Our Existing Network.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Roydon Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	3.46 Cycling and walking – Can modern leisure travel be safely accommodated in a shared space? E.g. e-scooters, roller blades, skateboards	Multifunctionality	Part 2: Landscape Led Design - Movement focusses on developing a network for all users whilst recognising that there will be a need to design out potential conflicts between user groups.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Roydon Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	4.13 The proposals will require considerable funding. S106 could only be used for projects related to the relevant development. Funding for stewardship bodies - including Parish Councils - is largely to come via S106. Other sources of funding such as the Heritage Lottery Fund are mentioned (page 102) but seem unlikely to provide a great deal. There is no commitment from EFDC itself for funds for this Strategy. Should consider post Corona virus implications/income for statutory authorities is likely to be reduced	Implementation	Further information on funding mechanisms has been provided in the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Roydon Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	4.15 No mention of Roydon at all	Implementation	Roydon has now been included on the relevant map.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Roydon Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	4.22 Parish Councils are identified as a "vehicle for stewardship". What might this mean in practice? Clarity on this point is vital. Land-owners should also be considered as 'stewards' and be encouraged to participate in community projects using redundant land/barns/glasshouses which could provide an income	Implementation	The Strategy has been amended to include more information on stewardship of new and existing Green Infrastructure including referencing the HGGT Stewardship Report published June 2020. This report identified a number of preferred stewardship models, which are now reflected in the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Roydon Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Should be more emphasis on retaining the district's trees more penalties for those who wilfully destroy healthy trees	Implementation	The Strategy makes clear the importance of both retaining and adding trees across the District. Tree Protection Orders (TPOs) prevent willful damage or cutting down of trees and if not adhered to the responsible person can face having to pay significant fines.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Roydon Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	There needs to a district wide focus on the strategic use of/quantity of dog waste bins	Implementation	This is not a matter for the Strategy. However, such provision will need to be considered as part of the design of new spaces where appropriate.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Roydon Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Community Greenspace Improvements – Is there a possibility of a limited number of licences (with conditions) for mobile food and drink units, at particular locations, to encourage visitors?	Appendix 2	This is not a matter for the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Roydon Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	An important piece of blue infrastructure in the village of Roydon is threatened by proposals for the Village 7 development, part of the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town. A route for walkers and cyclists to and from Roydon station along the towpath of the Stort		This is not a matter for the Strategy. Any changes to assets will need to be agreed by the River and Canal Trust who own the towpaths.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Tony Carr	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	There are hardly any definite proposals		The Strategy identifies a wide range of proposals. However, in order to make this clearer the Strategy has been revised to incorporate all projects into the relevant Parts, removing them from the Appendices. This ensures they are easily found.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Tony Carr	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Much of the emphasis is on the provision of multipurpose SANGs, but the incompatibility of Children's play space and free running dogs is highlighted in the reference to Gunpowder Park on P106. There is a need for both		The guidance contained in Part 3.2 of the Strategy reflects this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Tony Carr	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Would like to see more emphasis on the retention of existing green corridors when sites are developed		Comment noted. The Strategy reflects this comment.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Tony Carr	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Not much about Blue Infrastructure – nothing about fishing, boating or access to the Rivers Stort or Roding		The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Tony Carr	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Reference to the water course apparently suggest the flow is uphill - the 'mature planted setting' is a rather polite way of describing the overgrown and litter strewn stretch alongside Brook Road	4.6	The Strategy is referring to the watercourse which runs diagonally across the eastern part of the Masterplan area.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Tony Carr	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The listing of Amenity Green spaces in Epping is confusing. Assume 'Central Avenue North' is the same patch shown in the picture on Page 41 where it is identified (correctly) as Centre Green. Where is the Green Space in Station Road? Hemnall St is both Good and Average	4.9	The Strategy has been amended to remove any potential confusion
Draft v2 - June 2020	Tony Carr	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The 18th Century Map shows Coopersale House, not Coopersale Hall		The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Tony Carr	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The allotments picture is not Meadow Road but is of the Lower Bury lane site. The picture is at the Tower Rd end, showing the Town Council plots. The Lower Bury Lane end of the site (not owned by the council) is largely uncultivated and overgrown with brambles.	Page 42	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Tony Carr	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	A number of sites are listed, do these all still exist? The Coopersale allotment site, and others across the district, were scheduled for housing in the original plan	Page 91	The Strategy refers to sites which exist and which are not proposed for development.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Lock Associates OBO the Fairfield Partnership	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	EPP.R2 it is not shown on the maps. This is misleading and the maps should be updated to include Site EPP.R2	Page 54	Mapping for South of Epping Masterplan Area has now been provided, clearly showing both sites.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Lock Associates OBO the Fairfield Partnership	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Page 89 states that a map of the SEMPA will be provided in the final GIS. The missing map should be provided to allow representations to be made ahead of the final document being published	Appendix 2	The map referred to related to the map of existing Green Infrastructure assets in Epping parish. The lack of its provision was not material to the consideration of the Strategy and, as it was of a factual nature, there is nothing for representations to be made in its regard. Consequently there is no requirement to reconconsult further prior to the adoption of the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Lock Associates OBO the Fairfield Partnership	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	To ensure that masterplan areas can deliver the housing required under the emerging Local Plan, TFP considers that the SANG guidance should include options for financial contributions to off-site measures such as the creation of SANG elsewhere or the enhancement of existing Public Rights of Way; and include details of the full range of uses that SANG can encompass.	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Lock Associates OBO the Fairfield Partnership	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Map on page 65: the dot should be moved so that it relates to both sites EPP.R1 and EPP.R2. At present it is misleading.	Appendix 2	The map has been amended.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Lock Associates OBO the Fairfield Partnership	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	4.1 (page 88) typo - build should be built	Appendix 2	0
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Lock Associates OBO the Fairfield Partnership	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	4.6 and 4.7 (page 90) the report should note that the existing setting of the listed buildings at Gardeners Farm comprises an urbanised context at the edge of the built-up area of Epping, near to electricity pylons and the M25	Appendix 2	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Lock Associates OBO the Fairfield Partnership	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	4.12 (page 91) the currently unattractive underpasses for walkers and cyclists could be improved as part of the development of the SEMPA	Appendix 2	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Lock Associates OBO the Fairfield Partnership	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	4.13 (page 91) the development of the SEMPA provides an opportunity to improve walking and cycling provision from the south of Epping to the High Street	Appendix 2	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Lock Associates OBO the Fairfield Partnership	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	SANG guidance - it should be made clear when the Landscape Framework will be required in the planning process (presumably at the masterplan stage)	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.

Draft v2 - June 2020	David Lock Associates OBO the Fairfield Partnership	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	1.6 and 1.7 (page 96) to ensure masterplan areas can deliver the housing required under the emerging Local Plan the SANG guidance should include options for financial contributions to off-site measures such as the creation of SANG elsewhere or the enhancement of existing Public Rights of Way; and include details of the full range of uses that SANG can encompass	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Lock Associates OBO the Fairfield Partnership	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	1.34 (page 100) any SANG provided on the SEMPA to be for local use and consider it inappropriate to provide any additional car parking to serve the SANG.	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Pegasus Group OBO Martin Grant Homes, Persimmon Homes and Taylor Wimpey	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Paragraphs 4.20-4.23 the document makes it clear that the community needs to be at the heart of this stewardship to ensure success and proposes a number of options. The strategy is brief and vague about how these models may work and the costs involved with such options. It is suggested that there a number of funding options but does not detail what these are	Stewardship	The Strategy has been amended to provide more information on stewardship of new and existing Green Infrastructure in the Strategy, including referencing the HGGT Stewardship Report published June 2020. Early engagement with the Council on the development of stewardship principles is strongly encouraged.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Pegasus Group OBO Martin Grant Homes, Persimmon Homes and Taylor Wimpey	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Ongoing concern in relation to the lack of inter-relationship between different policy documents and the impacts and costs to the development of individual approaches	Stewardship	See overarching SANG response which clarifies the interrelationships and which are now reflected in the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Pegasus Group OBO Martin Grant Homes, Persimmon Homes and Taylor Wimpey	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Unclear whether the Stewardship options have opportunities to involve the existing residents in the management of spaces	Stewardship	The Strategy has been amended to provide more information on stewardship of new and existing Green Infrastructure in the Strategy, including referencing the HGGT Stewardship Report published June 2020. Early engagement with the Council on the development of stewardship principles is strongly encouraged.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Pegasus Group OBO Martin Grant Homes, Persimmon Homes and Taylor Wimpey	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Draws attention to the importance of the Green Wedges planned by Frederick Gibberd. however the illustration shown in the Strategy does not properly include development on the parcels at Water Lane	Para 1.4	Mapping has been updated in the Strategy, clearly showing all development parcels for Water Lane.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Pegasus Group OBO Martin Grant Homes, Persimmon Homes and Taylor Wimpey	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Paragraph 1.4: additions would be helpful concerning the modern day uses of Green Wedges, such as their multiple uses, their potential additional use for recreation, drainage, wildlife, pedestrian, linear play, access, or urban agriculture, as such multiple uses benefit both Water Lane and Latton Priory	Appendix 2	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Pegasus Group OBO Martin Grant Homes, Persimmon Homes and Taylor Wimpey	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The extension of the local green link at Water Lane on the plan underplays its importance as a key element of the Harlow master plan, and the graphic should be strengthened	Page 74	Mapping has been updated in the Strategy, clearly showing the extension of the green link between Water Lane parcels.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Pegasus Group OBO Martin Grant Homes, Persimmon Homes and Taylor Wimpey	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The principle of green infrastructure set out in Paragraph 1.5 and 1.6, must also refer to the principle of SANGS and urban agriculture in the list in Paragraph 1.6	Para 1.5 & 1.6	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Pegasus Group OBO Martin Grant Homes, Persimmon Homes and Taylor Wimpey	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Additions are required in that the principle of the Green Wedges has been diluted by modern development, and the condition of some of these spaces is poor	Para 1.7	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Pegasus Group OBO Martin Grant Homes, Persimmon Homes and Taylor Wimpey	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	No information to explain what Nazeing Common is, whether the change from agriculture is appropriate or how it is to come about	Para 1.10 & 1.18	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Pegasus Group OBO Martin Grant Homes, Persimmon Homes and Taylor Wimpey	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Nazeing Common Conservation Area is one of the big landscape attractors mentioned, when coming from Harlow it can only be accessed through Water Lane	Para 1.22	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Pegasus Group OBO Martin Grant Homes, Persimmon Homes and Taylor Wimpey	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Local footpaths radiating out from Water Lane will be used to provide this access to Nazeing Common and these footpaths should be both managed for increased use, where possible extended, and identified on a plan in the Strategy, such as that on page 74		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Pegasus Group OBO Martin Grant Homes, Persimmon Homes and Taylor Wimpey	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	This plan should be extended to the west to include Nazeing Common and how the Strategy deals with the Common. The new plan will show that Water lane is well linked by local footpaths and that the Common can and should be recognised and enjoyed by walkers (this is one of the key benefits of the Water Lane sites)		Mapping has been extended to include Nazeing Common,

Draft v2 - June 2020	Pegasus Group OBO Martin Grant Homes, Persimmon Homes and Taylor Wimpey	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The plan shows Epping Long Green in the key, but this is not on the plan. Instead it is shown on the plan on page 72. This needs to be corrected	Page 70	Mapping has been updated to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Pegasus Group OBO Martin Grant Homes, Persimmon Homes and Taylor Wimpey	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The plan is incomprehensible and needs a key	Page 75	Maps now have legible and correct keys.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Pegasus Group OBO Martin Grant Homes, Persimmon Homes and Taylor Wimpey	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Consideration needed to the potential introduction of the STC	Page 72	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Pegasus Group OBO Martin Grant Homes, Persimmon Homes and Taylor Wimpey	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Paragraph 1.26 lacks clarity in terms of the SANG requirement in advance of the final SPA and Avoidance & Mitigation Strategy	Appendix 2	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Pegasus Group OBO Martin Grant Homes, Persimmon Homes and Taylor Wimpey	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Unclear where the Zone of Influence extends to and the quantum of SANG required at Water Lane		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Pegasus Group OBO Martin Grant Homes, Persimmon Homes and Taylor Wimpey	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Concern with agreeing a joint working approach across multiple sites and an MOU due to the possible time delay involved with each differing location and its requirements		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Majority of local residents are aware of the well-used network of public rights of way in the Parish however improvements in terms of wayfinding and improved maintenance would be supported	Movement and Wayfinding	Comment noted and welcomed.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Essential that any reduction in maintenance of verges does not inadvertently cause a Highway Safety issue. These areas should not be left as 'uncut areas', but an active programme of wildflower management should be put in place	Roadside Flowers	The Strategy makes it clear that highway safety will need to be taken into consideration. The approach proposed would still be the subject of an active programme of management.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Suggest the Parish Council should be included as a Key Stakeholder for this project. A full, comprehensive list of any such areas should be made publicly available, so it is clear to all members of the public why these areas are left uncut.	Roadside Flowers	The Strategy has been amended to reflect these comments.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Support tree planting and would actively engage with a call for sites. It is requested that Parish Councils should be included as a Key Stakeholder for this project	Tree planting – A Call for Sites:	Comments welcomed and the Strategy has been amended to make reference to parish and town councils as a key stakeholder.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	A potential site for tree planting is mooted under paragraph 2.26 of appendix 2 (page 82) of the report as being at 'North Weald Common'. As the custodians of this area, the Parish Council would support the starting of an open dialogue to discuss this possibility.	Tree planting – A Call for Sites:	Comment noted and welcomed.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The strategy does not clearly identify exactly how this project would be managed, and which 'budget' would not need to be increased. Additional details should be included to establish exactly what this project entails.	Community Greenspace Improvements	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Artwork would need to have a meaningful attachment to a specific area, and sited where the risk of vandalism could be minimised.	Art in the Landscape	Comment noted. This will be a matter for the detailed design of individual projects based on the site specific circumstances.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Art which could be interactive and provides a connection to a specific walking route (i.e. an art trail), would provide a great opportunity for people of all ages to actively engage with the countryside.	Art in the Landscape	Comment noted and will be given further consideration as part of the implementation of this initiative.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The support of the above projects is done so on the basis that the three villages in North Weald Bassett already have well used and well connected public rights of way, however there are some very specific areas / routes which could actively be improved. The Parish Council is willing to engage with FFDC regarding these	Art in the Landscape	Comment noted and welcomed.

Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	There has been an error in calculating exactly how Masterplan Areas, housing allocations, and an appropriate level of SANG fit together. The result is that one of two things now needs to happen: 1. The housing numbers should be reduced on each Masterplan site so that an appropriate provision of SANG can be provided on-site 2. SANG is provided elsewhere	Appendix 2 & 3	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The key for the maps on page 70 and 72 do not seem to be accurate with legends either missing or not applicable to the map itself	Strategic Allocations: Latton Priory	Maps now have legible and correct keys.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The Stort Valley Way is not identified on the map on page 72, which makes it difficult to identify when reading paragraph 1.22 on page 73	Strategic Allocations: Latton Priory	Unfortunately, the scale of the maps makes it difficult to clearly show the Stort Valley, but other mapping in the Strategy can be used to orientate the sites.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The strategy does not provide the ability for children from North Weald, Hastingwood and Thornwood to cycle and/or walk to the new primary and secondary schools in Latton Priory	Strategic Allocations: Latton Priory	The Strategy has been amended to reflect the opportunity for the communities to be connected by walking and cycling facilities.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	There is no active and sustainable route for children in neighbouring villages to get to the Latton Priory site	Strategic Allocations: Latton Priory	See comment 251 above.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	If there are not to be any such links to/from Thornwood, Hastingwood or North Weald, the wording should be changed to make it clear that these are links for neighbourhoods within the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town, and not the surrounding areas as it currently suggests	Strategic Allocations: Latton Priory	See comment 251 above.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The 'possible future link' as detailed on the map of page 74 should be altered to make it a fixed project forming part of a clear plan, and not simply a possibility	Strategic Allocations: Latton Priory	Whilst the Council is keen to secure such a link this will need to be assessed further as part of the Masterplanning of the area.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Paragraph 2.18 on page 80 'Millennium Walk 3' is not referenced under the Latton Priory heading, only the North Weald heading, which doesn't make sense as Millennium Walk 3 has a great link between Thornwood and the new Latton Priory development site.	Strategic Allocations: Latton Priory	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The key on page 78 does not clearly reference all the markings on the associated map	Strategic Allocations: North Weald Bassett	Maps now have legible and correct keys.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The proposed Masterplan area on page 78 (indicated by yellow lines) actually includes the school and green area, so therefore technically these areas should have yellow lines too	Strategic Allocations: North Weald Bassett	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Consideration should be given to what any enhancement of the Memorial Playing Fields and surrounding play areas would mean to the current residents of both School Green Lane and Beamish Close in terms of access. And -consideration should be given to the legal status of this land, who manages it, and ensure that conversations have taken place to ensure the proposed use is consistent with the purposes of the land itself.	Strategic Allocations: North Weald Bassett	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	An explanation of the definition of an urban park should be included in the green infrastructure strategy document to clearly identify what this means	Strategic Allocations: North Weald Bassett	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Paragraph 2.18 on page 80 of the document references a well-used walk known as 'Millennium Walk 1' through North Weald, this needs to be amended and moved to the 'Movement' section on page 81	Strategic Allocations: North Weald Bassett	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Paragraph 2.20 (page 81) the last statement in this paragraph needs to clearly set out which organisation(s) would be responsible for exploring the opportunities for such links, as at present it simply states 'they should be explored'.	Strategic Allocations: North Weald Bassett	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Unless there is substantial and sustained investment to make the North Weald Redoubt safe and accessible, it should not be included as part of any green loop	Strategic Allocations: North Weald Bassett	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Support the creation of open community allotments and orchard areas, however this would be in addition to, and not instead of, established and well used allotment sites		The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Details of the bodies / parties that will be responsible for managing elements of the strategy, together with how both the projects and SANG will be funded is not clear		The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.

Draft v2 - June 2020	North Weald Bassett Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The Strategy states that the document will be reviewed regularly (maximum every two years), however it does not confirm whether or not the updated document will be subject to a public consultation.		If the review results in material changes to the strategy it will be subject to public consultation
Draft v2 - June 2020	The Roydon Society	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The document states that the Stort Valley has much to offer as well as the Stort Navigation, however both are to be 'ruined' by the new Harlow Garden Town development		The relationship between these waterbodies and new development will need to be addressed as part of the Masterplanning and detailed design of the development proposals.
Draft v2 - June 2020	The Roydon Society	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	If the use of allotments are to be maximised throughout the District, an EFDC Officer should be employed to liaise with parish and town councils to ascertain available plots and direct residents to their nearest		The Council will give consideration to this proposal - this is not a matter for the strategy
Draft v2 - June 2020	The Roydon Society	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Suggest the lack of facilities at North Weald is addressed with the £50,000 given to them for the checking facility (which eventually was not used and the money remains with NW)		This is not a matter for the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	The Roydon Society	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Page 15 if charging for the forest is implemented, it may force visitors to free areas, eg Roydon Playing Fields (RPF), the Stort Navigation etc causing consequential issues, litter etc.	Para 1.26	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	The Roydon Society	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Landowners /farmers should be added to the list	Para 1.32	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	The Roydon Society	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Concerned that funding will not be freely available following Covid	Para 1.33	Whilst the impact of the COVID-19 crisis on funding is as yet unknown, there are still likely to be opportunities to secure funding from different sources. In addition development proposals will be required to provide, or contribute towards the provision of Green Infrastructure where appropriate in order to be
Draft v2 - June 2020	The Roydon Society	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Would this impact on Roydon Playing Fields?	Para 1.40	This paragraph sets out the government's Strategy and is not therefore locationally specific.
Draft v2 - June 2020	The Roydon Society	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Does this mean cycle routes will be widely promoted thus our Stort Navigation tow path will be inaccessible to walkers	Para 2.11	This paragraph is a statement of fact. Routes will need to be usable by walkers and where appropriate opportunities for cyclists will be explored where it is safe to do so and will need to be agreed with the River and Canal Trust.
Draft v2 - June 2020	The Roydon Society	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	How does this fit in with Harlow Garden Town, Village 7 using the tow path as quick access to Roydon BR Station?	Para 2.11	See response to comment 272 above.
Draft v2 - June 2020	The Roydon Society	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Reference to the River Stort meandering and then refers to what should be named as the Stort Navigation, the River Stort is not the Navigation. They are 2 separate waterways.	Para 2.26	The Strategy has been amended to clarify this point.
Draft v2 - June 2020	The Roydon Society	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	How will the significant improvements work with a significant development (Water Lane) pending?	Para 3.18	This is not a matter for the Strategy. Consideration of the relationship with existing assets in Harlow District will be a matter for consideration as part of the development of the detailed scheme for the Water Lane Masterplan Area.
Draft v2 - June 2020	The Roydon Society	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	How far will this go when developers are expected to pay for infrastructure as well?	Para 4.13	A range of funding sources have been identified. The costs of Green Infrastructure provision have been considered as part of the Local Plan viability work.
Draft v2 - June 2020	The Roydon Society	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Will this put a financial burden on parish councils?	Para 4.22	It is not intended to place any additional financial burdens on parish and town councils.
Draft v2 - June 2020	AR Planning OBO Manor Oak Homes	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The content of the strategy falls far short of the guidance hoped to see		The Strategy has sought to achieve a balance between providing sufficient guidance to support the integration of Green and Blue infrastructure as part of development proposals without being unnecessarily prescriptive or stifling innovation.
Draft v2 - June 2020	AR Planning OBO Manor Oak Homes	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Unclear exactly what the expectation for the Water Lane masterplan area is - is it expected to provide on-site SANG or not?		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	AR Planning OBO Manor Oak Homes	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Explains that the proposals at Appendix 2 are intended to provide a starting point rather than a complete set of parameters, however clear guidance is required	Para 4.19	The Strategy has sought to achieve a balance between providing sufficient guidance to support the integration of Green and Blue infrastructure as part of development proposals without being unnecessarily prescriptive or stifling innovation.

Draft v2 - June 2020	AR Planning OBO Manor Oak Homes	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Deals with the Latton Priory and Water Lane Garden Communities together, but they do not clarify where the provision of SANG is expected	Appendix 2	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	AR Planning OBO Manor Oak Homes	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	No reference to the possibility of a 'Super SANG' at Latton Priory which will also cater for the Water Lane community (as discussed with Officers)	Appendix 2	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	AR Planning OBO Manor Oak Homes	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	No diagrammatic demonstration of the extent or location of a 'Super SANG', as the map on page 25 of the iteration of Appendix 2 presented to Cabinet in April 2020 did	Appendix 2	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	AR Planning OBO Manor Oak Homes	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	No corresponding reference made to Manor Oak Homes' work to show how SANG could be provided as part of the masterplan for their part of the Water Lane allocation		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	AR Planning OBO Manor Oak Homes	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	In the event that a SANG is to be provided on the West Summers site, that space will have to be multifunctional in use as it would not be possible to provide for a SANG in addition to the provision of open space to meet the standards set out in the Council's 2017 Open Spaces Strategy and accommodate sustainable drainage		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	AR Planning OBO Manor Oak Homes	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Need clarification on what the total green infrastructure requirement is at Water Lane and how this is expected to be split between the northern West Katherines section and the southern West Summers section, taking into account the multifunctional uses of space		The Strategy is not intended to provide this level of detail. The quantum of green infrastructure will be a matter for the Masterplanning of the site and for consideration at the detailed planning application stage when the quantum of development is known.
Draft v2 - June 2020	AR Planning OBO Manor Oak Homes	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Need clarification that the strategy can be flexible as to the area of land required for SANGs and whether SANG provision is provided on-site, off-site (e.g at Latton Priory), or through a combination of both.		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Nazeing Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	What plans are there to deal with the traffic in villages such as Nazeing, especially as there is likely to be increased numbers of people accessing the enhanced green spaces?		The enhancement of existing, and provision of new, routes for walking and cycling proposed as part of the Strategy will support the objective of supporting journeys by means other than the car.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Nazeing Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	There should be measures to properly enforce the current 30 mph speed limit which is regularly disregarded. A further improvement might be to reduce the speed limit on the roads through the village to 20 mph especially as the main routes are in the vicinity of the local primary school.		This is not a matter for the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Nazeing Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Consideration should be made to have dedicated routes for cyclists and pedestrians.		The Strategy supports this objective.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Nazeing Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	It is important that any planned new developments in Nazeing should be in scale with the village and that the plans incorporate trees, local wildlife sites and green spaces in keeping the area		The scale of development is not a matter for the Strategy. The policies contained in the Council's emerging Local Plan, supported by this Strategy, seek to ensure that such features are incorporated in new development where appropriate.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Nazeing Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Important that public rights of way are not allowed to be swallowed up by development.		Public Rights of Way are legally protected.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Nazeing Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Suggest the improvements to the green spaces are maintained and should have increased security patrols and/or cameras to identify those fly tipping and exhibiting anti-social behaviour		The Strategy includes potential stewardship models to ensure that green spaces are appropriately managed.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Nazeing Parish Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Suggest improvements to Public Transport links from local train and surrounding towns are incorporated in the Green Plan		This is not a matter for the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sworders OBO Martin Eldred	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Paragraphs 1.6-1.7 no justification is provided as to why this quantum is appropriate in the context of Epping Forest	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sworders OBO Martin Eldred	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Request changes to the document's text to clarify that the exact quantum of SANG for each Masterplan Area is yet to be determined and that the quality of SANG offer and how it		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sworders OBO Martin Eldred	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The document is not clear whether the whole of each Masterplan Area, or only that element which falls within the Zone of Influence, is required to contribute to SANG		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sworders OBO Martin Eldred	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Important that the document includes justification and clarification as to whether other site allocations which sit close to, but outside of, the Zone of Influence are similarly required to contribute to SANG		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sworders OBO Martin Eldred	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The document is ambiguous regarding the location of the NWBMA SANG		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sworders OBO Martin Eldred	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The questionnaire for the consultation document states that where SANG are proposed to be located is set out in Appendix 2, however, this is not the case, Appendix 2 only lists the Strategic Masterplan Areas required to provide SANG with no clarity on location		See overarching SANG response.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Sworders OBO Martin Eldred	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The version of the consultation document which was approved for consultation by Cabinet on 26th March 2020 (EB149) included a plan showing the potential location for the NWBMA SANG. However, it no longer includes the plan. Therefore, the location of the SANG and how it is to be determined are unclear		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sworders OBO Martin Eldred	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Unclear how the Council will ensure that the SANG is genuinely deliverable and that any delay to the release of SANG land will not lead to delay of housing delivery on the allocated sites		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sworders OBO Martin Eldred	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The document does not explain how SANG will be funded – Section 106, the Infrastructure Delivery Plan or both?		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sworders OBO Martin Eldred	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Would welcome confirmation on whether contributions will only be sought to mitigate each development site's own recreational impact in accordance with the tests of planning obligations		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sworders OBO Martin Eldred	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Contributions should be sought from sites outside of Masterplan Areas, which will have an impact on the SAC and which would be mitigated by the SANG		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sworders OBO Martin Eldred	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The document includes parameters regarding the size for SANG and prescribes detail of what it should provide but does not specify location or delivery details		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sworders OBO Martin Eldred	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	"Framework within which the strategic sites proposed in the emerging Local Plan should be developed to maximise Green and Blue Infrastructure opportunities and successfully integrate with the existing communities and places" – considerable detail in respect of North Weald Basset. It should either contain less detail or be clearer that these are not additional policy requirements to those contained in the emerging Local Plan policies	Appendix 2	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sworders OBO Martin Eldred	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Detailed guidance on the requirement of SANG including a Site Quality Checklist - too fine grained at this stage and a 'one-size-fits-all' approach which appears to go beyond that required by Natural England which is simply to mitigate recreational impact	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sworders OBO Martin Eldred	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Paragraph 1.5 implies that the Landscape Framework is required to be submitted with an application, but is not clear how this relates to the Strategic Masterplan	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sworders OBO Martin Eldred	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The Landscape Framework appears to be a duplication of the Strategic Masterplan and is considered unnecessary		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sworders OBO Martin Eldred	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Paragraph 1.34 says a car park is needed unless the SANG is within easy walking distance (c.400m) of the developments linked to it – seems slightly at odds with the suggestion that it should be within or "close" to Masterplan areas as it implies they could be further away	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sworders OBO Martin Eldred	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Paragraph 2.13 and 2.28 question around whether or not the upgrading of the recreation ground within the NWBMA is genuinely achievable cannot be known at this stage prior to the Strategic Masterplan and without knowing how this relates to the wider site or SANG provision	Appendix 2	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Canal & River Trust	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Request that the document include more references to the Canal & River Trust and its specific ownership of the Lee Navigation and River Stort, and their respective towpaths (such as on pages 27 and 28)		The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Anderson Group	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	In support of the document's proposals and provide additional evidence of how THYN R.1 can effectively balance new growth and the natural environment		Comment noted and welcomed.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Lyndsay Swan	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Suggestion to include a timescale for the publication of the final Strategy and if it will include an action plan with timescales and identifying resources		The Strategy has been amended to include more information on indicative timescales for delivery.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Lyndsay Swan	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Page 12 and elsewhere - all pictures should have captions		The Strategy has been updated to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Lyndsay Swan	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Definition of 'typology' required or use of a different term	Para 1.15	The Strategy has change the term 'typology' to 'type' wherever possible.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Lyndsay Swan	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Definition of 'Place Making' required or use of a different term (appreciate that this is a term in common use in certain circles but not everyone knows what it means)	Para 1.16	It is difficult to use a different term as this is the terminology used in, for example, Government policy and guidance. This term has been added to a glossary in the Appendices of the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Lyndsay Swan	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Please include a brief definition of 'Fields in Trust' and its standards	Para 2.5	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Lyndsay Swan	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	"Minimum provision" – assume this means as recommended in the standards above but please clarify	Para 2.6	The Strategy has been amended to clarify this point.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Lyndsay Swan	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Provide a brief definition of 'Play England'	Para 2.9	Reference to 'Play England' has now been removed.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Lyndsay Swan	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Page 25 (and elsewhere) – 'Countrycare', not 'Country Care'.		The Strategy has been amended to correct this.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois & District Rural Preservation Society	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Main aim is the preservation of the existing GI assets – the new strategy should promote these		The Strategy supports the preservation of existing Green Infrastructure assets.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois & District Rural Preservation Society	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	There should be a detailed map of the whole district prepared on the basis of the Ordnance Survey 1 in 25,000 scale		Mapping within the Strategy has been amended where appropriate or weblinks provided to be able to access data where the information can be more clearly displayed.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois & District Rural Preservation Society	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	If the existing rights of way for horse riding, walking and cycling had been marked on the map near the proposed development areas, it would be clear where the points of pressure are going to be and where additional access should be provided		A weblink to Essex County Council's ProW interactive map has now been included to assist in such analysis.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois & District Rural Preservation Society	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Important that anyone in the built-up areas have access to safe play areas for children as well as easy circular routes for disabled and dog walkers		The Strategy supports this approach.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois & District Rural Preservation Society	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Play areas etc would be administered by either Parish Councils or amenity groups however huge cost implications – see closure of the Epping Green play area due to no budget for its maintenance		The Strategy has been amended to provide more information on stewardship arrangements that need to be put in place to avoid such issues.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois & District Rural Preservation Society	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Overriding consideration should be the maintenance and enhancement of the countryside		The Strategy supports this objective.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois & District Rural Preservation Society	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Disappointing that there is no clear plan of providing open space for the development in North Weald and Epping South		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois & District Rural Preservation Society	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The use of Copt Hall and Warleys will result in considerably increased traffic through the forest		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois & District Rural Preservation Society	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	There should have been consultation with the farming community		The documents were published for a 6 week period on the EFDC website in accordance with our Statement of Community Engagement, and we used letters, posters and social media to publicise.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Strutt & Parker OBO Countryside Properties	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	1.24 it would be helpful to publish the visitor surveys information so that site promoters and developers can base proposals for GI on that information where relevant and understand how those surveys relate to aspects of the GI Strategy	Para 1.24	Both the 2017 and 2019 Visitor Surveys are now available on the Council's website. The 2017 survey formed part of the Council's Local Plan Evidence base.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Strutt & Parker OBO Countryside Properties	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The strategy suggests there is a need for more natural and semi-natural green space. Whilst this objective is acknowledged, this should be considered in the approach to the provision of SANG	Para 2.6	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Strutt & Parker OBO Countryside Properties	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The strategy does not set out the full evidence and justification for the quantum or necessity for SANG provision for the Masterplan areas; see our comments at 2.7 below (also referred to in our comments on Appendix 3)	Para 4.6	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Strutt & Parker OBO Countryside Properties	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Unclear whether or not EFDC seek to amend the IDP prepared for the EFDLP to reflect the outcome of this consultation or that carried out in January of this year on the Updated Viability Evidence	Para 4.13	As the IDP is a 'live' document any changes considered necessary as a result of the adoption of the Strategy will be included within the next update.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Strutt & Parker OBO Countryside Properties	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	There is no reference to the opportunity for stewardship to be undertaken by management companies. These would certainly have a role in future developments and should not be precluded	Para 4.22	Additional information has been provided on stewardship which identifies the Council's preferred approach. However, consideration will be given to alternative approaches if it can be clearly demonstrated that high quality, effective long-term management of assets can be provided using alternative mechanisms.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Strutt & Parker OBO Countryside Properties	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	It will be important to ensure that any SANG requirement is properly evidenced and justified	Appendix 2	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Strutt & Parker OBO Countryside Properties	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	2.25 providing a Green Loop will require third party land, other developers and significant EFDC involvement	Appendix 2	Whilst this may be the case it is appropriate to identify this as an opportunity to be fully investigated.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Strutt & Parker OBO Countryside Properties	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	1.6 concerned that there is no compelling link, supported by documented evidence, between the Thames Basin Heath and Epping Forest to justify the requirement of 8ha per 1000 population. Suggest that this should be qualified at 1.6 in the terms set out at 1.15-1.17 of the main document	Appendix 3	The draft Strategy clearly set out the rationale for this requirement. See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Strutt & Parker OBO Countryside Properties	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	1.20 questionable whether a SANG should avoid areas of high nature conservation value in all circumstances. A holistic approach would be important to ensure functionality and attractiveness of a SANG	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.

Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	There is an underlying assumption in the Strategy that access to existing Green Infrastructure in the Harlow district will be unrestricted. However, the vulnerability of outliers of ancient woodlands should be highlighted in the Strategy		The Strategy identifies the relevant Green Infrastructure assets. The relationship with existing Green Infrastructure in Harlow will be a matter for consideration as part of the Masterplanning and development of planning applications for the Garden Communities.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The primary objective of making each strategic allocation self-sufficient in Green Infrastructure is currently not fully addressed in the Strategy		The combination of the requirements set out in the emerging Local Plan together with this Strategy support this objective.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The proximity of the strategic allocations to Harlow's existing Green Wedges, for example, will introduce increased movement along strategic corridors. While there is a need to foster integrated and cohesive communities, there is also a need to agree future maintenance and management		See response to comments 341 and 342 above.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	States that much of Harlow is classed as 'park' and that these areas were identified by the Harlow Open Space and Green Infrastructure Study (2013) as having significant room for improvement – a more appropriate phrase would be that park spaces have "the potential to offer greater value". This would reflect a quote from the Study	Para 3.18	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Paragraph 1.13 "the [Harlow Open Space] study showed that in terms of size 'Sumner, Kingsmoor and Staple Tye' is currently above the advised minimum size". This should be amended to state that it is provision, rather than size, which is being referred to	Appendix 2	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Presumably the Sumners and Bush Fair areas are specifically mentioned in this paragraph due to their proximity to the southern strategic sites, but this needs explaining. If so, reference also needs to be made to the eastern Harlow neighbourhoods given their proximity to the East of Harlow strategic site		The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment. The East of Harlow Garden Community falls within both Epping Forest and Harlow Districts and therefore has been assessed in a different manner to reflect this fact.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Paragraph 1.14 "Amenity spaces and parks are of mixed quality, with 11 of the 25 parks assessed in the Harlow Open Space and Green Infrastructure Study (2013) falling below quality standards". However, the Study shows that across Harlow, 32 out of 55 parks & gardens are 'above quality' and 23 are 'below'. For amenity greenspaces, 12 out of 25 are 'above' and 13 are 'below'. Request that paragraph 1.14 is checked against the Study	Appendix 2	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Need to link more with Essex CC's work on GI	Section 1	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	SPD could be required? Mention links with Essex Design Guide?	Para 1.4	The Council does not consider that such an approach would be proportionate or necessary.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	SPD also required?	Para 1.6	See comment 349 above. It will be adopted as a material planning consideration
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	"...biodiversity assets that have been lost over time..." – would be useful to explain what they have been lost to	Para 1.9	Further detail is contained in relevant parts of the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Amenity greenspace - give a higher priority to ensure people have access to quality "everyday" landscapes. Housing developments often lack this. Older estates have pockets of open spaces that provide immediately located recourses in terms of openness, whereas new estates are more compact with nominal openness, often centrally located, but with poorer quality throughout. Older estates have both. Pandemic highlighted need for immediate quality spaces. This also relates to giving people more options to reduce pressure on Epping Forest.	Para 1.14	This paragraph is a direct quote from Natural England Guidance and therefore it is not appropriate to amend it. Nevertheless other parts of the Strategy recognise the importance of such spaces.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	ECC did work on this where they looked at how some smaller GI spaces fulfil only one function but still have high importance	Para 1.17	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Need reference to Garden Town and development in/around Harlow.	Para 1.18	The Strategy makes reference to Harlow and the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town at appropriate points.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Reference to MoU?	Para 1.19	It is not considered that reference to the Memorandum of Understanding would be appropriate to include at this point.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Interim Approach to Managing Recreational Pressures on the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation – current status of this?	Para 1.23	The Strategy has been amended to clarify this point.

Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Consider effects of pandemic. Also cross-border opportunities?	Para 1.24	The long-term effects arising from COVID-19 are not yet know. However, the Strategy is an important tool in responding to the need for high-quality Green Infrastructure which has been highlighted by the pandemic. Furthermore there is sufficient flexibility within the Strategy to be able to respond to changing needs and attitudes.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Introducing new car parking charges - Parking charges to deter use can be seen as contradiction with the acknowledgment of these spaces as a vital resource for health and wellbeing. SANGs should be in place before deterrents are considered. Lea Valley Park introduced parking fees which were described by locals as a 'tax on health'. Need to ensure there are not mixed messages	Para 1.26	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Mention Harlow specifically	Para 1.31	The Strategy makes reference to Harlow at appropriate points.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	GT involvement?	Para 1.33	The Strategy makes reference to the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town at appropriate points.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Reference GT sustainability guidance and checklist	Para 1.39	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Reference high % of GB in Epping	Para 2.3	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Outdoor play should focus on and promote encouraging environmental/natural play, not just prescribed play in equipped spaces. The pandemic (closed play areas) highlighted need to educate people on alternative ways for children to play as it is not a practice that is as abundant as it once was. Partially addressed in para 2.9	Para 2.6	This paragraph is a factual statement. The Strategy supports this objective.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Reference Garden Town transport work/strategy and the STCs	Para 2.13	The Strategy references this in relation to the relevant strategic sites.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Need reference to Essex Wildlife Trust	Para 2.17	Essex Wildlife Trust is identified in the Strategy as a key partner.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	"...working to secure improvements to water and air quality." Would this be through planning contributions?	Para 2.20	This will be achieved through the application of the Council's emerging Local Plan policies and other mechanisms set out in a number of relevant strategies.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Slightly disjointed paragraph - is it saying the sculptures are a visitor attraction?	Para 2.39	The Strategy has been amended to make this clearer.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Review in light of pandemic	Para 2.40	This paragraph provided factual information about the District's population profile based on 2011 Census data but has since been removed.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	GI Vision Needs more reference to links to surrounding areas	Para 2.41	The Vision and objectives have been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Embedding landscape-led approach to design of GI & BI: A statement or policy may be needed here to ensure approach is definitely 'landscape-led'. Landscape professionals are essential at the very early stages of any development to ensure the existing landscape opportunities and constraints lead the design process.	Para 2.42	The Strategy has been amended at appropriate points to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Environment – Acknowledge here that there should be some human-free, nonaccessible spaces secured as part of the GI	Para 3.1	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Need more on benefits of lifting canopies to offset any possible negative views of this	Para 3.12	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Reference use of phone apps	Para 3.14	The Strategy has been amended at appropriate points to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Public Art SPD needed?	Para 3.16	The Council does not consider that such an approach would be proportionate or necessary to achieve this objective.

Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Be more specific here given the reference to improvements which are needed. Currently reads as though GI in Harlow is worse than it is in reality	Para 3.18	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Reference to SANGs needed here? Regarding SANGs, it is important to ensure core character and integrity of the open space remains. Such sites should not be at risk of being perceived as sacrificial to protect SSSIs and should have sensitive enhancements and proportionate expectation of levels of use. These sites are of local significance	Para 3.21	More specific guidance is included in Part 3 of the Strategy including the attributes that need to be designed in to any provision.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Social – would be useful to reiterate what is deemed reasonable behaviour in outdoor spaces. Some people are not aware of the impact of their behaviour (e.g. littering, presence of dog faeces). Knowledge about the countryside code and natural/sensitive settings needs to be increased, e.g. through campaigning or education	Para 3.24	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Could make point here about GI's multi-functionality and importance of amenity space for informal activities which also incorporate a more natural fringe or buffer to them	Para 3.27	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Also helps with climate change and fewer 'miles travelled' for food etc.	Para 3.31	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Green roofs/walls for food growing? Food production for human consumption needs to be away from vehicle traffic areas, e.g. Community buildings away from roads. There was an edible bus stops scheme a few years ago which unfortunately had problems with exhaust fumes on fruit	Para 3.33	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	No youth shelter shown in photo (referenced in text)	Para 3.40	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	"Smaller spaces can still be meaningful and can often have significant local value" – Arguably more meaningful as it is an "everyday" accessible resource. Acknowledging hierarchy of importance of spaces would mean a greater chance to ensure their existence and quality and take pressure off sensitive sites. What is outside people's homes and down their streets is of high importance top them. This will be key in creating the first level of SANGs. Suggest change in the of the section to move away from "small spaces" to help highlight their true significance.	Para 3.42	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Pocket parks?	Para 3.43	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Need more on the balance of doing this versus lack of maintenance. Also update in light of pandemic	Para 3.44	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	More emphasis specifically on concept of retrofit Suds should be considered. Suggestions of where and how to retrofit Suds schemes need to be identified. What incentive could be set up to encourage this?	Para 3.61	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	There's a lot covered in this section so needs a bit more breaking down and also references to STCs and the Garden Town transport work/strategy	Section 3: Movement	The Strategy has been amended to improve its readability.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Reference to GT needed here	Para 4.3	References are included in Part 3 of the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Reference to GT needed here	Para 4.12	References are included in Part 3 of the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Key for maps? East of Harlow needs adding. Wrong annotation on these maps as the GT looks like it's just the district area of Harlow	Para 4.14-4.15 Maps	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Overlap with Local Plan requirements? True landscape led approach to masterplanning should let the landscape dictate what is achievable and appropriate, to ensure developments don't work against the landscape	Para 4.18	This is intended to support the implementation of the requirements set out in the Council's emerging Local Plan.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	GT involvement?	Section 4: Stewardship?	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Roadside Flowers Project – Success – Important to acknowledge difference between a naturalised area (left to grow with flower species that are already there) versus introducing new non-naturalised species which may not be appropriate. Added benefit is lack of cost	Appendix 1	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.

Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Tree Planting Call for Sites – Need to reference Essex Forest to a county-wide record of woodland gains. Partnership. Integral	Appendix 1	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	East of Harlow needs referencing	Appendix 2	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Para 1.4 "...Green Wedges were a major feature..." The Green Wedges in Harlow still are a major feature with significant influence on the design of the town. Reference to Harlow Local Plan would be useful	Appendix 2	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Para 1.7 reference GI link to Harlow here.	Appendix 2	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Check map is most up-to-date. Add GB to map and also add GW/GB to key	Page 68	Not considered necessary for this map.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Add GB to map and key	Page 70	Not considered necessary for this map.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Para 1.14 need to also reference the Strategy and what it says about improvements, links to wider areas etc.	Appendix 2	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Para 1.17 add GB to map and key	Appendix 2	Not considered necessary for this map.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Para 1.19 most roads travel along/through the wedges rather than cutting across them. Useful to give examples of where they cut across	Appendix 2	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Para 1.23 should also mention horse-riding here (and elsewhere) as importance of including horse-riding in these contexts was raised by the Bridleways Association in response to Harlow Local Plan	Appendix 2	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Para 1.23 Bullet point 1 - in what way? Examples and locations would be useful	Appendix 2	This will be a matter for the development of the Masterplans for the Garden Communities.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Para 1.26 "also available to provide a wider SANG offer if this was needed" – would be useful to give example of where, if possible	Appendix 2	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Watts, Harlow District Council	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Para 1.16 "...strategic Landscape Framework." – who would produce this?	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Iceni Projects OBO Lands Improvement	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Lack of clarity regarding the quantum and location of SANG within the Masterplan areas		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Iceni Projects OBO Lands Improvement	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Potential vehicle and pedestrian access issues at the Copped Hall Park SANG, without further land up-take to secure alternative access from Epping High Street		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Iceni Projects OBO Lands Improvement	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Lack of clarity regarding the funding mechanisms and deliverability of the Sites for Enhancement	Appendix 4	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Peer Group	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	No explanation for why this consultation is not formally under the umbrella of the draft Local Plan or the ongoing Examination in Public		The Council committed to developing this Strategy during the Examination Hearings into the emerging Local Plan. The Inspector did not require the Strategy to be the subject of further consideration as part of the Examination.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Peer Group	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The document is not robust and it will not make the submitted Plan sound		The Council considers that the Strategy is robust and appropriately supports the implementation of relevant emerging Local Plan policies.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Peer Group	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	It fails to identify suitable land for the provision of SANG, it fails to identify a genuine alternative destination to the Epping Forest SAC and it fails to provide a strategy that would reduce the pressure of the Epping Forest SAC		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Peer Group	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Serious shortcomings in the approach to both the original site selection and the retrospective identification of SANG to the Council's preferred site allocations. The evidence clearly favours the provision of a SANG on the Ongar Park Estate in preference to the contrived provision as suggested in the GI consultation document		This is not a matter for the GI Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Barwood Land	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Paragraph 1.17 'the Council's planning policy approach supported by this strategy recognises the role of high quality design to bring open space to life'. It is vital to ensure that a flexible approach is applied when considering Green Infrastructure. A design led, site specific approach would deliver better quality GI taking account of local context	Section 1	The Strategy reflects this comment.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Barwood Land	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Consideration should be given to a more flexible approach to developer contributions, by seeking off-site GI contributions from strategic allocations as an alternative to specific on-site GI contributions	Section 2	The Strategy has been developed in part to inform the implementation of relevant policies within the emerging Local Plan. There is no legal requirement to wait until the adoption of the Local Plan before endorsing the Strategy as a material consideration in planning related matters because of the advanced stage of the Plan. References to the Strategy are proposed as part of the Main Modifications stage.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Barwood Land	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Paragraph 3.9 'where provision cannot be accommodated on-site contributions toward the provision or enhancement of natural open space nearby, and links to them, will be required'. It is important to make clear that these linkages do not necessarily need to be physical linkages, but wayfinding or publicity could also play their part	Section 3	This has been removed as the Council recognises that such consideration will need to be made on a case-by-case basis.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Barwood Land	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Suggest the vehicle for stewardship is not so restrictive to avoid delays in development coming forward. Adding management Companies and The Wildlife Trust to these organisations may add flexibility and assist in securing a 'best fit' for managing these GI spaces.	Section 4	More information on stewardship has been provided. This sets out the Council's preferred approach but does not preclude alternative approaches if it can be demonstrated that these would be fit for purpose.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Wixley	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Smaller Green Spaces in urban areas are not recognised in the value that they may also have in terms of taking off pressure from Epping Forest		The Strategy reflects the importance of such spaces but they do not entirely replicate the recreational opportunities provided by larger scale provision.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Wixley	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Action should be taken to protect Green Spaces currently earmarked for development (Luctons Field in Loughton where outlined planning application includes a Green Space)		This is not a matter for the GI Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Wixley	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The strategy excludes space for organised sport (football, cricket). E.g. cricket ground in the South Weald Country Park at Brentwood		Facilities for organised sport are addressed through the Council's Playing Pitch Strategy (EB714 and associated documents).
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Wixley	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	No reference to providing public toilets		This is not a matter for the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Wixley	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Blue Infrastructure: unlikely to open up more access to the River Roding as much of its banks are in private ownership		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Wixley	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Supportive of native tree planting, the development of wild flower meadows and suggest hedgerow planting where suitable. Suggest looking at linking up with the Green Arc scheme if possible		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Wixley	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The proposal to encourage charges in Epping Forest car parks will impact on urban area streets close to the Forest – having an adverse impact on the lives of residents living in those areas (see 1.26).		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Wixley	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Suggest working with local interest groups such as the Epping Forest Heritage Trust, EFDC's Countryside Tree Wardens and, if formal sport to be considered, then the Essex Playing Fields Association and Fields in Trust		A range of organisations have been identified within the Strategy. In relation to formal sports provision see response to Comment 419 above).
Draft v2 - June 2020	Essex Local Access Forum	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Access to the open spaces must be inclusive and available to all users - young & old, fit and not-so-fit, for walkers/ pedestrians, runners, cyclists, horse-riders, mobility impaired users, dog walkers and families with buggies		The Strategy supports this approach and as been amended where necessary to make this clearer.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Essex Local Access Forum	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	All stiles must be removed from network to be replaced by gaps or accessible gates in keeping with the British Standard		The Strategy reflects this objective.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Essex Local Access Forum	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The emphasis of the strategy appears to be on walking - this should be widened to seek to improve access for all types of users / potential users		The Strategy supports this approach and as been amended where necessary to make this clearer.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Essex Local Access Forum	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	An objective must be to improve linkages to facilitate short, medium and longer circular routes		The Strategy seeks to achieve this.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Essex Local Access Forum	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Recognition of the physical barriers to walking, cycling AND horse riding (created by motorways, major dual carriageway roads and railway) is not sufficient – schemes to overcome these barriers must be included in development plans	2.12 and 2.13	The Council will explore opportunities to overcome these where appropriate and feasible as part of the detailed approaches developed for the Masterplan Areas.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Essex Local Access Forum	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Clarity required on the amount & quality of GI available for public use and the amount not available e.g. not all river / canal banks are open to the public.		Links to the Council's evidence base have been provided. However, not all of this data is available.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Essex Local Access Forum	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	1.33 maintenance - or lack of money for maintenance - of GI in public ownership is an issue. Volunteers can and do help but cannot tackle everything e.g. larger structures, working alongside vehicular roads	1.33	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Elizabeth Burn	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Require a more detailed settlement-by-settlement analysis which, rather than indicating designated areas of 'green space', would specifically look at those aspects which relate to Green Infrastructure, including the existing 'links' between those spaces		Links to the Council's evidence base have been included where a parish by parish analysis can be viewed.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Elizabeth Burn	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	To preserve and protect the existing Green Infrastructure, these assets need to be identified and, preferably, evident on a clearly annotated map		Links to the Council's evidence base have been included where a parish by parish analysis can be viewed.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Elizabeth Burn	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Recognising how to manage and preserve important green spaces, without the need for significant expenditure, is key to understanding how any future green infrastructure, or SANG, may function in this District		The Strategy has been amended to include more information on approaches to stewardship. The Strategy already includes suggestions of approaches that can be taken for maintaining existing spaces.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Elizabeth Burn	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The issues relating to the designation of new SANG have not been helped by dove-tailing the Habitats Regulation Assessment/Mitigation Strategy into the Appendices of this document		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Elizabeth Burn	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Copped Hall Park is unlikely to be suitable for a 'strategic' SANG, given the likelihood that most visitors would be travelling by car, or motorised transport and, potentially, on roads which run through the forest		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Elizabeth Burn	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	May be helpful to issue (and cross-reference) a separate 'Mitigation Strategy' for the Epping Forest SAC, to include clearly mapped 'Zones of Influence' (including an Exclusion Zone) and an explanation of the purpose of financial (or other) contributions to SAMM, SANG and Air Quality Mitigation. Pulling together these strands within a specific Policy Document (or SPD) would also		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Elizabeth Burn	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The term 'in perpetuity' needs a recognised definition, as does the actual process for 'designating' SANG within Local Plan policy (ie. as this will result in a 'change of use' in planning terms, how will this be affected?)		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Elizabeth Burn	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The requirement to designate SANG is likely to be too restrictive if only applied to the Masterplan sites, and other allocated sites may also need to make similar provision in the future		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Elizabeth Burn	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	In terms of Projects, Chris Neilan (former head of the EFDC's Trees and Landscape Department) compiled an early draft of a 'Community Green Plan' – this may be the time to reconsider that initiative		Information gathered has been used to inform this strategy
Draft v2 - June 2020	Elizabeth Burn	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The absence of relevant plans, including those for the South Epping Masterplan site, is likely to cause some concern		This will be developed as part of the Masterplan
Draft v2 - June 2020	Elizabeth Burn	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The final document will need to factor in provision for the 'Monitoring' of the various aspects of the Strategy, and incorporate a process for Review		The Strategy has been amended to reflect this suggestion.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Elizabeth Burn	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	A further review of the wording of the main Vision and Objections within the New Local Plan (2011-2033), may be helpful in order to ensure that the key features of the specific Vision and Objectives of this new Strategy are appropriately incorporated		The Vision and Objectives in the emerging Local Plan have informed the development of the Vision and Objectives of this Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Claire Martin, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	It would be helpful if the report made a more detailed reference to the Regional Park as this seems somewhat underplayed in the early sections of the current draft	Section 1	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Claire Martin, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Para 1.21 joint working and linking of the Forest and Regional Park could become more relevant if proposals to open up some of the Forest's buffer lands to residents and visitors are actioned	Section 1	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Claire Martin, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Para 1.7 it is presumed Blue Infrastructure includes lakes?	Section 1	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Claire Martin, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Para 1.6 'Why have a Strategy?' it would be helpful to reference the Lee Valley SPA in the first bullet point	Section 1	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Claire Martin, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	It would be useful to include a section on the Lee Valley SPA to follow para 1.19 to 1.26	Section 1	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Claire Martin, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The reference under 1.49 is somewhat lost and whilst issues of air quality are specific to the Forest and its ecology, recreational pressures do impact upon the habitats and species for which the SPA/Ramsar is designated	Section 1	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Claire Martin, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Suggest 're-wilding' is favoured over the BAPs – it should be the case that the two approaches can work together	Section 2	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Claire Martin, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The visitor offer of the Regional Park could be included under para 2.36 to 2.39	Section 2	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Claire Martin, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Para 3.54 should include the management of invasive non-native species (INNS) as part of best practice measures	Section 2	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Claire Martin, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The Waltham Abbey North Masterplan Area will be of interest to the Authority – it will be useful to see the mapping for this area once this is ready	Appendix 2	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Claire Martin, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The Authority's Landscape Strategy Guidelines may be of relevance	Appendix 2	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Claire Martin, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Mention should be made of the SPA alongside the Ramsar (note lower case needed for Ramsar) at para 3.7	Appendix 2	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Claire Martin, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Heritage section 3.9 should note the role of the Park Authority in relation to the Abbey Gardens and reference the historic fishponds associated with the Abbey Church on the Cornmill Meadows (Cornmill Stream and Old River Lea SSSI)	Appendix 2	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Claire Martin, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Would also be relevant to note the importance of tackling INNS on the Cobbins Brook under para 3.20	Appendix 2	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Claire Martin, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Could reflect that the Authority's adopted Area Proposals for Gunpowder Park are to create a more flexible visitor hub and provide the core range of services including refreshment facilities, an indoor public visitor space and park information point (S.A.3)	Appendix 4	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Claire Martin, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Proposals seeking to manage and enhance Gunpowder Park, Sewardstone Marsh and Patty Pool Mead as a key access to nature site with habitat improvements to be undertaken throughout	Appendix 4	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Claire Martin, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Existing wet woodland habitats at Osier Marsh and Sewardstone Marsh are to be managed to maintain and expand their special wildlife interest	Appendix 4	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Claire Martin, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Visitor access is to be enhanced by extending boardwalks and improving interpretation	Appendix 4	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Claire Martin, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Proposals also seek to manage the farmland within the area so as target specific wildlife groups for example invertebrates and birds	Appendix 4	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Claire Martin, Lee Valley Regional Park Authority	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Floodplain grassland and fen habitat to be enhanced on Sewardstone Marsh and the wet grassland habitat of Patty Pool Mead to be improved to provide nesting opportunities for breeding waders.	Appendix 4	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jamie Melvin, Natural England	Feedback on the document	18-Jul-20	Unconvinced that the Local Plan and associated documents will provide sufficient recreational space to avoid an impact on Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation even when considered alongside Site Access Management and Monitoring ('SAMMS') measures		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jamie Melvin, Natural England	Feedback on the document	18-Jul-20	Absence of an assessment of SANG requirement and the identification of a quantity required		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jamie Melvin, Natural England	Feedback on the document	18-Jul-20	The key consideration in selecting Strategic SANGs should be in identifying suitable intercept locations, identifying an appropriate size and providing something of sufficient quality to draw people away from the forest		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jamie Melvin, Natural England	Feedback on the document	18-Jul-20	Note that Roding Valley Meadows is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest ('SSSI') in its own right and displacing recreational pressure from one protected site to another is generally not considered sustainable long term	Appendix 4	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jamie Melvin, Natural England	Feedback on the document	18-Jul-20	The information provided on SANG provision at Latton Priory is more limited than has previously been presented to us and consider the strategy would benefit from more detailed proposals (recognising that it may not have been appropriate to include them at this time)	Appendix 2	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jamie Melvin, Natural England	Feedback on the document	18-Jul-20	Very limited information regarding the contribution of the Water Lane development or how impacts on other designated sites, in this case Harlow Woods SSSI, are going to be avoided	Appendix 2	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jamie Melvin, Natural England	Feedback on the document	18-Jul-20	Limited information available on the provision of GI at all strategic sites and it remains unclear how SANGs are going to be accommodated alongside allocated housing numbers	Appendix 2	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jamie Melvin, Natural England	Feedback on the document	18-Jul-20	"The Strategy also recognises the importance of other cross-boundary opportunities to integrate Green and Blue Infrastructure by working with a range of partners including our neighbouring authorities within and outside of London." We consider that at this statement is not as well evidenced within the document and that there is still work to be done in this regard	Para 1.2	The Strategy makes reference at key points to the partners it is, or will be, working with.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Ongar Town Council	Feedback on the document	20-Jul-20	Would like the Strategy to include a project for Ongar in the rural North East part of the District - we have a proposal which incidentally supports the vision and objectives of your Strategy, and would like to have the opportunity of presenting our ideas for inclusion in your finished Strategy		The Council would encourage Ongar Town Council to submit any proposals which it has developed which would support the delivery of projects identified in Part 1 of the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Loughton Town Council	Feedback on the document	20-Jul-20	The Strategy does not cover the issue of Green & Blue Infrastructure in Loughton or the rest of the southern parishes		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Loughton Town Council	Feedback on the document	20-Jul-20	It does not cover the biodiversity gain now required by law		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Loughton Town Council	Feedback on the document	20-Jul-20	The strategy is a contradiction in terms, as green spaces are proposed for development in Loughton (see the eleven acres of Luctons Fields LOU.R4)		This is not a matter for the GI Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Loughton Town Council	Feedback on the document	20-Jul-20	No proposals to link in the Shaws in north-east Loughton (owned by Essex CC)		The proposals now contained in Part 4 of the Strategy will support this objective.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Loughton Town Council	Feedback on the document	20-Jul-20	No word about linking up green corridors in Loughton, including to and from the Forest SAC		The proposals contained in Part 4 of the Strategy will support this objective.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Loughton Town Council	Feedback on the document	20-Jul-20	The Strategy needs complete rewriting on Blue Infrastructure and should include the examples included in response		The GI Strategy's information on Blue Infrastructure has been revisited since consultation. Part 4 looks at site specific projects including the Roding Valley.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Upland Parish Council	Feedback on the document	24-Jul-20	The document lacks a comprehensive map of the area clearly outlining existing amenities and proposed development area adding to the difficulty of fully assessing this document		The Strategy now provides links to mapping sources.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Upland Parish Council	Feedback on the document	24-Jul-20	The proposed developments would be counter-productive and would increase the pollution risk		This is not a matter for the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Upland Parish Council	Feedback on the document	24-Jul-20	No mention of common land or how this land might be usefully maintained for increasing the amenity it provides		The Strategy includes reference to Commons where this is appropriate.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Upland Parish Council	Feedback on the document	24-Jul-20	The parish does not have funds to support funding of play areas		The Strategy identifies potential sources for funding the maintenance of new play areas provided as part of new development which are intended not to place a cost burden on parish and town councils.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Epping Upland Parish Council	Feedback on the document	24-Jul-20	Farmers have not been consulted		The documents were published for a 6 week period on the EFDC website in accordance with our Statement of Community Engagement, and we used letters, posters and social media to publicise.
Draft v2 - June 2020	City of London Corporation (The Conservators of Epping Forest)	Feedback on the document	06-Aug-20	The strategy cannot be relied upon as mitigation for the recreation pressure on Epping Forest SAC as a result of the housing growth in Epping Forest District		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	City of London Corporation (The Conservators of Epping Forest)	Feedback on the document	06-Aug-20	No clear hectareage of SANGS anticipated, no list of SANGS site options and a SANGS tariff requirement is not set out as we believe it should be in this document		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	City of London Corporation (The Conservators of Epping Forest)	Feedback on the document	06-Aug-20	Need to divorce the SANGS strategy from the more aspirational G&BIS – a separate, comprehensive, clear and effective SANGS strategy is necessary		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	City of London Corporation (The Conservators of Epping Forest)	Feedback on the document	06-Aug-20	Need to set out the SANGS that will be delivered by developers and also a range of other infrastructure and greenspace provision that would provide for mitigation for smaller sites across a wide area. Detail of how existing sites might contribute to this, how mitigation will be funded and what requirements would be placed on developers need to be clearly set out		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	City of London Corporation (The Conservators of Epping Forest)	Feedback on the document	06-Aug-20	Concerned that there is no timetable for the decisions on governance of the SAC Oversight Group which would have an overview of SANGS provision regionally – mitigation will be best delivered if coordinated across local authorities		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Quinn Estates	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	North Weald Bassett Masterplan Area would enhance the GI Strategy and directly deliver and contribute to the key aims of the strategy by providing much needed SANG to serve the development and provide additional compensatory land to mitigate other development that impacts on the integrity of the SAC. The planning application can deliver much needed new homes and facilities early in the plan period and crucially demonstrates no net impact on the integrity of the SAC and the delivery of additional SANG capacity, of significant benefit to the Epping Forest District.		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Alan Burgess	Feedback on the document	09-Jul-20	The document raises relevant questions, some sections of the document seem to put too much emphasis on the needs of people, the needs of the environment should be given their due value. The principle of net biodiversity should be recognised.	Para 2.4	The Council considers that the Strategy provides an appropriate balance between the two elements and recognises the principle of net biodiversity gain and supports its achievement.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Alan Burgess	Feedback on the document	09-Jul-20	All scrub has biodiversity value. Existing natural features should not be manicured. Some wilding would be welcome.	Para 3.12	The Strategy supports this approach.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Alan Burgess	Feedback on the document	09-Jul-20	The Harlow Art Trust should be consulted and asked to organise the commission of art works.	Para 3.16	Harlow Art Trust is now identified as a key stakeholder in the Art in the Landscape section.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Alan Burgess	Feedback on the document	09-Jul-20	Water Lane: The planning of planting individual trees and groups should as well as the retention of existing trees should be carried out early in the master plan stage; for example it should be established that an area bounded by a stream and the Epping Road on the southwestern edge should be planted in order to establish a strong edge to the development.	Appendix 2	This will be a matter for consideration at the Masterplanning and detailed planning application stages.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Alan Burgess	Feedback on the document	09-Jul-20	Suggest dealing with pollution in Canons Brook which flows into the Stort		The Strategy has been amended to included reference to the River Stort Catchment Management Plan.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Alan Burgess	Feedback on the document	09-Jul-20	Land near the waterworks buildings at Roydon Village is a possible site for tree planting		The Council will include this suggestion in the list of potential sites.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Class Q	Survey response	26-Jun-20	Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects could happen? Please see appended Epping Rd Design & Access Statement. Our masterplan designs were built around the consultation GI and we feel the project could become exemplary of the new GI Strategy in action being delivered within new development.	Appendix 1	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Class Q	Survey response	26-Jun-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Forest? More easily accessible, better children's facilities		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Class Q	Survey response	26-Jun-20	Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement? See appended Epping Rd Design & Access Statement	Appendix 2	Comment noted.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Jayne Rogers & Rich Cooke, Essex County Council	Survey response	14-Jul-20	Do you agree that we have included all of the GI assets within the District and assessed them correctly in Section 2? No	Section 2	Comment noted. See responses below.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jayne Rogers & Rich Cooke, Essex County Council	Survey response	14-Jul-20	Page 25 should take into consideration the provision of bridleways and opportunities to provide multi-user paths/routes	Movement	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jayne Rogers & Rich Cooke, Essex County Council	Survey response	14-Jul-20	The strategy needs to be clear that it requires the provision of multi-user paths in the first instance and that the proposal will need to demonstrate why that approach to provision is not appropriate	Movement	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jayne Rogers & Rich Cooke, Essex County Council	Survey response	14-Jul-20	Needs to mention the need to factor in improvements to the path routes environment through creation of green routes and the contribution towards the creation of green corridors	Movement	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jayne Rogers & Rich Cooke, Essex County Council	Survey response	14-Jul-20	There should also be a consideration for the improvements to the public realm noted the benefits for calming traffic is referenced under small spaces in section 3 but good for consistency	Movement	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jayne Rogers & Rich Cooke, Essex County Council	Survey response	14-Jul-20	There is no mention of amenity greenspaces (i.e. village greens, sport fields etc), and those GI identified as others (i.e. allotments, community gardens, churchyards and cemeteries within this section	Quality & Quantity	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jayne Rogers & Rich Cooke, Essex County Council	Survey response	14-Jul-20	Needs to link back to the "What Does Green Infrastructure Include?" on page 12. If the classification of GI types used in Natural England's 'Green Infrastructure Guide' are the GI types used for this strategy. If not, then the Strategy needs to be clear what GI classification types are in scope.	Quality & Quantity	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jayne Rogers & Rich Cooke, Essex County Council	Survey response	14-Jul-20	Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy (page 30)? Yes - the only thing missing is connectivity to wider landscape GI Network	Page 30	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jayne Rogers & Rich Cooke, Essex County Council	Survey response	14-Jul-20	The Movement theme should include reference to green corridors, in that not only improving PROW and other routes to be attractive places to encourage active travel but acts as a green corridor connecting habitats and fragmented small spaces to wider landscape GI network and allows movement for wildlife too (Page 33; 3.7)	Page 33	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jayne Rogers & Rich Cooke, Essex County Council	Survey response	14-Jul-20	Similar with small spaces on page 46, which could be at risk of fragmentation – need to ensure connectivity to the wider landscape scale GI network has been considered and enabled	Page 46	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jayne Rogers & Rich Cooke, Essex County Council	Survey response	14-Jul-20	Movement on page 47 – another opportunity for the Council and partners to consider to address the issue of cluttering from signage is the use of digital interpretation (i.e. a mobile app) may be an option for strategic sites with a trail, site and biodiversity information, and advice (e.g. Bird Aware etc)	Page 47	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jayne Rogers & Rich Cooke, Essex County Council	Survey response	14-Jul-20	Provision for play and the examples of youth shelter and multi-purpose games facilities on page 44 – the diagram does not include environmental benefit. However, if the area as a whole is designed as a multi-purpose games facility then the greenery of its surrounding, whether woodland, garden and benches etc can in itself provide environmental benefits to biodiversity and connecting people with nature or just getting them to engage with the great outdoors and can act as a green corridor connecting GI throughout the development. GI and Grey Infrastructure should not be seen or designed in silo, but part of the EFDC landscape led approach.	Page 44	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jayne Rogers & Rich Cooke, Essex County Council	Survey response	14-Jul-20	Movement & Wayfinding – consider the raising awareness and promotion of these routes – one of the issues is people do not know these are there so part of the strategy is to include marketing / promotion and communication.	Page 59	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jayne Rogers & Rich Cooke, Essex County Council	Survey response	14-Jul-20	Roadside wildflowers – may be opportunity to expand the Special Roadside Verges scheme by Essex Highways and Place Services. Around 60 km of road verge across Essex have been designated as Special Roadside Verges - https://www.placeservices.co.uk/projects/special-roadside-verges/	Page 60	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this and the positive suggestion is welcomed.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jayne Rogers & Rich Cooke, Essex County Council	Survey response	14-Jul-20	Tree planting – Forest Initiative led by John Meehan, Head of Sustainability & Resilience, ECC, to plant 375000 trees in the next 5 years. Offers a good opportunity to coordinate schemes, as both projects seek to work with Parishes and communities to identify sites. https://www.essex.gov.uk/the-essex-forest-initiative	Page 61	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this and the positive suggestion is welcomed.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jayne Rogers & Rich Cooke, Essex County Council	Survey response	14-Jul-20	Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects could happen? Opportunities should be taken to explore any (smaller) green spaces shown to be in isolation on how they can connect, whether it's through the streetscape to the other GI - the wider GI network.		The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jayne Rogers & Rich Cooke, Essex County Council	Survey response	14-Jul-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Ensuring the green space and sport/play facilities provides multi-purpose use and offers naturalised play that is open to all		Comments noted. The Strategy supports this approach.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Jayne Rogers & Rich Cooke, Essex County Council	Survey response	14-Jul-20	Under the Role of Design, to re-emphasise that this approach must be integrated at the initial planning stage right through to delivery (construction)	Para 1.17	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jayne Rogers & Rich Cooke, Essex County Council	Survey response	14-Jul-20	Design of developments must be landscape led and cross disciplinary and must inform development proposals from their initial planning through their detailed design to the delivery phase and lifetime of the development	Para 3.3	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jayne Rogers & Rich Cooke, Essex County Council	Survey response	14-Jul-20	Correction to paragraph 1.48 The Essex Green Infrastructure Strategy, formerly known as the Green Essex Strategy, was signed off by Cabinet Member Action on 30 March 2020 and the call-in period ended on 2 April 2020. The strategy has now been adopted by ECC. The decision to rename the strategy was taken by ECC Political Leadership Team as they wanted the title to provide more clarity of what the strategy covered	Page 20	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jayne Rogers & Rich Cooke, Essex County Council	Survey response	14-Jul-20	Blue Infrastructure – paragraph 2.33 – it is recommended to make clear that the preferred approach to flood risk management schemes is naturalised solutions	Page 28	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this helpful suggestion.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jayne Rogers & Rich Cooke, Essex County Council	Survey response	14-Jul-20	It is suggested that it would be helpful to consider the use of digital interpretation (i.e. a mobile app) as an alternative option for strategic sites with a trail, site and biodiversity information, and advice (e.g. Bird Aware etc).	Page 36	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this. A specific opportunity to develop this has been identified in Part 4 of the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jayne Rogers & Rich Cooke, Essex County Council	Survey response	14-Jul-20	ECC comments on the initial draft recommended a fuller review and link / coverage to other relevant strategies – some of this is evident (e.g. the Thames River Basin District Flood Risk Management Plan) but others are still absent, e.g. those developed for the Lee Valley Regional Park; Garden Town documents (such as the Vision etc.). There may also be strategy related documents for the River Stort valley area. The relationship with the GI work for South Essex is also worth consideration in this context		The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	John Warren	Survey response	14-Jul-20	The Vision and Objectives for this Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy should have been fully integrated with Air Quality and Atmospheric Pollution and especially the impact of Nitrogen Dioxide and Particulate Matter from vehicles on Epping Forest SAC	Vision & Objectives	This is a matter for the emerging Local Plan and the Council's adopted Interim Air Pollution Mitigation Strategy which has now been referred to in the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	John Warren	Survey response	14-Jul-20	You have clearly not demonstrated a Multi-functional approach to the provision of SANGS but have instead largely designated their usage for dog walkers and as alternative dog toilets away from Epping Forest		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	John Warren	Survey response	14-Jul-20	Horse riders have to pay to use the Forest and I think that should also apply to dog walkers		This is a matter for the Conservators of Epping Forest. The Council will inform them of the suggestion.
Draft v2 - June 2020	John Warren	Survey response	14-Jul-20	Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement? No - Wary of land owners offering new sites for SANGS along with enabling housing development to offset the cost of giving up their land to create a SANG. Also, any SANG near a railway station or transport hub should not have a car park, as it will become popular with commuters for free or subsidised parking		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	John Warren	Survey response	14-Jul-20	Would like to see recognition of the role that back gardens play in towns and villages in providing continuous strips of green corridors which network together and provide wildlife corridors linking together built up areas with the open countryside		The Strategy has been amended to reflect this helpful suggestion.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	1.26 Car parking charges – It would be nice to see here a more thoughtful consideration of the various possibilities and a commitment to an overall reduction of vehicle traffic and air pollution	Section 2	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	2.3 "Further development will increase harm to the Epping Forest SAC if a suitable range of mitigation measures are not identified and implemented." insert full stop after "SAC".	Section 2	As SAC is an acronym rather than an abbreviation a full stop would be incorrect.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	2.4 It's all very well raising the questions, what about providing some answers?	Section 2	The Strategy identifies the ways that these questions will be answered.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	2.6 Is this analysis aiming to provide cover for further development? Who says that the "minimum" is in fact acceptable? Why is it apparently wrong to be 18 times over some arbitrary minimum. when we have a truly exceptional situation?	Section 2	This is a statement of fact.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	2.12 suggest making a commitment that the "significant physical barriers" will be removed by specific dates	Section 2	This relates to strategic road and rail infrastructure and therefore it is not possible to remove them.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	2.17 What will be done about this?	Section 2	The Strategy identifies ways of responding to the climate crisis.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	2.41 & 2.42 Vision and objectives – too generalised and open to interpretation. Suggest identifying specific locations in the district where these objectives will be applied	Section 2	This level of specificity is not appropriate for what are high-level objectives. However, they have been amended to make it clearer as to how they will be achieved.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	No striking aim or vision in the document. Suggest a commitment that there will be no more development in the Green Belt or that there will be no further development within x miles of the Epping Forest boundaries	Vision & Objectives	This is not a matter for the GI Strategy.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Para 1.19 "It is therefore imperative that the emerging Local Plan ensures that such pressures are avoided or mitigated so that new development does not cause harm to the integrity of the Epping Forest SAC." – where does the Local Plan actually do this? What are the examples? Specify the relevant actions defined in the Local Plan.	Vision & Objectives	This is provided for through Policy DM2 and site specific policies contained within the emerging Local Plan.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Meeting the minimum requirement or some arbitrary national benchmark is not an acceptable target.	Vision & Objectives	These are nationally accepted standards based on thorough research and are used by many local authorities as being appropriate to identify the quantity and quality of Green Infrastructure needed to support local communities.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	We have identified a number of themes for projects which could be carried out across different parts of the District. Do you think that we have identified the right themes? No - numbers refer to the relevant paragraphs in Appendix 4 Sites for Enhancement		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	P101: "projects that should be brought forward" should read "will be brought forward"?	Page 101	These sites were identified by residents in response to the Epping Forest Visitor Survey and the Council was seeking views on their appropriateness for enhancement.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	"Potential enhancements and matters to be considered:" shows no commitment	Para 1.7, 1.9, etc.	This reflects the site-specific characteristics that any scheme would need to respond to. See also the overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	EFDC tried to implement major development on Jessel Green, which tests the credibility of the list.		Jessel Green was included as it had been suggested by residents as an alternative space to Epping Forest in response to the Epping Forest Visitors Survey 2019.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	What about the provision of new green sites, outside the Masterplan areas, not just "enhancements"?		See the overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	"types of projects that could be delivered" shows no commitment	Appendix 1	The Strategy identifies a range of projects but makes it clear that the Council is keen for local communities to identify where these projects could take place.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Limited ambition. A short list which ducks completely some of the fundamental issues such as traffic, pollution, public transport, commuting	Appendix 1	These are not matters for the GI Strategy but rather the Council's emerging Local Plan.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	The GI strategy is so vague that there seems little point recommending specific locations at this stage		The Strategy identifies a range of projects but makes it clear that the Council is keen for local communities to identify where these projects could take place.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Section 4 - South Epping - This section falls down when it comes to the future and what will actually be done, with big issues ducked	Appendix 2	The Strategy provides an appropriate level of detail and needs to be considered alongside the site-specific requirements set out in the Council's emerging Local Plan.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Fail to see what there is to visit in the South Epping Masterplan Area, and we do not see Copped Hall Park as an alternative to Epping Forest	Appendix 2	The South of Epping Masterplan Area has been included as it is a Strategic Masterplan site rather than a green infrastructure asset. See also the overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Strategic Allocations - Some key issues are avoided, notably the impact of significantly increased road traffic inevitably generated by the masterplan areas	Appendix 2	This is not a matter for the GI Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Fundamental conflict between the housing developments envisaged in the Local Plan and the Green Infrastructure Strategy		This is not a matter for the GI Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	"It is important that... we recognise the importance of... should be brought forward... opportunities... possibilities..." etc. these words do not convince – there needs to be a concrete demonstration, with examples and evidence, as to how the Local Plan developments will respect and further the green ambitions		See responses above.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	The document should specify what powers EFDC has, and how it intends to use them, as well as how it will use its position to obtain concrete results. It should also list concrete measures of future success		Where appropriate this is set out in the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	The document needs to have an Action Plan, focused on major issues, with specific, quantified commitments, and with timetable and deadlines		The Strategy has been amended to include further information on implementation where appropriate.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	A drastic shortening and sharpening of the entire document required – suggest reducing its length by 50% and cutting out the consultants' section – for example most of Section 3		The Strategy has been amended in order to respond to this concern whilst recognising that it is important to retain information in relation to the requirements for development sites.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Geoffrey & Elizabeth King	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Need to introduce accountability		The Strategy identifies who will deliver Green Infrastructure enhancements and new provision where appropriate.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Would be helpful to have a list of the Green Infrastructure assets in the District or, at least, the respective categories in which these are included	Section 2	The Strategy has been revised to make this cleared and links provided to the detailed assessments that have been undertaken on a parish by parish basis.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	2.1 and 2.2 – the extent to which access to these landscape features is provided by virtue of the public, and permissive, rights of way, which are a key part of the existing Green Infrastructure network is not quantified	Section 2	As this is a high level assessment this level of detail would not be appropriate. However, a link to Essex County Council's Public Rights of Way Interactive map has now been provided to enable readers to access this more detailed information.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Little said with respect to those areas which are not specifically designated but which are preserved, in the natural landscape, by the provisions of Green Belt Policy	Section 2	Green Belt is a policy protection rather than an indication of environmental quality.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	2.10 and 'Movement' reference is made to "a series of shorter trails (which are) promoted by the Council's Country Care team and local organisations and groups including Parish and Town Councils and Local Access Forums". Notably, these also include the 'Oak Trail', which is the only waymarked trail within Epping Forest District promoted by the City of London	Section 2	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	The Vision and Objectives were broadly supported but the specific reference to 'multi-functional' spaces is qualified by the answer given to the question below	Page 30	Comment noted. See response to Comment 564 below.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	The 'Zones of Influence', with respect to Recreational Pressure, are not explained in detail in the Strategy	Page 30	The Strategy has been amended to address this.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Many green areas within a settlement are primarily intended for one specific use – it may not be possible, or appropriate, to try to extend their facilities to other users	Multi-functional Approach	The Strategy makes it clear that the multi-functional approach will not be appropriate in all cases.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Paths used by both cyclists and pedestrians can be difficult to navigate and the two uses may not mix well.	Multi-functional Approach	The Strategy reflects Essex County Council's preferred approach. The Strategy makes it clear that such networks will need to be designed so that they are safe for all users.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Areas intended for dog-walkers may not be suitable for such a multi-functional use within them	Multi-functional Approach	The Strategy makes it clear that spaces should be designed to accommodate different users without causing conflict and the approach may not be appropriate in all cases.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Some disagreement with the suggestion which implies that the PRoW network could facilitate cyclists	Multi-functional Approach	See response to Comment 561.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Consideration could be given to the possibility of creating a wider Green Infrastructure network, which may include facilitating access routes through SANG, by linking public footpaths between the respective areas and, in some cases, between settlements	Multi-functional Approach	The Strategy encourages this approach.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Cycle ways are likely to remain a separate provision, and the surfacing of such paths would come at a greater expense than simply the maintenance (presently by Essex County Council) of the existing PRoW network	Multi-functional Approach	Comment noted. Investment in improved surfaces will be sought where appropriate to support the delivery of enhancements. The Strategy identifies a range of potential funding sources.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	It would be helpful to encourage landowners, who still farm their land, to cut access routes for walkers through crops to avoid damage	Multi-functional Approach	The Strategy supports this approach.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	No details in the Strategy of how, or where, the Buffer Lands provision could be made	Multi-functional Approach	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Tree Planting - A Call for Sites - As suggested at EFDC's 2nd Green Infrastructure Workshop (held on 2nd July 2020) of further planting of street trees along the grass verges, and in the small green areas, within the established urban areas on both sides of our Village Green - suggest a match-funding scheme to assist with the finance of such a project	Appendix 1	This helpful suggestion will be explored further.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Tree Planting - A Call for Sites - The verge trees, which add to the greening of the local environs, are much appreciated by residents, as is the dedicated input from the local Tree Wardens	Appendix 1	Comment noted and welcomed.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of Epping Forest? With respect to the provision of SANG, Visitor Centres were felt to be inappropriate, in preference to small-scale facilities (such as a Tea Hut). Any signage in such areas should be made of natural materials and have only a low-key impact		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of Epping Forest? New SANG could include woodland areas (as this provides part of the main attraction of Epping Forest), shelterbelt planting or hedgerows, and possibly wetlands		The Strategy supports this approach.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of Epping Forest? Better signage and demarcation of footpaths, particularly when these cross wide open spaces and farmland		Comment noted. This approach is encouraged in the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of Epping Forest? Provision should be made to retain the 'Oak Trail' within the 'Landscape Framework'		The Strategy seeks the enhancement of routes not their removal.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of Epping Forest? Concerns raised that the quality of the tracks for horse-riding has depreciated in recent years, including the Bobby Stones Wood Chip Track in Lippitts Hill, High Beech, which has not been resurfaced in recent years		This is a matter for the Conservators of Epping Forest.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of Epping Forest? Provisions need to be made to deter users from littering (discreetly-placed dog waste bins, and litter bins, may need to be provided (and maintained) in order to encourage a more positive approach to the countryside)		Comments noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of Epping Forest? Measures should be incorporated to make any new Parkland easier to access for parents with prams and those in wheelchairs, especially in areas of managed green space, where solid pathways should be included.		Comments noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement? Rather than 'enhancement', it was felt that the key objective of the Green Infrastructure Strategy should be to retain and preserve the existing Green Infrastructure, and to provide extra protection, where necessary		The Strategy, together with policies within the Council's emerging Local Plan, provide for the protection and retention of existing assets. Enhancements will be sought where it would be of beneficial.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	No map is presently provided in the Appendices for the South Epping Masterplan site, so it is difficult to evaluate how the existing green infrastructure will be integrated into the new development and its respective SANG		Mapping specific to each Strategic Masterplan Area has now been provided.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Concerns raised that SAMMS (only briefly alluded to in the new Strategy), and any funding provided for such, could be utilised to restrict access to Epping Forest		Further information on SAMMS has been included. SAMMS relates to investment within the SAC to manage increased visitor pressure. Public access to the Forest is established through Acts of Parliament and its management is undertaken by the Conservators of Epping Forest and they will inform how best such funding can be spent in the interests of the Forest and its integrity.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Concerns that charging for Forest car parks could be used to deter access, whilst the recent implementation of a Temporary Transport Regulation Order, which has introduced red lines on roads around High Beech, is known to have led to some debate as to whether this will lead to long term measures to further restrict		See overarching SANG response.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Concerns raised over the funding of new SANGs, and the long-term stewardship of such, with questions raised as to whether some of the larger sites suggested by EFDC (Warlies Park and Copped Hall Park) would be willing to participate in the scheme		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Unclear how S106 agreements could be used to secure such funding and whether this would be directed toward the provision of on-site, or off-site, SANG.		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	How would SANGs be protected 'in perpetuity', and what period of time would be anticipated as being 'in perpetuity'? What provisions would be made to ensure that such areas were not built over during later plan periods?		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Unclear what scale of SANG is anticipated. Whilst Masterplan sites may provide SANG on-site, it is less clear how any off-site provision could be met		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Theydon Bois Parish Council	Survey response	16-Jul-20	SANG should be close to an existing settlement and visitors should not be reliant on car travel, especially if this requires driving along roads within the Epping Forest SAC. How could ease of access be secured for the less-able?		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	M Scott Property	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Concerned that specific opportunities for local doorstep-accessible open spaces should be recognised in the Strategy, with specific regard to an opportunity within Chigwell		The Strategy identifies such opportunities as a general principle.
Draft v2 - June 2020	M Scott Property	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	The Chigwell Garden Centre site can provide a multi-functional area of public open space to benefit existing and future residents		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	M Scott Property	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	Concerned that the Strategy is heavily reliant on the four strategic sites to deliver all the District's green infrastructure requirements		The Council considers that this is not the case: The Strategy, together with the implementation of the policies in the emerging Local Plan, including the identified site-specific requirements, sets out that new provision will be required as part of all new development.
Draft v2 - June 2020	M Scott Property	Feedback on the document	16-Jul-20	In relation to proposed SANGs – more opportunities should be explored in the other settlements within the District, to provide 'door-stop accessible' open space and ensure that communities outside of the strategic locations are not disadvantaged by having to travel by car to access GI		See overarching SANG response. See also response to Comment 586.
Draft v2 - June 2020	M Scott Property	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Does not highlight the deficit of open space within the District, nor on a settlement level in the same detail as within the Open Space Strategy (2017) (EB703)	Section 2	See response to Comment 596 below.
Draft v2 - June 2020	M Scott Property	Survey response	16-Jul-20	The importance of identifying opportunities for additional provision of open space within the settlements with an under-provision has been overlooked	Section 2	The application of the Council's Local Plan policies, supported by this Strategy, will ensure the provision of new GI in relation to new development.
Draft v2 - June 2020	M Scott Property	Survey response	16-Jul-20	The Strategy should be read in conjunction with the Open Space Strategy (2017) (EB703), which provides a quantitative and qualitative analysis of the open space provision within each settlement of the District	Section 2	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this helpful suggestion.
Draft v2 - June 2020	M Scott Property	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Do not consider this will be achievable in its current form	Vision & Objectives	The Council considers that the Strategy, together with the implementation of the policies in the emerging Local Plan will support the achievement of the Vision and Objectives.
Draft v2 - June 2020	M Scott Property	Survey response	16-Jul-20	To achieve the Vision, the Strategy should seek to identify additional opportunities for GI within the District to provide communities with readily accessible areas without having to use the car	Vision & Objectives	See response to Comment 591 and 593.
Draft v2 - June 2020	M Scott Property	Survey response	16-Jul-20	To be well-connected in accordance with the Vision, these would need to be provided across the District and not focused solely in the four strategic allocations	Vision & Objectives	The Strategy supports this approach.
Draft v2 - June 2020	M Scott Property	Survey response	16-Jul-20	There is no commitment to seeking opportunities for additional provision, despite this being an important element of the Strategy – additional 'door-step accessible' open space should form part of the Strategy in light of the significant other benefits this could provide to the District	Vision & Objectives	See response to Comment 588.
Draft v2 - June 2020	M Scott Property	Survey response	16-Jul-20	We agree with the multi-functional approach but believe the four strategic locations should not be the only locations within the District considered capable of providing this – the Strategy expects a considerable level of GI at these locations, with less focus on other settlements within the District.	Multi-functional Approach	The Strategy identifies this as a general principle to be applied across the District not just within the Strategic Allocations.
Draft v2 - June 2020	M Scott Property	Survey response	16-Jul-20	The plan of the District in Appendix 2 of the Strategy shows the location of the four strategic allocations and existing areas of natural green space relative to the District as a whole. These are predominantly focused in the centre and the west of the District, leaving the North, east and south comparatively lacking	Multi-functional Approach	This is because much of the development proposed for allocation in the emerging Local Plan is located in these areas.
Draft v2 - June 2020	M Scott Property	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Identifying additional, second tier sites for recreational use has been missed	Appendix 1	The Council considers that an appropriate and deliverable range of projects have been identified.

Draft v2 - June 2020	M Scott Property	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Do not feel this is conducive to the Council's aspirations to deliver multi-functional space, as set out in Section 3 of the Strategy	Appendix 1	These are specific community based projects to enhance or add to existing Green Infrastructure as part of a package of approaches. Multi-functional spaces are not intended to be the only component of the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	M Scott Property	Survey response	16-Jul-20	The project pages do not cover the breadth of the Council's aspirations and we question how these will be delivered and thus how the Vision of the Strategy will be achieved.	Appendix 1	See response to Comment 600. A range of funding sources have been identified within the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	M Scott Property	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Identification of suitable additional sites should be explored as part of the Strategy	Appendix 1	See response to Comment 588 and 591 above.
Draft v2 - June 2020	M Scott Property	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects could happen? The land to the North of Chigwell Garden Centre amounts to approximately 2.7ha of existing private amenity space that could be transformed into a multi-functional space for the benefit of existing and future residents, of all ages		Comment noted and can be considered as part of bringing forward the site
Draft v2 - June 2020	M Scott Property	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects could happen? The redevelopment of Chigwell Garden Centre through the provision of a care home and a maximum of 65 dwellings as part of CHIG.R5 provides the potential deliver a sizeable area of multi-functional open space, which is 'door-step accessible'		Comment noted and can be considered as part of bringing forward the site
Draft v2 - June 2020	Anne Grigg	Survey response	17-Jul-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages (see Appendix 1)? Roadside wildflowers – agree cutting regimes should be relaxed and publicity to be given as to the reason		Comments noted and welcomed.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Anne Grigg	Survey response	17-Jul-20	Do you know any specific locations where you think these projects could happen? Improvements to relief area at North Weald Memorial Playing Fields		Comment noted. This will be considered further when assessing the community based projects in consultation with North Weald Bassett Parish Council.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Anne Grigg	Survey response	17-Jul-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Wildflowers – orchids etc., tree planting, brook, pathways occasional benches		Comments noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Anne Grigg	Survey response	17-Jul-20	Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement? Flood relief scheme Church Lane area		Comment noted. This helpful suggestion will be considered further when assessing the community based projects.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Anne Grigg	Survey response	17-Jul-20	Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement? North Weald Bassett site identified for housing etc. off Vicarage Lane West		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Anne Grigg	Feedback on the document	17-Jul-20	Action to implement schemes required		The Strategy identifies how these schemes will be implemented.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North West Epping Residents Group	Survey response	17-Jul-20	No evidence in support of the assertions made in the latter part of paragraph 2.10, anecdotal evidence points to the contrary.	Page 25	A range of organisations promote walks including, for example the West Essex Ramblers, North Weald Bassett Parish Council and Buckhurst Hill Residents Association.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North West Epping Residents Group	Survey response	17-Jul-20	Serious concerns about the section on blue infrastructure, specifically paras 2.28 to 2.35 - limited and ill-informed assessments were relied upon for the Local Plan and has repeated itself for this document	Page 28	This section provides an overview and links have now been provided to a range of detailed documents relevant to the Blue Infrastructure assets within the District. The emerging Local Plan has been developed using a robust evidence base which has been reviewed as acceptable by both the Environment Agency and the Local Plan Inspector.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North West Epping Residents Group	Survey response	17-Jul-20	The wording "stuck in the craw" - comes across pompous and condescending	Vision & Objectives	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North West Epping Residents Group	Survey response	17-Jul-20	The utilisation of the reinvigorated Green & Blue infrastructure might be enhanced by engagement with the people, particularly if they enjoy a sense of ownership with the end to initiative, strategy and process	Vision & Objectives	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North West Epping Residents Group	Survey response	17-Jul-20	This whole section (or at least pages 32 to 47) which appears to be the creation of different author to other sections, could benefit from peer review or external benchmarking	Multi-functional Approach	Comment noted. The Strategy has been externally reviewed by the Council's Quality Review Panel and amendments have been made to the Strategy in order to address these concerns.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North West Epping Residents Group	Survey response	17-Jul-20	Suggest this section is subject to an independent review/brainstorming and structural refinement before publication. It feels very much "constructed" and captured ecologically woke language. The "themes" don't work and might be more powerful if crafted in a different way	Section 3	See response to Comment 615.

Draft v2 - June 2020	North West Epping Residents Group	Survey response	17-Jul-20	Nervous about the potential over-zealous application of S106 funding mechanisms and the employment of "design experts". Would feel more comfortable if an external QS project manager was engaged to oversee implementation and specifically the appointment of specialist consultants	Project Pages	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North West Epping Residents Group	Survey response	17-Jul-20	The locations and proposals described are impressive and it is easily to say we would want to visit them. But in reality consumer inertia tends to dictate these things and is only broken with repeated communications, information, invitations and reaching out to engage with people individually.	Project Pages	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North West Epping Residents Group	Survey response	17-Jul-20	The issue of trust between the Council and residents on 'consultation feedback' following the Local Plan consultation has markedly inhibited the residents' participation in this survey		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	North West Epping Residents Group	Survey response	17-Jul-20	Issues around the structure, purpose and intent of the survey - constrained format and self-limiting questions		The survey included opportunities to provide more information and the consultation did not preclude the opportunity to submit comments in other forms.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Ambrose Murphy	Survey response	05-Jun-20	Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy? No. The local plan itself is wrongheaded. 11,000 new houses will overwhelm existing infrastructure. The central line is at capacity. roads are constrained by the forest, traffic (pre-virus) and air quality are already serious problems. tinkering with green spaces in and among unsustainable development is not "strategic" - it's just wrong.	Vision & Objectives	This is not a matter for the GI Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Ambrose Murphy	Survey response	05-Jun-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages? Concerns around Epping south and North weald.	Appendix 1	The identification of these sites is not a matter for the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Ambrose Murphy	Survey response	05-Jun-20	Need to reduce the amount of development in the local plan and do no development without addressing infrastructure, access, air quality and traffic.	Further Comments	This is not a matter for the GI Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Kim Sharpington	Survey response	05-Jun-20	Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects [see project pages] could happen? There should be a corridor maintained from London Lea Valley through to north weald and onwards to dunmow/Stansted.	Appendix 1	The Strategy encourages the creation of enhanced links of both a local and strategic nature.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Kim Sharpington	Survey response	05-Jun-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Flat pathways, ponds, tearoom		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Kim Sharpington	Survey response	05-Jun-20	Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement? Disused North Weald Golf Course	Appendix 4	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sandra Dear	Survey response	05-Jun-20	Do you agree that we have included all of the GI assets within the District and assessed them correctly in Section 2? No - The former Leca Site, Mill Lane, High Ongar. After the extraction finished, it became a landfill site with the promise to be developed into a country park. It could be a real asset to the people of Ongar & District. We are surrounded by farmland but limited access for leisure purposes. The Leca site does have a footpath but again very limited access and no parking for visitors off Mill Lane. Before the landfill the quarry filled with water and a lake was forming, another lost opportunity.	Section 2	The Council will explore the remediation requirements for this site with Essex County Council as the Minerals and Waste Authority.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sandra Dear	Survey response	05-Jun-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages? Perhaps more emphasis on providing cycle paths and to attract family use playgrounds with climbing frames etc which blend in with the countryside	Appendix 1	The Strategy supports this approach.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sandra Dear	Survey response	05-Jun-20	Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects [Project Pages] could happen? As previously mentioned the Leca Site on Mill Lane, High Ongar is an untapped resource.	Appendix 1	See response to 627.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sandra Dear	Survey response	05-Jun-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Availability of Car Parks or frequent bus routes. Also toilet facilities.		Comment noted. See also overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sandra Dear	Survey response	05-Jun-20	Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement? Leca site - former clay extraction site, subsequently landfilled. Mill Lane, High Ongar.	Appendix 4	See response to Comment 627.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sandra Dear	Survey response	05-Jun-20	Very keen to see the improvement of countryside for public community use but I doubt this will happen in my lifetime.	Further Comments	Comment noted.

Draft v2 - June 2020	David Hyder	Survey response	05-Jun-20	Do you agree that we have included all of the GI assets within the District and assessed them correctly in Section 2? No - Lots of farmed green areas and the golf course north of north weald	Section 2	Links to the Council's Landscape Character Assessment and detailed parish by parish assessment of assets have been included. See also overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Hyder	Survey response	05-Jun-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages (see Appendix 1)? Nothing aimed at cutting down traffic which is a huge item on green spaces	Appendix 1	This is not a matter for the GI Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Hyder	Survey response	05-Jun-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? By not building on them - they are already green spaces - the council is just trying to give the okay to building on these sites!		This is not a matter for the GI Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Hyder	Survey response	05-Jun-20	Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement? The Golf course at North weald (although earmarked for development)	Appendix 4	See overarching SANG response. The Golf Course is not a site proposed for allocation in the emerging Local Plan
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Hyder	Survey response	05-Jun-20	The entire document seems to have been produced to whitewash over areas the council wants to build on. These sites are already green, and do not warrant some faux greening efforts in which to blind people to believing these will be in any way green.	Further Comments	The Strategy is intended, in part, to provide further guidance for developers to ensure that new GI provision and/or enhancements are maximised as part of new development schemes.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Paul Morris	Survey response	05-Jun-20	Do you agree that we have included all of the GI assets within the District and assessed them correctly in Section 2? No - The section looks to mislead by stating we have over 18 times the level of green space partly because of Epping Forest. Epping Forest is being used for the same provision by London boroughs and has bye law restrictions that means the actual aspect and provisions are different between council and forest land.	Section 2	This is a statement of fact. Parts of the Forest are located within the adjoining London Boroughs. As evidenced in the Epping Forest Visitor Surveys undertaken in 2017 and 2019 some residents from Epping Forest District use parts of the Forest located within those London Boroughs.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Paul Morris	Survey response	05-Jun-20	Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy? No - The vision doesn't allow for a sudden dramatic change in people's habits	Vision & Objectives	The Council considers that the Vision provides sufficient flexibility to respond to changing circumstances.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Paul Morris	Survey response	05-Jun-20	Do you agree with the multi-functional approach? No - Multi function in practice means not quite suitable for any one specific - This is not working in Epping Forest and shouldn't be duplicated as a suitable provision.	Multi-functional Approach	The Strategy makes it clear that a multi-functional approach will not be appropriate in all cases.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Paul Morris	Survey response	05-Jun-20	Do you think that we have identified the right themes? No - Themes have changed since last year		It is not clear what this comment relates to as there has been no draft of the Strategy published in 2019.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Paul Morris	Survey response	05-Jun-20	Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects [projects pages] could happen? Loughton - Alderton ward specifically has had absolutely no investment for decades on play are provisions and the only swing is tucked away in an inaccessible part of the ward for the majority of people. The only accessible green space for the vast majority of the ward has just been allocated for building so it's obvious this report is not working in tandem with development	Appendix 1	The Strategy now includes proposals to enhance the Roding Valley Playing Fields which adjoin Alderton Ward.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Paul Morris	Survey response	05-Jun-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Are you saying that the district council is trying to draw people away from using the forest?		Yes. See also overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Paul Morris	Survey response	05-Jun-20	If you do live near [the sites shown as a 'Strategic Allocation' or a 'Site for Enhancement'] would you be likely to visit any of these sites instead of the Epping Forest? No - It's highly unlikely that you would be able to provide the unique character of an ancient woodland which is the attraction of Epping forest	Appendix 2/ Appendix 4	Comment noted. It is not intended to replicate the unique character of the Forest but rather create large areas of space which have a more natural character.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Paul Morris	Survey response	05-Jun-20	Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement? Borders Lane college field - rather than putting houses on it		This is not a matter for the GI Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Paul Morris	Survey response	05-Jun-20	The document seems to be somewhat outdated and heavily loaded to creating the desired response from the consultation	Further Comments	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Carol Pummell	Survey response	05-Jun-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? None - Epping Forest should remain untouched. I use it for horse riding any new spaces would not be of any use to me	Project Pages	Comment noted. The Strategy is not proposing to make any changes to the Forest.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Hellen Blackwell	Survey response	06-Jun-20	<p>Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages?</p> <p>Bike riding along Epping New road. Many hundreds of cyclists now use this road. Imperative to build a proper dedicated cycle lane which links up with cycle loops of Waltham Forest etc.</p>	Appendix 1	The Council will explore this with Essex County Council in relation to wider transport initiatives. See also overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Hellen Blackwell	Survey response	06-Jun-20	<p>If you do live near [the sites shown as a 'Strategic Allocation' or a 'Site for Enhancement'] would you be likely to visit any of these sites instead of the Epping Forest?</p> <p>No - prefer the forest. Increasingly wary of large numbers of uncontrollable dogs of which there has been a huge increase in ownership in the area</p>		Comments noted. The issue in relation to dogs will be raised with the Conservators of Epping Forest.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Hellen Blackwell	Survey response	06-Jun-20	The strategy is very ambitious and has a good vision. I just wonder who and how this is going to be funded !	Further Comments	Comments noted and welcomed. A range of funding sources have been identified in the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Janis Halford	Survey response	07-Jun-20	<p>Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy?</p> <p>No - Found the document very difficult to read. A lot of it referred to Harlow, which as far as I know it is not part of the Epping forest district.</p> <p>Prefer the outside spaces to be natural - you refer to man made sculptures - no thank you!</p> <p>You cite the Olympic Park at Stratford, which personally I was very disappointed with as too much concrete.</p> <p>Nothing said about provision for crossing busy roads when walking in the forest - I do long walks in the forest, which necessitate crossing busy roads, some traffic islands or pedestrian crossings at key points i.e. Lincolns Lane/Gas Ride - Fairmeads (Epping New Rd); Mount Pleasant (Epping New Rd); Broadstrood (Goldings Hill); Jacks Hill/Long Running (Coppice Row); Woodriden Hill; Ambresbury Bank (Epping New Rd). These are very dangerous for pedestrians and a lot of people need to cross at these points</p>		The Strategy has been amended in order to address such concerns. The helpful suggestions in relation to pedestrian crossing points will be explored further with Essex County Council as the Highway Authority.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Janis Halford	Survey response	07-Jun-20	<p>Do you agree with the multi-functional approach?</p> <p>I do not agree with building on any of the green spaces in the area. This area is already over populated</p>		This is not a matter for the GI Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Janis Halford	Survey response	07-Jun-20	<p>Do you think that we have identified the right themes?</p> <p>No - cannot fathom what you are planning to do as the document is difficult to follow.</p> <p>Suggest a summary with bullet points. Most people do not have the time to read through 100 plus pages, most of which does not appear to relate to Epping Forest district.</p>		The Strategy has been amended in order to address such concerns.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Janis Halford	Survey response	07-Jun-20	<p>What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest?</p> <p>Ability to do long walks (10 miles+) without having to walk through streets. Most of these walks seem very short.</p>		Comment noted. The Strategy supports the creation of longer distance walks.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Alan Fricker	Survey response	11-Jun-20	<p>Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages?</p> <p>Needs more on promoting cycling / walking over car use. Excess traffic is one of the major issues impacting all areas of this strategy. Sign posting is not enough without better cycling facilities.</p>	Appendix 1	Both the Strategy and the Council's emerging Local Plan support increasing walking and cycling opportunities.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Alan Fricker	Survey response	11-Jun-20	<p>What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest?</p> <p>Roding Valley Meadows is already heavily used (increasingly so during Covid) and needs to balance protection for what the strategy recognises is a unique environment. If there are to be SANGs then they should encompass new land - protecting more and enhancing it. The Roding Meadows mentions public toilets - not sure where these are - certainly not on the Loughton side of the Roding. Having said that - there should be better provision for young people. The outdoor gym / table tennis have been good enhancements but there should be a suitable space for skating / rollerblading / bmx. This would also reduce abuse of the banks in the forest. An area that could be enhanced is the section from the bank of England print works towards theydon. This is relatively little used. The old bank of England Social club land could be a real example of land being made into a SANG</p>	Appendix 1	The Strategy now includes a specific project to enhance the Roding Valley Playing Fields. See also overarching SANG response. The toilets are provided as part of the facilities at the Roding Valley Meadows Nature Reserve.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Alan Fricker	Survey response	11-Jun-20	<p>If you do live near [a strategic allocation or site for enhancement] would you be likely to visit any of these sites instead of the Epping Forest?</p> <p>The forest is a completely different environment. I use green spaces all around me. I mostly use the meadows for exercise and short local walks. I use the forest for exercise and longer walks. I also visit some of the things in the forest. As a rule I try not to drive to the forest so this means I don't use it in the way some might if they drive places as a matter of course</p>		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Alan Fricker	Survey response	11-Jun-20	<p>Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement?</p> <p>Why not the old Bank of England Social Club? Why not unlock / make public the private land around twin lakes in Buckhurst Hill? I would do away with at least one of the local golf courses in favour of something more open to the public / multiuse and environmentally diverse</p>		See overarching SANG response.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Alan Fricker	Survey response	11-Jun-20	We need to have better designed towns in our district to reduce car traffic. There should be a shift to prioritising cycling, pedestrians and public shared vehicles	Further Comments	This is not a matter for the GI Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Laura Anderson	Survey response	11-Jun-20	Do you agree that we have included all of the GI assets within the District and assessed them correctly in Section 2? The residential "greens" in Debden need to be protected and given village green status. The plans to develop Jessel Green were appalling and should never have been entertained. These spaces are hugely valued and need to be protected.	Section 2	This is not a matter for the GI Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Laura Anderson	Survey response	11-Jun-20	Do you agree with the Vision & Objectives within the Strategy? Yes but they shouldn't start and stop with this plan. It feels like every bit of land is being put forward for development currently. It's unsustainable and is creating more of the pollution etc that this plan is trying to counterbalance. As well as enhancing green spaces, it would be great to have a network of cycle lanes in the district to get people out of cars thus improving air quality.	Vision & Objectives	The Vision has been amended to reflect this comment. The Strategy supports the enhancement of the District's walking and cycling network.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Laura Anderson	Survey response	11-Jun-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages? None of the main projects are located in Debden - would like to see/discuss how some of the ideas outlined could be implemented on a smaller scale around the area I live. The Borders Lane site in Debden which is under threat from development could be used in a much more forward thinking way - it is next to Epping Forest College - why not develop the space in a way similar to Organiclea in Chingford (a community growing project). The college could offer horticulture classes/apprenticeships from the site. It creates local organic food growing schemes and makes the area a place to visit rather than pass through.	Appendix 1	Two projects have now been identified which are located in close proximity to Debden. See also the overarching SANG response. The use of the Borders Lane site for housing is not a matter for the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Laura Anderson	Survey response	11-Jun-20	Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects [project pages] could happen? Ditch the Borders Lane housing development - make a community green space here instead	Project Pages	This is not a matter for the GI Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Laura Anderson	Survey response	11-Jun-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Epping Forest is unrivalled in the area due to its vastness and natural beauty - as long as people can use these spaces as a way to immerse themselves in nature they will be a success.		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Laura Anderson	Survey response	11-Jun-20	Suggest the council has to rethink a great deal of its environmental policy overall as while the green spaces are excellent, they are pretty plaster over a bigger problem.	Further Comments	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Gascoigne	Survey response	12-Jun-20	Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy? No - You should not be building on green spaces just to meet central government targets - you do have enough brown field sites.	Vision & Objectives	This is not a matter for the GI Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Gascoigne	Survey response	12-Jun-20	Do you agree with the multi-functional approach? No - It is double speak for reducing the number and saving costs		Comment noted. The Council considers that the Strategy takes an appropriate approach to securing funding for projects and ensuring the efficient and effective use of public money.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Gascoigne	Survey response	12-Jun-20	Do you think that we have identified the right themes? No - For a review to be effective you need to safeguard existing resources and only consider additional ones.		The Strategy supports this approach.
Draft v2 - June 2020	David Gascoigne	Survey response	12-Jun-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Not publicising them so that they are not overwhelmed		The Council recognises that a balance needs to be achieved between ensuring that local residents are aware of opportunities in their area without those areas becoming overused.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Chris Pond	Survey response	13-Jun-20	Do you agree with the multi-functional approach? No - The strategy is not multi functional. Whole swathes of the District are ignored	Multi-functional Approach	The principles set out in the Strategy apply across the District. The provision of multi-functional spaces is one specific component of the Strategy, rather than the only one.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Chris Pond	Survey response	13-Jun-20	Do you think that we have identified the right themes? No - The specific theme of preserving and enhancing GI in Loughton and Buckhurst Hill is ignored. The whole theme of improving heritage assets is not covered. The topic of EFDC ruining GI by its allocated sites in LPSV needs exhaustive study		The Strategy has been amended and now includes specific projects within the Loughton and Buckhurst Hill areas and greater reference to the need to improve the setting of heritage assets and access to them where appropriate.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Chris Pond	Survey response	13-Jun-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages? They are not District wide	Appendix 1	These projects are intended to be implementable in suitable locations across the District
Draft v2 - June 2020	Chris Pond	Survey response	13-Jun-20	Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects could happen? Luctons Field needs to be withdrawn from LPSV and its benefit over the whole 11 acres recognised. There is no mention of enhancing the Forest-edge environment	Appendix 1	This is not a matter for the GI Strategy.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Chris Pond	Survey response	13-Jun-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Not being built on		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Chris Pond	Survey response	13-Jun-20	Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement? Luctons Field	Appendix 4	This site is a proposed housing allocation within the emerging Local Plan.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Chris Pond	Survey response	13-Jun-20	Do you have any further comments on the Draft Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy and its supporting appendices? It is a poor piece of work concentrating on only a few sites around strategic allocations	Further Comments	Comment noted. The Strategy seeks to achieve a balance between initiatives that are not related directly to development proposals and maximising opportunities that can be secured as a result of that development.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Christopher Bostock	Survey response	14-Jun-20	Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy? No - Nothing mentioned re for teenagers, kids cannot even train on Stonnards Park, or just turn up and have a match	Vision & Objectives	The Vision and Objectives relate to residents of all ages. Sports pitch provision is covered within the Council's Playing Pitch Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Christopher Bostock	Survey response	14-Jun-20	Do you agree with the multi-functional approach? No - Epping not mentioned	Multi-functional Approach	The multi-functional approach is a District-wide proposition and is therefore applicable to Epping.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Christopher Bostock	Survey response	14-Jun-20	Do you think that we have identified the right themes? No - There is not enough for young kids and teenagers		The Strategy seeks to address this.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Christopher Bostock	Survey response	14-Jun-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages? The area needs a swimming pool, a sports athletic club and lots more sports for young children	Appendix 1	This is not a matter for the GI Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Christopher Bostock	Survey response	14-Jun-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Dog friendly		The guidance on SANG encourages the creation of dog-friendly spaces.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Christopher Bostock	Survey response	14-Jun-20	Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement? Epping Forest, High Beech, Coopersale		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Christopher Bostock	Survey response	14-Jun-20	More Cycling Routes through the Countryside required	Further Comments	The Strategy seeks to achieve this.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Michael Stubbings	Survey response	14-Jun-20	Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy? No - The area is already heavily over developed, Loughton was meant to give space for residents to enjoy, not become an annex to London.	Vision & Objectives	This is not a matter for the GI Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Michael Stubbings	Survey response	14-Jun-20	Do you agree with the multi-functional approach? No - The over development of an area must be taken into account, as this will effect the amenities supplied to residents	Multi-functional Approach	This is not a matter for the GI Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Elke Taylor	Survey response	15-Jun-20	Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects could happen? Jessel Green, Debden	Project Pages	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Elke Taylor	Survey response	15-Jun-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? refreshments, seating, safe play area for children, animals, activities eg. football pitch, basketball court, table tennis, running, gym activities, water activities eg rowing, safe water for dogs, activities for dogs eg agility course, community events		Comment noted. A number of these facilities would not be appropriate to include as part of the provision of SANG.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Elke Taylor	Survey response	15-Jun-20	Dont understand the point destroying green spaces and then put a strategy together to create new ones - protect what we have in the first place. Once they are gone they are gone forever.	Further Comments	This is not a matter for the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Paul Newis	Survey response	16-Jun-20	Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy? No - It involves too much management and not enough natural ecology	Vision & Objectives	The Strategy seeks to achieve a balance between both managed and natural spaces which reflects the broad definition of Green and Blue Infrastructure.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Paul Newis	Survey response	16-Jun-20	If you do live near [the sites shown as a 'Strategic Allocation' or a 'Site for Enhancement'] would you be likely to visit any of these sites instead of the Epping Forest? I prefer the natural forest not some managed approximation thereof		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Paul Newis	Survey response	16-Jun-20	Cut it back by 80% and it would be more acceptable. Get it wrong and you spoil thousands of years of natural habitat.	Further Comments	The Strategy has been amended to make it more focused.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Elizabeth Hollingsworth	Survey response	18-Jun-20	Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy? No - The green spaces, public rights of way and transport do not include horse riders	Vision & Objectives	It is not intended that the Vision should be specific to specific groups of users of Green Infrastructure but rather relates to all users.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Elizabeth Hollingsworth	Survey response	18-Jun-20	Do you agree with the multi-functional approach? No - horse riders not included	Multi-functional Approach	The Strategy has been amended to make reference to horse riders where appropriate.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Janet Whybrow	Survey response	18-Jun-20	Do you agree that we have included all of the GI assets within the District and assessed them correctly in Section 2? Not sure you have adequately considered the green and blue infrastructure around Roydon, including the environment of the River Stort	Section 2	A link to the River Stort Catchment Management Plan has now been included.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Janet Whybrow	Survey response	18-Jun-20	Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy? Yes - but would like to see a recognition that 2033 is not the end of a process, and that improvements are to be secured for the future		The Vision has been amended to reflect this.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Janet Whybrow	Survey response	18-Jun-20	Do you agree with the multi-functional approach? No - it seems that the needs of people, especially dog-walkers are to take priority over the needs of nature and the environment. Encouraging people into a space may well be incompatible with your duty to promote biodiversity. The environment should receive a higher priority.	Multi-functional Approach	The Strategy makes it clear that a range of activities and different types of Green Infrastructure will need to be catered for - for both people and nature.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Janet Whybrow	Survey response	18-Jun-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages? Would like to see a project specifically devoted to a nature-specific theme eg improved habitats for birds/bats/mammals; nest boxes for swifts or martins; you would need to take advice from relevant environmental groups as to what's most needed and do-able.	Appendix 1	The Strategy has been amended to include guidance for small development sites which identifies opportunities to achieve this.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Janet Whybrow	Survey response	18-Jun-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? The availability of good birdwatching, especially if basic facilities (eg toilets) were available. I currently go to my local area and to the Lee Valley RP, as well as sites in Hertfordshire.		The provision of new SANG will have a more natural character which will attract birdlife and other fauna.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Janet Whybrow	Survey response	18-Jun-20	If you do live near [the sites shown as a 'Strategic Allocation' or a 'Site for Enhancement'] would you be likely to visit any of these sites instead of the Epping Forest? Yes - I might visit to enjoy the countryside and for walks. I don't visit Epping Forest much due to its location, and it's not very good for birdwatching (surprisingly) in comparison with other sites in my area.		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Janet Whybrow	Survey response	18-Jun-20	The implementation of the Strategy will require considerable funding. You are largely relying on S106 as a source of funds: but this can only be sought in respect of relevant developments. EFDC should allocate a budget for the Strategy's implementation. Maintaining the green spaces identified or improved under the Strategy will require ongoing funding and support for stewardship bodies, eg Parish Councils, if the spaces are not to become degraded due to neglect, litter or even fly-tipping.	Further Comments	A number of funding opportunities have been identified.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Kevin Mason	Survey response	19-Jun-20	Do you agree that we have included all of the GI assets within the District and assessed them correctly in Section 2? No - Chigwell, in particular Chigwell Row Recreation ground and Chigwell Row Wood. Also land next to West Hatch School owned by Essex County Council off Chigwell Road between the road and the River Roding.	Section 2	The Strategy provides an overview of the District's GI assets. Links have now been provided to the more detailed assessments that have been undertaken on a parish by parish basis.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Kevin Mason	Survey response	19-Jun-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages? Tree planting projects should be in the form of hedgerows linking up existing wildlife sites.	Appendix 1	Opportunities to achieve this will depend on the nature of the specific tree planting project but such an approach would not be precluded where appropriate.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Kevin Mason	Survey response	19-Jun-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Quiet, few other people, wildlife fauna and flora, toilets, safe paths, cycle storage facilities, parking fees to be used for the upkeep of the green space.	Project Pages	Comment noted. A number of these attributes are included in the SANG Guidance in Part 3 of the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Kevin Mason	Survey response	19-Jun-20	Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement? Chigwell: between Chigwell road and the River Roding south of West Hatch school. Sheering: off Sheering Mill Lane by the River Stort		Further consideration will be given to these helpful suggestions as part of individual projects.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Brian McGhie	Survey response	22-Jun-20	Do you agree that we have included all of the GI assets within the District and assessed them correctly in Section 2? The part of Epping Forest north of Epping Town, known as "The Lower Forest. Gernon Bushes EWT nature reserve, Coopersale, Swaines Green, part CoL, part town council, to the west of Epping Town	Section 2	The Strategy provides an overview of the District's GI assets. Links have now been provided to the more detailed assessments that have been undertaken on a parish by parish basis.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Brian McGhie	Survey response	22-Jun-20	Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects could happen? The open area between Rectory Lane, Pyrlies Lane and Hillyfields in Loughton would be ideal for tree planting and small recreational use		Further consideration will be given to these helpful suggestions as part of individual projects.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Brian McGhie	Survey response	22-Jun-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Flower rich meadows, Clean water/wetland areas that attract wildlife, Well maintained and well signposted footpaths.		Comment noted. A number of these attributes are included in the SANG Guidance in Part 3 of the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Gillian Foster	Survey response	22-Jun-20	Do you agree with the multi-functional approach? No - could end up with too much footfall	Multi-functional Approach	This will be a key consideration in the design of specific schemes and is acknowledged in the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	A Lewcock	Survey response	23-Jun-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Good quality seating, recreational areas, possibly local entertainment/educational displays.		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Len Banister	Survey response	25-Jun-20	Do you agree with the multi-functional approach? No - Not in all cases - not in favour of increasing multi-use of Public Rights of Way or the 'sanitation' of footpaths by adding surface materials	Multi-functional Approach	The Strategy makes it clear that the multi-functional approach will not be appropriate in all cases.
Draft v2 - June 2021	Len Banister	Survey response	25-Jun-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Suspicious of the notion of SANGs where space is used in 'mitigation' suggesting you have allowed something nasty elsewhere - assume that you are not thinking of encroaching on Forest Land. OK with opening up buffer land. The introduction of parking charges to Epping Forest would certainly deter people and lead to roadside parking e.g. Connaught Water where parking is inadequate.		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Len Banister	Survey response	25-Jun-20	Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement? Roding Valley		Roding Valley Playing Fields has now been included as an infrastructure enhancement project.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Len Banister	Survey response	25-Jun-20	One of the most important items is in 4.20 which emphasises sustainable management and maintenance - you could tie this to 'stewardship' from p 16.	Para 4.20	The Strategy now includes more detail in relation to approaches to stewardship which reflects this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Len Banister	Survey response	25-Jun-20	Don't like the notion of a hierarchy of footpaths (3.47) this eventually leads to selective low maintenance and eventual loss of amenity. The strict adherence to the Ramsar Convention has led to extensive limitation of public access to the Walthamstow Wetlands.	Para 3.47	This reflects the differing character and role of the PRoW network which does not inform approaches to maintenance or retention.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Adela Szafranska	Survey response	30-Jun-20	Do you agree with the multi-functional approach? No - concerns around litter, noise, fires, cycling and footfall with regards local residents and wildlife		The approach requires the design of such spaces to avoid that such issues are avoided.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Adela Szafranska	Survey response	30-Jun-20	Do you think that we have identified the right themes? No - Too focused on providing for people - Connaught Waters used as a bad example of this.		The Strategy seeks to achieve a balance between both managed and natural spaces which reflects the broad definition of Green and Blue Infrastructure.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Adela Szafranska	Survey response	30-Jun-20	Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects could happen? Concerns that special fragile areas will be obliterated as a result of these projects.		The Strategy makes it clear that projects will only be acceptable where they do not cause harm to sensitive ecological sites and assets.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Adela Szafranska	Survey response	30-Jun-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? None - concerns around illegal activity such as drug dealing taking place due to unpoliced areas.		Comment noted. The Council will make the Conservators of Epping Forest aware of these concerns.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Adela Szafranska	Survey response	30-Jun-20	Positive reaction to Section 2, negative to section 3	Further Comments	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Stewart Wilkins	Survey response	02-Jul-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Natural, areas for children, water rivers/stream, dog friendly		The guidance on SANG supports the creation of such attributes.
Draft v2 - June 2020	H.Cleminson	Survey response	02-Jul-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Accessibility		The guidance on SANG supports creating spaces that are accessible to all.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sue Malpass	Survey response	03-Jul-20	Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects could happen? Would be happy to see new facilities to enhance the lifestyle for children and young people in North Weald. The North Weald Mums recently submitted a proposal to the Parish Council regarding the possibility of building a multisports surface in the area of North Weald common, next to the playground installed by the North Weald Mums (in 2014).	Appendix 1	Comment noted and welcomed.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy? From the graph, Natural Space existing is 'off the scale' - why? Because of the unique location. Play existing is below national average - because of above. Why not sustain this level of support for future residents? i.e. - don't mess with it!	Para 2.6	This reflects the extent of the Epping Forest and Lee Valley Regional Park located within the District. New development will be required to make appropriate provision for play spaces.

Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy? Rewilding will not work where humans have introduced the like of Japanese Knotweed, Rhododendrons etc. Management would need to be continuous. Increase habitats by building over motorway cuttings similar to M25 at Epping.	Para 2.18	Rewilding will not be appropriate in all locations. Unfortunately covering over the M25 motorway is not a feasible or viable option.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy? Thames Water still discharge raw sewage into Crispey brook when overwhelmed. This needs dealing with.	Para 2.25	Comment noted. The Council will raise this issue with Thames Water.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy? Mixing cycling with walking eg on the Lea navigation towpath is not a good idea. Towpaths were not designed for wheeled vehicles of any kind. Cycling on public roads is extremely unpleasant due to traffic volume, speed and road width, pot-holes and sunken ironworks.	Para 2.11	This reflects Essex County Council's preferred approach. Any improvements will need to be agreed with the River and Canal Trust.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you agree with the multi-functional approach? Social: People are not likely to use space and interact with nature if it's swarming with others. The forest is not a 'theme park' with litter bins, toilets, paved walkways etc. It's draw is its reputation and that it is an adventure!	Multi-functional Approach	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you agree with the multi-functional approach? Environment: More positive behaviour is needed in the countryside. Ban takeaways or instil an environmental levy in a planning application for such to control the rubbish/litter these business produce. Also push for higher fines, jail for fly-tippers. Art is not natural and not appreciated by anything other than humans. Trees on an allotment peripheral are beneficial but allotments are not playgrounds and should be treated with respect.	Multi-functional Approach	This is not a matter for the Strategy. The multi-functional approach seeks to ensure that a range of uses can be accommodated without creating conflicts between users. Art provision will need relate well to its context.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you think that we have identified the right themes? Yes - except art		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages (see Appendix 1)? Wet woodland in flood plains and man-made flood attenuation features do not look attractive when the ground is parched and cracked because of the Essex soil structure.	Para 3.11	Such initiatives can be successful when appropriately designed.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages (see Appendix 1)? Removing scrub edges increases the chance of wind damage in the woodland.	Para 3.12	The Strategy makes it clear that removing scrub edges will only be acceptable where it would not affect ecological health.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages (see Appendix 1)? Discovery is what it is all about! Make visitors work for it - don't hand it on a plate. Offer support material i.e. guides to certain species/trees etc and where they may be found and let them get on with it.	Para 3.13/14	The Strategy supports this approach.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages (see Appendix 1)? High grade dead-tree carving would be acceptable. There is a danger to fill the area with junk that would also encourage vandalism	Para 3.16	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages (see Appendix 1)? Parks require supervision to separate those who wish to sunbathe or admire flowerbeds from the children playing football, cricket or throwing Frisbees or skateboarding along the paths. Shade must be provided, litter removed drug use or ASB monitored and dealt with.	Para 3.2	See response to Comment 728.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages (see Appendix 1)? Food production and play do not mix.	Para 3.27	If well-designed such an approach can be successful.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages (see Appendix 1)? All dwellings in a development should have sufficient land to enable food to be grown. Paving over with patios, concrete or decking should be banned.	Para 3.33	Comment noted. This is not a matter for the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages (see Appendix 1)? Youngsters like playing with sand and water.	Para 3.38	Comment noted.

Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages (see Appendix 1)? Muga's are good use of space but need supervising. Youths like hiding in shelters normally for the wrong reasons	Para 3.4	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages (see Appendix 1)? Create more visually interesting appearance by covering motorway cuttings.	Para 3.45	See response to Comment 724.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages (see Appendix 1)? Cycling must be kept separate from walking.	Para 3.46	The Strategy reflects Essex County Council's preferred approach. The Strategy makes it clear that such networks will need to be designed so that they are safe for all users.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages (see Appendix 1)? If Suds mimic the natural drainage process - it hasn't quite worked with the illustration from Lewisham, clearly showing a dead tree on what looks like poor soil.	Para 3.62	The case study remains an excellent example of SuDS within a greenspace, regardless of a minor planting defect.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages (see Appendix 1)? Where is the key to detail of the maps?	Para 4.14	Maps now have legible and correct keys.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages (see Appendix 1)? The best is not necessarily the most expensive. Hire on proven record and experience. Include 'plan B' if it goes wrong.	Para 4.17	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages (see Appendix 1)? The only people to gain from this appears to be developers	Para 4.21	The Council does not consider that this is the case. Developers will be required to provide for a range of GI provision and contribute to its long-term maintenance.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects could happen? Dead tree carving would be possible anywhere. The theme must reflect the location.	Para 3.16	Comment noted. The Strategy reflects this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects could happen? Downstream of Dobb's weir could be a good spot to create a shallow stream off river for youngsters to play before it re-joins the navigation.	Para 3.38	Further consideration will be given to this helpful suggestion.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? None unless they are ancient woodland away from population areas		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	If you do live near [the sites shown as a 'Strategic Allocation' or a 'Site for Enhancement'] would you be likely to visit any of these sites instead of the Epping Forest? No - Epping Forest is unique. The history, ecology is second to none. To relieve pressure on the forest - it must be expanded if people continue to breed at an uncontrolled rate and demand to use it to escape the modern world. More land must be return to the forest - Woodside place is an example of a lost opportunity.		Comment noted. See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Waters	Survey response	06-Jul-20	Found the document extremely difficult to read as it is dripping in jargon. Is it too much to ask to write these surveys in plain English and drop the Americanisms?	Further Comments	The Strategy has been amended to seek to address these concerns.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Caroline Pond	Survey response	07-Jul-20	Do you agree that we have included all of the GI assets within the District and assessed them correctly in Section 2? No - Add the Long Shaws in Debden Loughton side of the M11-ancient woodland. Small areas of green space in housing estates. School playing fields. Suggest a list of all.	Section2	Links to the detailed parish by parish assessment of assets have been included. The Strategy recognises the contribution that small spaces can make. The projects now proposed in Part 4 would support enhanced access to 'The Shaws'.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Caroline Pond	Survey response	07-Jul-20	Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy? No - Assumes that all would be improved- some fine as they are, some to be improved, and some to be left or made natural areas. More emphasis on the Green Arc and green corridors for wildlife.	Vision & Objectives	The Vision and Objectives and guidance provided within the Strategy reflect these comments.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Caroline Pond	Survey response	07-Jul-20	Do you agree with the multi-functional approach? Yes but not suitable for all sites	Multi-functional Approach	The GI Strategy makes it clear that this is the case.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Caroline Pond	Survey response	07-Jul-20	Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects [project pages] could happen? Wildflower verges on parts of Roding fields Extend cycle routes from Loughton to Chigwell, Buckhurst Hill and into Greater London - using green routes when possible.	Appendix 1	Further consideration will be given to these helpful suggestions as part of individual projects.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Caroline Pond	Survey response	07-Jul-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Sign posted and walking routes		Comment noted.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Caroline Pond	Survey response	07-Jul-20	Not enough on Climate Change in the document. Need ways of reducing car usage, especially traffic pollution at junctions, busy roads. and new development. Not just trees and cycle routes. Not building on designated urban open space. Especially the field site at Loughton College and other spaces in Loughton.	Further Comments	These are matters for the emerging Local Plan rather than the GI Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	G & E King	Survey response	28-Jun-20	"Further development will increase harm to the Epping and implemented." Insert full stop after "SAC". Forest SAC if a suitable range of mitigation measures are not identified	Para 2.3	As SAC is an acronym rather than an abbreviation a full stop would be incorrect.
Draft v2 - June 2020	G & E King	Survey response	28-Jun-20	It's all very well raising the questions, which are pretty obvious and generalised: what about providing some answers?	Para 2.4	The Strategy identifies the ways that these questions will be answered.
Draft v2 - June 2020	G & E King	Survey response	28-Jun-20	This analysis is neither helpful nor meaningful, especially given the uniqueness of Epping Forest; is it aiming to provide cover for further development? Who says that the "minimum" is in fact acceptable? Why is it apparently wrong to be 18 times over some arbitrary minimum, when we have a truly exceptional situation?	Para 2.6	This is a statement of fact.
Draft v2 - June 2020	G & E King	Survey response	28-Jun-20	So make a commitment that the "significant physical barriers" will be removed by specific dates, instead of dealing in generalised observations.	Para 2.12	This relates to strategic road and rail infrastructure and therefore it is not possible to remove them.
Draft v2 - June 2020	G & E King	Survey response	28-Jun-20	"Consequently identifying opportunities to address parts of the walking and cycling network in particular which are fragmented or incomplete provides the opportunity to negotiate with landowners to secure real improvements to the value of the network." seen as a paragraph of little value	Para 2.13	This statement identifies approaches that should be taken and 'negotiate' has been changed to 'work'.
Draft v2 - June 2020	G & E King	Survey response	28-Jun-20	So what will be done?	Para 2.17	The Strategy identifies ways of responding to the climate crisis.
Draft v2 - June 2020	G & E King	Survey response	28-Jun-20	2.41 & 2.42 Too generalised ad open to interpretation. Suggest identifying specific locations in the district where these objectives will be applied.	Vision & Objectives	This level of specificity is not appropriate for what are high-level objectives. However, they have been amended to make it clearer as to how they will be achieved.
Draft v2 - June 2020	G & E King	Survey response	28-Jun-20	Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy? No - No striking aim or vision in the document, very little brings confidence that EFDC is truly serious. Suggest a commitment to no more development in the Green Belt, or no further development within x miles of the Epping Forest boundaries. The impression is that EFDC is just through the motions, to satisfy the requirement to produce a strategy.	Vision & Objectives	The Council considers that the Vision and Objectives and the Strategy itself provide a positive framework for enhancing and increasing the provision of Green and Blue Infrastructure in the District. The restriction of development is not a matter for the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	G & E King	Survey response	28-Jun-20	Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy? Underlying thread suggests that being average, or meeting the minimum requirement, is good enough, and an acceptable target. EFDC should be aiming much higher: why can it not be aiming - and desirable - to be in the upper quartile (for example) of performance on key metrics?	Vision & Objectives	These are nationally accepted standards based on thorough research and are used by many local authorities as being appropriate to identify the quantity and quality of Green Infrastructure needed to support local communities.
Draft v2 - June 2020	G & E King	Survey response	28-Jun-20	Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy? The document lacks bite and incisiveness. No eye-catching initiative or serious commitment. EFDC come across as devoid of innovative, radical thinking, reliant on largely consultant-style verbiage.	Vision & Objectives	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	G & E King	Survey response	28-Jun-20	P101: "..... projects that should be brought forward..... ". Why not "will be brought forward"?	Appendix 4	These sites were identified by residents in response to the Epping Forest Visitor Survey and the Council was seeking views on their appropriateness for enhancement.
Draft v2 - June 2020	G & E King	Survey response	28-Jun-20	Paras 1.7, 1.9, etc.: "Potential enhancements and matters to be considered." Shows no commitment.	Appendix 4	This reflects the site-specific characteristics that any scheme would need to respond to. See also the overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	G & E King	Survey response	28-Jun-20	A small number of easy and obvious nominations. EFDC tried very hard for a long time to implement major development on Jessel Green - which tests the credibility of the list. Suggest a provision of new green sites, outside the Masterplan areas, not just "enhancements"?	Appendix 4	Jessel Green was included as it had been suggested by residents as an alternative space to Epping Forest in response to the Epping Forest Visitors Survey 2019.

Draft v2 - June 2020	G & E King	Survey response	28-Jun-20	Page 58 - "... types of projects that could be delivered ..." shows no commitment.	Appendix 1	The Strategy identifies a range of projects but makes it clear that the Council is keen for local communities to identify where these projects could take place.
Draft v2 - June 2020	G & E King	Survey response	28-Jun-20	A very short list, of rather easy potential wins, which ducks some of the fundamental issues such as traffic, pollution, public transport, commuting - demanding objectives are required.	Appendix 1	The Strategy identifies a range of projects but makes it clear that the Council is keen for local communities to identify where these projects could take place.
Draft v2 - June 2020	G & E King	Survey response	28-Jun-20	The treatment of SANG is weak - seen only as a mitigation of the adverse effects of the Masterplan developments. This is not good enough, when it is already recognised that there are significant pressures caused by today's population levels.	Appendix 3	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	G & E King	Survey response	28-Jun-20	There is a fundamental conflict between the housing developments envisaged in the Local Plan and the Green Infrastructure Strategy.	Further Comments	These are not matters for the GI Strategy but rather the Council's emerging Local Plan.
Draft v2 - June 2020	G & E King	Survey response	28-Jun-20	The document should specify what powers EFDC has, and how it intends to use them, as well as how it will use its position to obtain concrete results. It should also list concrete measures of future success.	Further Comments	Where appropriate this is set out in the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	G & E King	Survey response	28-Jun-20	To be credible, the document needs to have an Action Plan, focused on major issues, with specific, quantified commitments, and with timetable and deadlines.	Further Comments	The Strategy has been amended to include further information on implementation where appropriate.
Draft v2 - June 2020	G & E King	Survey response	28-Jun-20	A drastic shortening and sharpening of the entire document required.	Further Comments	The Strategy has been amended to respond to comments such as this.
Draft v2 - June 2020	G & E King	Survey response	28-Jun-20	Introduce accountability into the document.	Further Comments	The Strategy identifies who will deliver Green Infrastructure enhancements and new provision where appropriate.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Mrs Turner	Survey response	04-Jul-20	Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy? No - do not agree that people should be discouraged from using the forest.	Vision & Objectives	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Mrs Turner	Survey response	04-Jul-20	Suggest following good example of housing scheme where every new house had an apple tree planted.	Further Comments	The Strategy supports new tree planting in appropriate locations.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Mrs Turner	Survey response	04-Jul-20	As many street trees as can be afforded with yearly maintenance.	Further Comments	The Strategy supports this approach.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Mrs Turner	Survey response	04-Jul-20	Only 'Natural' sculptures in natural areas. Some sculptures are made so children CAN climb on them.	Further Comments	The Strategy makes it clear that the design of Art in the Landscape should be appropriate to its context and designed to maximise opportunities to attract visitors.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Mrs Turner	Survey response	04-Jul-20	Seating should be considered - this can be a problem in some areas as youngsters can congregate and cause a nuisance.	Further Comments	It is important that seating is provided but this should be in appropriate locations.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Mrs Turner	Survey response	04-Jul-20	Do not think people should be discouraged to visit Epping Forest by means of charging for car parking - people should be encouraged to walk instead.	Further Comments	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Mrs Turner	Survey response	04-Jul-20	The buffer lands between Theydon and Epping would need a lot more of interest for families to visit.	Further Comments	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Mrs Turner	Survey response	04-Jul-20	Concerned about dog exercising in small areas where children might play.	Further Comments	The Strategy does not propose this.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Mrs Turner	Survey response	04-Jul-20	Found survey difficult to take in all at once.	Further Comments	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Mrs Turner	Survey response	04-Jul-20	The document was a bit repetitive and concerned it seemed wholly about keeping people away from Epping Forest.	Further Comments	The Strategy has been reviewed to reflect these comments.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Emma Wilson	Survey response	09-Jul-20	Suggest introducing speeding restrictions to discourage motorists and bikers speeding and polluting the air with fumes and noise. Also raise awareness about littering and wildlife protection.	Further Comments	The behaviour of road users is not a matter for the GI Strategy. The Council will consider opportunities to raise awareness of the matters raised.
Draft v2 - June 2020	John Manning	Survey response	13-Jul-20	Do you agree that we have included all of the GI assets within the District and assessed them correctly in Section 2? No - Insufficient detail on proposals for walking and cycling in the Epping area	Section 2	The Strategy contains a number of proposals, some of which are intended to be developed following suggestions from local communities, as well as requirements for development proposals to provide new and enhanced Green Infrastructure. In addition Essex County Council's Epping Forest District Cycle Action Plan identifies specific schemes, including for Epping.
Draft v2 - June 2020	John Manning	Survey response	13-Jul-20	Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy? Yes but lacks firm proposals	Vision & Objectives	This is not the purpose of the Vision and Objectives. The Strategy itself contains a number of proposals, some of which are intended to be developed following suggestions from local communities, as well as requirements for development proposals to provide new and enhanced Green Infrastructure.
Draft v2 - June 2020	John Manning	Survey response	13-Jul-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages? Lacks firm proposals in Epping area	Appendix 1	Specific projects will be identified based on suggestions from local communities.
Draft v2 - June 2020	John Manning	Survey response	13-Jul-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Better linkage to the town with defined walking and cycling routes, with consideration of safety from traffic and pollution.		The Strategy supports this approach.
Draft v2 - June 2020	John Manning	Survey response	13-Jul-20	Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement? Site adjacent to Stonards playing fields		See overarching SANG response.

Draft v2 - June 2020	John Manning	Survey response	13-Jul-20	More real maps with defined routes would help	Further Comments	Clearer mapping has been provided throughout the strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	John Manning	Survey response	13-Jul-20	The objectives will never be achieved until there is better objectives for Forest users, the Conservators and EFDC.	Further comments	The Council is working with the Conservators of Epping Forest in this regard.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Cllr Jaymey Mclvor	Survey response	14-Jul-20	Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects could happen? The strategy recognises a lack of facilities for local children and young people. North Weald, in particular does not have its fair share of facilities. The current local plan does not provide an adequate level of quality sports facilities for the people of North Weald.	Appendix 1	This is a matter for the Masterplanning being undertaken for the strategic sites in North Weald in accordance with the site specific requirements set out in the emerging Local Plan.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Cllr Jaymey Mclvor	Survey response	14-Jul-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Locations which have simple and quick access without the need to travel through congested areas. Locations that are near to my home. The ability to time visits with other activities such as sports or shopping.		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Cllr Jaymey Mclvor	Survey response	14-Jul-20	Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement? Yes, the redundant North Weald Golf Course.		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Michael Calder	Survey response	15-Jul-20	Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects could happen? Blunts Farm, Abridge Road, Theydon Bois		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Chris Lord	Survey response	15-Jul-20	Do you think that we have identified the right themes? Could use rewilding more - see http://wildeast.co.uk		The Strategy supports rewilding in appropriate locations.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Chris Lord	Survey response	15-Jul-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Better info and cycling access		The Strategy supports this approach.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Chris Lord	Survey response	15-Jul-20	Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement? Is Curtis Mill Green included/protected?		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Chris Lord	Survey response	15-Jul-20	I disagree with (p105): 'The important ecological interest features (the reason why it is designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest in particular) would not be affected by increased recreational use' - surely this can't be right??	Further Comments	The ecological features within the site which have led to its designation as an SSSI would not be impacted as a result of the management regime applied.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Gary Marshall	Survey response	15-Jul-20	Do you agree that we have included all of the GI assets within the District and assessed them correctly in Section 2? No - Verges in Orchards and expect across the district. Need for wildlife meadow creation, more added for joined up corridors, turn some roads one way to widen or develop wildlife corridors. Consider wilding in amongst hard to imagine areas, e.g. town centres	Section 2	The Strategy encourages such approaches.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Gary Marshall	Survey response	15-Jul-20	Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy? No - Need to widen vision to think outside box and create a much more green and blue outcome	Vision & Objectives	The Vision and Objectives focus on positive Green and Blue infrastructure outcomes.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Gary Marshall	Survey response	15-Jul-20	Do you think that we have identified the right themes? No - More can be done to stop road use dominating the green assets and in fact putting the brakes on the use of roads to fly through the assets creating harm		Comment noted. However, this may not always be achievable in relation to the current highway network. Policies in the Council's emerging Local Plan support the objective of reducing car use.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Gary Marshall	Survey response	15-Jul-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages? Better use of verges, newly created sites and road narrowing with better speed management and development of green corridors. More ponds better fed with rain water would also help	Appendix 1	The Strategy supports such approaches.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Gary Marshall	Survey response	15-Jul-20	Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects could happen? All verges in Epping, a green centre piece in town centre and villages and a pond in the 'greens' end of Epping and Stonards		Comment noted. The Strategy supports making better use of verges for Green Infrastructure purposes and the Council will take into consideration the other helpful suggestions in developing future projects.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Gary Marshall	Survey response	15-Jul-20	We have to take back some of the space allocated to town and village road and associated parking and services infrastructure	Further Comments	Comment noted. However this may not always be achievable from a highway capacity perspective.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Sue Dobson	Survey response	15-Jul-20	One of the main needs in your overall strategy is connectivity – both from a biodiversity perspective and encouraging further use of the network. Later in the document the point is made regarding encouraging people to go for recreation in other areas apart from the Forest, but unless these are made more accessible and connect to the wider network, this will not happen.	Vision & Objectives	The Strategy supports this objective.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sue Dobson	Survey response	15-Jul-20	Your overall vision for Green Infrastructure should contain an undertaking to make it more connected which will encourage better use of currently under-used facilities.	Vision & Objectives	The Vision sets out that by 2033 a well-connected Green and Blue Infrastructure network will have been created.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sue Dobson	Survey response	15-Jul-20	Disappointed to note this section only considers walkers and cyclists. It is imperative that the GIS caters for ALL vulnerable user groups, including equestrians. What we would like to see, in common with other user groups such as the Disabled Ramblers, is a cohesive Strategy that aims to provide a network of off-road safe routes for ALL user groups.	Para 2.31	Reference to equestrians has now been included in the relevant parts of the Strategy where appropriate.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sue Dobson	Survey response	15-Jul-20	When considering public access along waterways, it is important also not to forget other user groups such as equestrians as there are opportunities here for further access. Cyclists already use the towpaths – which incidentally were originally created for horses – but currently equestrians are not allowed to use them.	Para 2.22	The use of towpaths for equestrian use is determined by the landowner, which in this instance is the River and Canal Trust. The Council will make the Trust aware of this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sue Dobson	Survey response	15-Jul-20	Mentions visitor attractions that appear to be currently under used; important to consider whether further access for equestrians is possible in these open spaces, especially if cyclists are considered. It is unfair to consider only certain user groups within a Strategy such as this.	Para 2.37/8	See response to Comment 811.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sue Dobson	Survey response	15-Jul-20	Accessibility is missing from this Vision. It is all very well creating high quality spaces etc if they are only accessible to certain groups; the omission at the top level of the Strategy appears to set the scene for the remainder of the document and this omission should be addressed.	Vision & Objectives	The Vision has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sue Dobson	Survey response	15-Jul-20	Mention of horse riders noted but the need to improve connectivity of the network is significant.	Para 3.46	Comment noted. See also response to Comment 811.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sue Dobson	Survey response	15-Jul-20	Welcome the intention to improve the accessibility for all users; however, further down the paragraph it states ‘...it is also important not to ignore the opportunities that the identification of ‘Quietways’ for cyclists can provide...’ Why are equestrians being forgotten here? Cyclists and equestrians have similar needs when using the road network and it is extremely disappointing that this Strategy appears to discriminate against equestrians. This should be addressed.	Para 3.48	See response to Comment 811.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sue Dobson	Survey response	15-Jul-20	Design in relation to Strategic Site Allocations: it is vitally important that a fully-accessible cohesive network be the aim when considering design and development; we note in para 4.18 in the final bullet point that this is mentioned, but feel that the overall strategy should have far more emphasis on connectivity and accessibility of the movement network and biodiversity.	Section 4	The Strategy supports these objectives and has been amended at appropriate points where this has not been clear.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sue Dobson	Survey response	15-Jul-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages? Lutton Priory: opportunities to enhance the network and establish further accessible green links, notably a new east/west route linking bridleway 201_49 to byway 190_12, together with a link running northwards which will connect the new development with the wider settlement - a route could run in parallel with the Harlow side of the ditch as this land is in the control of the developer as we understand this was to be a green wedge.	Appendix 1	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sue Dobson	Survey response	15-Jul-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages? North Weald: bridleway 201_19 runs through the site, and it needs to be preserved in a semi-rural state rather than tarmacked and urbanised. Opportunity for this to be part of a linear park, and links established southwards to the extensive network at Hastingwood and Toot Hill. The proposed Country Park to the north east of the site would give an excellent opportunity to extend the access for all users; for example, a perimeter track around the site linking in with the existing bridleway would be a useful enhancement.	Appendix 1	The Strategy has been amended to reflect this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sue Dobson	Survey response	15-Jul-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Accessibility for ALL non-motorised users, including equestrians		See response to Comment 811.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sue Dobson	Survey response	15-Jul-20	Paragraph 1.2 sets out the basic guidance for spaces within masterplans and we would add that the default when considering access should be that they are open to ALL user groups – walkers, cyclists, equestrians and the disabled. There will be situations where this may not be practicable, but this should be the last resort rather than the norm.	Appendix 3	See response to Comment 811.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sue Dobson	Survey response	15-Jul-20	Paragraph 1.12 lists the ideal provisions of green spaces and equestrians have been forgotten again.	Appendix 3	See response to Comment 811.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Sue Dobson	Survey response	15-Jul-20	Paragraph 1.21 – equestrians omitted again.	Appendix 3	See response to Comment 811.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sue Dobson	Survey response	15-Jul-20	This section sets out potential sites where better use of the open spaces can be made. Request the provision of equestrian access is included, as yet again walking and cycling is mentioned but equestrians are forgotten.	Appendix 4	See response to Comment 811.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Sue Dobson	Survey response	15-Jul-20	All through the document there appears to be several instances of incorrect grammar/spelling which have not been picked up through proof reading, which should be addressed, namely the use of the word 'complimentary' in many places when 'complementary' should be used. This is unfortunate as it does give a very unprofessional impression of the document and the Council.	Further Comments	It is unfortunate that this happened. The Council has sought to ensure that such issues are not replicated in the final Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Carl Ginn	Survey response	15-Jul-20	Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy? No - The objectives refer to protecting, enhancing and improving access to existing green and blue infrastructure, but there is limited reference to provision of new spaces. Securing and delivering new recreational and amenity spaces for local people should be a key consideration for the council when allocating land for housing. Existing community assets are underfunded at present levels of demand, and increases in housing and population requires new spaces	Vision & Objectives	The Objectives include reference to the provision of new Green Infrastructure. In addition the Strategy makes it clear that new provision is required as part of new development proposals and this will be achieved through the application of the policies of the Council's emerging Local Plan.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Carl Ginn	Survey response	15-Jul-20	Do you agree with the multi-functional approach? Agree that the strategy should allow for enhancements to existing spaces and provision of new spaces, but disagree with the balance in the strategy. The strategy relies too heavily on improvement to existing spaces and there is not enough emphasis on provision of new spaces	Multi-functional Approach	The Strategy makes it clear that new provision is required as part of new development proposals and this will be achieved through the application of the policies of the Council's emerging Local Plan.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Carl Ginn	Survey response	15-Jul-20	If you do live near [the sites shown as a 'Strategic Allocation' or a 'Site for Enhancement'] would you be likely to visit any of these sites instead of the Epping Forest? No - I visit many of the areas listed on page 78 of the strategy (areas labelled A1, A2, A3, A4, A5 and A9.) These are adjacent to Epping Forest, and in most cases visits to this area form the start of walks into Epping Forest itself. These are existing green spaces with public access. They do not represent additional provision, nor are they separate destinations; indeed walks are often linked to Epping Forest with wayfinding signage		Comment noted. See also the overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Carl Ginn	Survey response	15-Jul-20	Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement? The former North Weald Golf Club site if approved will provide additional recreational facilities for local sports clubs		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Carl Ginn	Survey response	15-Jul-20	The current strategy does not include new SANG provision for North Weald, despite the village being part of the strategic allocation. The North Weald masterplan should be extended to include the former North Weald Golf Club to address the shortfall in recreational provision in the village given the proposed increases in housing for the area	Further Comments	Part 3 of the Strategy identifies the need for a SANG at North Weald Bassett. See also the overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Melissa Pepper	Survey response	15-Jul-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Large open spaces, natural habitat, a designated area for children's play equipment - but mostly open spaces to walk in. It is difficult to see how this could be achieved given the ambitions in terms of housing density.		This approach is supported by the principles to be applied to SANG in the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Melissa Pepper	Survey response	15-Jul-20	EFDC need to seriously consider returning to their initial site assessment to review whether other sites pose fewer challenges and more options for greener and more sustainable development compared to the current South Epping site.	Further Comments	This is not a matter for the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Chris Gossan	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Do you think that we have identified the right themes? No - don't readily see that the themes cater for provision of sporting facilities within the social sphere. As chairman of the largest Youth Football club in the area, I would like to see this addressed		Sports provision is addressed through the Council's Playing Pitch Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Chris Gossan	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages? As a council you must consider the impact of meeting the central government housing plan on the local sports clubs and organisations. You should only consider building projects which contribute to the ecosystem and meet all the requirements dictated by the Themes	Appendix 1	Sports provision is addressed through the Council's Playing Pitch Strategy. New development will be required to contribute towards enhancements to Green Infrastructure.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Chris Gossan	Survey response	16-Jul-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Trails and pathways; nature walks and features		This approach is supported by the principles to be applied to SANG in the Strategy.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Do you agree that we have included all of the GI assets within the District and assessed them correctly in Section 2?</p> <p>No - Some of the assets are not singled out for proper detailed analysis. Technically they are mentioned but in too broad terms.</p>	Section 2	Links to the Council's evidence base which provides more detailed analysis on a parish by parish basis have now been added to the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy?</p> <p>No - The strategy must go hand in hand with a transport plan. On page 86 there is a lot about proximity to Waltham Cross but no mention of a bus to get to the Gunpowder Mills. Similarly on Page 97 there is a lot about SANGS but again no mention of how to get to them without the use of a car.</p>	Vision & Objectives	This is not a matter for the Strategy but rather is addressed through the policies in the Council's emerging Local Plan including site specific requirements.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Do you agree with the multi-functional approach?</p> <p>No - I don't think that enough emphasis is being placed on the role and relevance of art within the district. There are many famous artists who have lived in the district and by art I include, actors, poets, musicians and sculptors. There is no mention that the first performance of Midsummer Night's Dream was, most likely, at Copped Hall. There is a very easy hook into a visitor attraction during the summer.</p>		The Strategy recognises the important role of art and is not specific in relation to the genre for schemes in order to provide flexibility in relation to the local context.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages?</p> <p>Needs to be a sensitive hand guiding the process. The approach seems to be to hand it over to an expert and suffer the consequences of remote and generic decision making.</p>	Appendix 1	The Council will be leading on the delivery of these projects.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects could happen?</p> <p>Copped Hall being the site of the first performance of Midsummer's Night Dream. High Beech where Alfred, Lord Tennyson lived for a while. The Iron age encampment. The hollow that was rumoured to be Dick Turpin's hideout.</p>		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest?</p> <p>They need to be as un-managed as possible. There is a terrible problem with these questions in that they are too specific and designed to be easily discounted. The main problem with the SANGS is that there is no possibility to get to any of them without a car. There is talk of parking charges but this will not help. To encourage car use will end up using valuable green land for parking. An electric shuttle bus from Loughton and Theydon Bois stations would encourage use of the forest and similarly a bus service to any and all SANGS would be a great boon.</p>		The design principles for SANG included in the Strategy support this approach. See also overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>If you do live near [the sites shown as a 'Strategic Allocation' or a 'Site for Enhancement'] would you be likely to visit any of these sites instead of the Epping Forest?</p> <p>Yes - If artworks are allowed to flourish. It depends on the final project. The document shows many pictures from around the globe of successful planting ideas but many are from cities. The feeling will be very different with houses more spread out and people having gardens. Wild flower planting needs special care as it may introduce invasive or competitive species to the existing flora.</p>		Comments noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement?</p> <p>Any spare snippets of land near roads are worth consideration, maybe not as visitor attractions but as places that could enhance living in the district</p>		The important role that smaller spaces can play is included in Part 2 of the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Some of the proposals, such as land around Copped Hall are privately owned and therefore it is difficult to see how use can be made of them. There will be many hoops to go through.</p>	Further comments	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>There is no mention of transport other than cars and parking charges in the forest. Charging for parking in the forest is directly against the notion of the people's forest, however if an alternative is employed then it could be acceptable but that will mean dog friendly buses</p>	Further comments	Wider transport considerations are not a matter for the Strategy but rather are addressed through the Council's emerging Local Plan policies, including site specific requirements. See also the overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>How robustly will the rights of way be defended? Especially if paths are moved by developers, with or without notification</p>	Further comments	Public Rights of Way are legally protected and overseen by Essex County Council.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>water quality suffers with run off from over fertilised fields. Better practice from farming would quickly improve the water quality. Where is that mentioned in the document?</p>	Further comments	This is set out in Part 2 of the Strategy (The Water Environment).
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Is there a map of sites to be included in the Green Arc, if the arc is to be continuous then surely these sites need to be identified and then avoided by planning?</p>	Further comments	This level of detail has not yet been developed by the Green Arc Partnership.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Page 35 lifting canopies strikes me as a bad idea - the scrub that lines the roads performs a vital role in collecting a lot of the pollutants that fall from vehicles. Not just particulates form fossil fuels but also tyre degradation and brake linings.</p>	Para 3.12	Lifting canopies can have benefits to both the health of trees and the ecology surrounding them. The Strategy makes it clear that such an approach will not be appropriate in all cases.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	The picture shows trees that have, in the past, been pollarded. Now that they are no longer so treated they are in a pretty bad way, you can see lots of water ingress in the limbs.	Page 35	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	A lot of wordage about good design but how is this to be assessed? Again the answer seems to be to parcel it out to a remote and unconnected panel. I fear this will waste a lot of money.	Further comments	Development proposals, including the Green Infrastructure component, will be assessed by Council officers. Critical friend advice from the Council's Quality Review Panel will assist in that assessment and is in line with good practice.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Can the money raised from 106 agreement really cover the cost of these projects? There will be insufficient funds for half of this.		A range of funding sources have been identified. The costs of Green Infrastructure provision have been considered as part of the Local Plan viability work.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	A picture of Berlin, very nice and very good design is evident. However that is from a place that is used to much more communal space and inter generational renting, with low rent and secured tenancies, can this be translated to much more separate housing, owner occupied with their own gardens?	Page 55	The picture is intended to illustrate what can be achieved within developments through good design to give developers an understanding of the approaches that the Council will be expecting them to take in delivering Green Infrastructure within schemes.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	How will this be funded? 106 money again? The best solution would be education and volunteering, but with authority to act, so effectively an unpaid official role. There is no mention of how this is to be achieved in the document.	Stewardship	Further information on potential stewardship approaches has now been included in the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Consulting team - Who decides who? This might be better put to a competitive tender that is open to residents to see and maybe vote for?	Stewardship	This will be a matter for consideration at the detailed planning application stage and will be determined by the approach to stewardship that is proposed at the time.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Opening canopies and relaxing verge cutting - contradictory ideas at play here. Relaxing verge cutting will also increase the prevalence of hidden litter and more visible litter.	Further Comments	Both approaches have been successfully implemented in other parts of the country.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Tree planting - in general this is best left to trees. Some areas should be left open and see what nature does with them.	Further Comments	Comment noted. This is part of the intention for the promotion of adopting a re-wilding approach on some sites.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Mentions the proximity of Waltham Cross to the Gunpowder Mills but there is no mention of public transport. One is pointless without the other.	Page 86	The matter of public transport in this and other parts of the District are not a matter for the GI Strategy but rather for the Council's emerging Local Plan.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	A general point is one of accessibility, how can less-abled people access the forest?	Further Comments	Comment noted. This is a matter for the Conservators of Epping Forest.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	More talk of parking charges. And as a mention, the introduction of red lines in High Beech was done without notifying the Verderers. There is little or no mention of the verderers in the document or the possible impact on the rights of commoners.	Page 100	These are matters for the Conservators of Epping Forest. See also the overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	No discussion about the possible different rules surrounding the buffer lands bought by the CoL. Does EFDC have more say over their usage?	Further Comments	The use of the buffer lands is ultimately a matter for the Conservators of Epping Forest.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	The Gunpowder Mills can easily be improved to become a "great walk" Linders Field is, in part, in the the local plan for large houses, or at least it will be spoilt by housing in Powell Rd.	Page 106	Gunpowder Mills lies within the Lee Valley Regional Park Authority (LVRPA) area and the opportunities associated with it are set out in the LVRPA adopted Area 6 Strategy. The Strategy has been amended to reflect this.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Theydon Bois picnic areas? On the green that is owned by CoL? Has this been agreed already?	Page 106	This suggestion was put forward by a resident in response to questions raised as part of the Epping Forest Visitor Survey in 2019.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Simon Heap	Survey response	16-Jul-20	The document is a good start but overly wordy and repetitious. Not well enough advertised. The council do not have the correct people in place to oversee the scientific needs of this plan nor the artistic sensibilities that will be required. Spending a lot of money on consultants is not always a good idea.	Further Comments	The Strategy has been amended to improve its readability and reduce repetition.
Draft v2 - June 2020	James Willis	Survey response	16-Jul-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Ease of access		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Steven Neville	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Do you agree that we have included all of the GI assets within the District and assessed them correctly in Section 2? No - Could have included Luxborough lake on the border of Chigwell and Buckhurst hill. This is a large lake and has great potential as a green and blue infrastructure area linking up the two urban centres.	Section 2	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Steven Neville	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Do you agree with the multi-functional approach? No - we need to be careful about the types of tree we plant, and in terms of the green Ark some areas should be left to wild themselves. Also linking green areas together in a development needs to be handled sensitively and the creation of wildlife corridors such as tunnels under roads for animals like hedgehogs or Bridges between trees going over roads for animals like squirrels.		The Strategy makes it clear that the multi-functional approach will not be appropriate in all cases.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Steven Neville	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages?</p> <p>Wildflower verges - needs to be handled very carefully. Too many grass verges are parked over and we need to ensure ways of protecting the area otherwise it will just be counter-productive. A better way of using wildflowers would be in selected areas of our existing green spaces such Roding Valley recreation ground.</p> <p>Tree planting - need to make sure that the trees are sensitive to the areas they are going into and are good at taking up CO2 as some trees are better than others and further investigation into this needs to happen I think.</p> <p>A goal of not increasing the maintenance budget should be removed. Whilst it's a nice idea it may be unrealistic and we should deal with each project within the bigger projects on their own merits and not beat ourselves up if the maintenance project on one project goes up because we didn't see certain things happening.</p>	Appendix 1	Comments noted and the suggestions are helpful. These will be considered as part of the development of the approach to individual projects.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Steven Neville	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects could happen?</p> <p>Grass verges of Loughton Way and hearts of land around the back of the allotments in lower Queens Road and behind Hornbeam close or Hornbeam Road and the green on Cascade Road in Buckhurst hill as well as the Roding Valley Recreation ground. There are also a number of green islands in certain former council estates which might lend themselves to having a small area of wildflowers, depending on the size of them.</p>		The Council will consider these helpful suggestions in identifying potential projects.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Steven Neville	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest?</p> <p>Good access and a combination of human and natural world use</p>		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Steven Neville	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement?</p> <p>Whilst Roding Valley recreation ground is already a great resource it could benefit from some rewilding projects such as those ones already carried out but extended. Also Luxborough lake is a site which would be used very much by the public if the opportunity arose. It has great potential for green and blue infrastructure enhancements and would link up Chigwell and Buckhurst hill. It was once open to the public but is now in private hands. Certainly an approach needs to be made by the council in the first instance to see if we can work with the owner.</p>		See overarching SANG response. Roding Valley Playing Fields has now been included as an Infrastructure Enhancement Project.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Steven Neville	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>The document is reasonable but in need of improvement. There needs to be more joined up thinking in terms of the spaces allocated and the way in which we travel there. This part of the strategy needs to be beefed up because how we travel across the</p>	Further Comments	The Strategy emphasises the need to improve connectivity between places and this is set out in the guidance provided.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patricia Moxey	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>No reference to a specific timeline for implementation of the various projects.</p>		A timeline has now been included for relevant projects.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patricia Moxey	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Monitoring is required to ensure that the delivery is as expected.</p>		The Strategy has been amended to include further information on the approach to monitoring.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patricia Moxey	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>There will be significant costs for the successful delivery of such an ambitious programme and attention must be paid to clearer funding sources.</p>		The Strategy identifies a range of funding opportunities.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patricia Moxey	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Too much centred on the main areas of population to the west of the district. There is a need to think about provision right across district, especially the settlement of Ongar and the surrounding villages.</p>		This reflects the location of development proposed in the Council's emerging Local Plan, as part of the purpose of developing the Strategy is to support the implementation of the Plan's policies in relation to the provision of Green Infrastructure.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patricia Moxey	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Food production on farmland must be given greater emphasis and allotments celebrated and enhanced. Studies have shown that allotments are key locations for biodiversity. More should be included to encourage folk to grow their own food.</p>		This is not the purpose of the Strategy. The Strategy recognises the important role that allotments play.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patricia Moxey	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>A key finding from the response of people to lockdown as a result of the pandemic is a greater appreciation of their own immediate green spaces within walking distance of home. This must now be factored into any designs for all the new proposed developments within the district and existing green spaces within the urban footprints of each settlement must be protected from any hint of infilling.</p>		The Strategy reflects this approach.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patricia Moxey	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Suggest encouraging additional planting schemes in all properties, both private and council owned.</p>		The GI Strategy seeks to encourage such an approach.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patricia Moxey	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Considerable concerns that it is suggested that den building is an acceptable activity in Epping Forest. The fallen logs in the northern woodlands of the Forest provide homes to many Great Crested Newts which hide beneath them during the day, venturing out after dark in search of food. As protected species it is an offence to disturb the habitat of such animals. I would recommend that this suggestion is removed in relation to the Forest.</p> <p>Too many dens are left in place and present a fire hazard which can damage these ancient green monuments. Ideally, den making should be an activity in other locations with a greater degree of on-site supervision.</p>		The Strategy makes it clear that this is a District wide opportunity and that it will only be acceptable where it does not impact on the ecological health of a site.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Patricia Moxey	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Specific concerns about the deliverability of a sufficient number of SANGs to meet the needs of the amount of proposed development not just in the Epping Forest area, but the high numbers of new residents with adjacent boroughs too. If the calculations are correct there is a massive shortfall in the amount of land required to protect the SAC of Epping Forest from overuse.	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patricia Moxey	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Needs to be a clear understanding of the true value of the uniqueness of Epping Forest and the damage caused to its various fragile ecosystems by increasing visitor numbers. Soil compaction is just one facet of the damage and disruption to the behaviour of deer or breeding bird species is another. There needs to be some serious research carried out to evaluate the carrying capacity of existing green spaces being used for recreational activities. The various parcels of Bufferland to the Forest provide green corridors linking the Forest to the surrounding countryside enabling wildlife and humans to enjoy the wonderful landscapes of the area and appreciate some really tranquil sites on the edge of London.	The Council has been working with Natural England and the Conservators of Epping Forest in order to develop the most appropriate approaches for supporting the ecological health of the Epping Forest. Both Natural England and the Conservators were consulted on the draft Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patricia Moxey	Survey response	16-Jul-20	To ensure good way-finding requires ongoing funding and sign up to paths many of which cross agricultural land. Sadly, not all users are respectful of the countryside.	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patricia Moxey	Survey response	16-Jul-20	There are a considerable number of books and other published guides to the different walking routes in the district. Why is there no reference to the West Essex Ramblers, other organisations such as the many health and well-being groups, the local Horse Riding Groups all of whom are well acquainted with the various routes?	Relevant users groups will be engaged in the design of individual projects where appropriate.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patricia Moxey	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Many local verges have specific wildflowers and there should not be any sowing of wildflower seeds of dubious origin to supplement the existing flora. Stop mowing and allow for natural seeding and monitor the situation. Assess where verge mowing is essential for road safety and discourage homeowners from scalping the grass outside their own property. Liaison with botanical recorders for details of special verges and ensure that these are properly signed.	Comment noted. These are matters which will need to be considered as part of site specific proposals.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patricia Moxey	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Think carefully about tree planting – it must be the right tree in right place and what after care is envisaged and what is the end point.	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patricia Moxey	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Community Art projects can help local people gain a greater appreciation of their green spaces but have to be managed in a sensitive way so as not to detract from the natural feel of such places but provide opportunities to explore the visual and acoustic potential of such locations.	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patricia Moxey	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Public art could feature within certain selected green spaces but all residents should be reminded of their existence. Perhaps somewhere could be earmarked for a new public park which over time could become an additional visitor attraction?	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patricia Moxey	Survey response	16-Jul-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Easy parking, close to home, seats and well maintained paths, views, a variety of habitats including some mature trees, dog free areas.	Comment noted. The SANG guidance in the Strategy reflects a number of these attributes.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patricia Moxey	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement? To create a SANG the land needs to be close to existing or proposed development sites. This rules out many locations as car usage has to be discouraged to reduce carbon footprints. Unless a significant number of landowners are prepared to put forward productive agricultural sites for such uses it will be impossible to comment as to where there should be any additional sites. Any possible sites close to existing urban areas is likely to be highly valued and unless the Local Authority exercises its compulsory purchase rights this presents the Council with an impossible situation as it will be unable to meet its obligations in providing adequate green space provision to protect the SAC of Epping Forest from further damage.	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patricia Moxey	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Light pollution does impact right across the area - with loss of tranquility for humans and of course various forms of wildlife which are sensitive to artificial light after dark. Any new built development will increase the carbon footprint and make it harder for the council to meet its targets in its Climate Change Declaration.	Further comments This is not a matter for the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Andrew Lloyd-Skinner	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects could happen? The Country Park proposed as part of the current planning application (EPF/1492/18) for the former North Weald Golf Club	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Andrew Lloyd-Skinner	Survey response	16-Jul-20	As the main objective is to avoid impact on the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation (along with providing multi functional SANG), it is clear that some of the sites allocated in the Draft Local Plan will not allow the Council to achieve these objectives due to their location, infrastructure and potential for housing capacity. A rethink of allocated sites is clearly an urgent requirement. It appears that the GI strategy has not been applied in the site selection process for the draft Local Plan.	Further comments See overarching SANG response.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Patrick Gill	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Do you agree with the multi-functional approach? No - People walking dogs do not readily mix with mountain bikers who don't really fit with families having a picnic who may not want noisy children playing nearby.	Multi-functional Approach	The Strategy makes it clear that such spaces will need to be designed to ensure that different activities can co-exist safely.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patrick Gill	Survey response	16-Jul-20	If you do live near [the sites shown as a 'Strategic Allocation' or a 'Site for Enhancement'] would you be likely to visit any of these sites instead of the Epping Forest? No - do not wish to visit a poor copy of a small country park when the forest is next door. The forest was given for the recreational use of the people, not a haven for stag beetles. Pay a large premium to live within easy access of the forest.		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patrick Gill	Survey response	16-Jul-20	The document should have been much shorter and easier to digest	Further comments	Changes have been made to the GI Strategy in order to address this.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patrick Gill	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Pictures cut and pasted from around the globe	Further comments	The use of images from elsewhere are intended to demonstrate what could be achieved and can be useful to help explain the approach that the Council is proposing.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patrick Gill	Survey response	16-Jul-20	No funding identified above section 106 - ongoing maintenance and day-to-day security not considered	Further comments	The costs of on-going maintenance is taken into account in the calculation of Section 106 contributions.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patrick Gill	Survey response	16-Jul-20	How do you propose to have vehicular access to say Copped Hall grounds without putting additional traffic through the forest?	Further comments	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patrick Gill	Survey response	16-Jul-20	What guarantee is there that the SANGS will all be built and correctly maintained?	Further comments	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patrick Gill	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Will the building of the SANGS precede restricting access to the forest or will you continue the process that has been started with the red route and restricting car parking before getting planning consent and funding for the SANGS?	Further comments	See overarching SANG response. Restricting access to the Epping Forest is a matter for the Conservators of Epping Forest and is determined by Acts of Parliament.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patrick Gill	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Greening of the vehicle fleet that will be accelerated by the encroaching ULEZ ignored - with the ban on hydrocarbon fuelled vehicles fast approaching	Further comments	Comment noted. The Council has adopted an Interim Air Pollution Mitigation Strategy to respond to air quality issues.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patrick Gill	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Why are there no EV charging points in any of the refurbished forest car parks?	Further comments	This is a matter for the Conservators of Epping Forest.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patrick Gill	Survey response	16-Jul-20	The strategy document seems to be a rushed, difficult to take seriously with lots of "maybe we can"	Further comments	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patrick Gill	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Maps missing from pages 84 and 89,	Further comments	Mapping has now been added.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patrick Gill	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Where is the diversity survey page?	Further comments	There were optional Diversity and Inclusion questions included within the survey.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Patrick Gill	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Was the document proof read?	Further comments	Yes.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Mary Gill	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Do you agree with the Vision and objectives within the draft Strategy? No - Proposed work at vast expense carried out to divert the residents of Epping Forest District away from the Forest, but LB Waltham Forest is throwing up blocks of flats all over their borough with no green space provision, so the Forest will still be full of visitors, vehicles, dogs, pollution etc, just from a different area.	Vision & Objectives	The Council as a 'competent authority' under the Habitats Regulations is required to ensure that development within the District does not have an adverse effect on the integrity of the Epping Forest SAC. The London Borough of Waltham Forest is also a competent authority under the Habitats Regulations.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Mary Gill	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Do you agree with the multi-functional approach? No - It might work in some areas but not all	Multi-functional Approach	The GI Strategy has been amended to make it clear that a multi-functional approach may not be appropriate in all instances.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Mary Gill	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Do you think we have identified the right themes? I don't think the Art in the Landscape idea is worth pursuing.		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Mary Gill	Survey response	16-Jul-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Free, plentiful parking		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Mary Gill	Survey response	16-Jul-20	The document is overlong, full of jargon, not user friendly for a lay person. It needed serious proofreading and editing, (complimentary/complementary, principal/principle, numerous instances.) Page 33, 3.7 first sentence; page 53, 4.12 first sentence, to name a couple of examples, are garbled).	Further Comments	Comment noted. The structure of the GI Strategy has been reviewed to make it more user-friendly and wording has been reviewed where appropriate to improve its readability.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Mary Gill	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Maps missing from pages 84 and 89 gives the impression of a document being rushed out to meet a deadline and does not inspire confidence in the overall strategy.	Further Comments	Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Mary Gill	Survey response	16-Jul-20	There are some sweeping, unqualified statements such as "not cutting roadside verges can help to encourage safer driver behaviour" (?), and various unsubstantiated assumptions such as the proposed appropriation of land currently used for arable farming and that the City of London Corporation would be happy to turn Copped Hall grounds into a park.	Further Comments	Reduced cutting regimes can be beneficial in encouraging safer driver behaviour at junctions based on experiences elsewhere. See also overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Mary Gill	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Over-reliance on funding from Section 106 money. Maybe the Council has other ideas for this money and in any case, once all the 11,400 homes are built there will not be so much of it flowing into the coffers to pay for maintenance of SANG.	Further Comments	Section 106 funding for the provision and long-term maintenance of GI has been taken into account in the Viability Assessment of the emerging Local Plan as part of a package of infrastructure that is required to be funded by new development and the approach is considered to be appropriate.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Jon Whitehouse	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Do you agree that we have included all of the GI assets within the District and assessed them correctly in Section 2?</p> <p>No - Urban and semi-urban amenity green space such as Jessel Green and Hillyfields in Loughton (albeit there is a photo); public access land such as Nazeingwood Common and the Woodland Trust land at Theydon Bois; forest ponds and lakes; allotments, cemeteries and churchyards. Some of these categories are listed in Section 1 and then omitted from section 2</p>	Section 2	Links to the Council's evidence base which provides more detailed analysis on a parish by parish basis have now been added to the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jon Whitehouse	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Do you agree with the multi-functional approach?</p> <p>Largely agree but, particularly when considering enhancement to existing green and blue infrastructure, it may be that one function (e.g. conservation) should take priority</p>	Multi-functional Approach	The Strategy makes it clear that this approach will not be appropriate in all instances.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jon Whitehouse	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Do you think that we have identified the right themes?</p> <p>No - interesting and important ideas which deserve support but it would be wrong to suggest they cohere into clear themes in this section. The seem to be organised partly by approach and partly by type of greenspace with little clear prioritisation</p>		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jon Whitehouse	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages?</p> <p>Movement And Wayfinding: the maintenance regimes are especially important here. Many PROWs are not very accessible for much of the year because of overgrown vegetation. This is not really addressed in the How do we get there section which is all about design and construction and doesn't deal with the revenue consequences</p>	Appendix 1	Comment noted. The matter of maintenance will be raised with Essex County Council.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jon Whitehouse	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages?</p> <p>Tree Planting - A Call For Sites: Doesn't address the scale of land likely to be required for a truly impactful intervention. Should particularly look for opportunities to link up isolated patches of woodland e.g. along the M11 from Theydon Bois Woodland Trust Wood, through ECC's Debben woods and into the Roding Valley</p>	Appendix 1	The Council's proposed approach is to encourage tree planting in all appropriate locations regardless of the size of the site. The projects identified in Part 4 of the Strategy support the opportunities identified in this comment.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jon Whitehouse	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects could happen?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -M11 and Roding Valley corridor -Treetops Meadow -> Lower Swaines Recreation Ground - Swaines Green -> Lovelocks Field -> Meadow Road allotments and adjacent land at Epping -Western Avenue, Centre Avenue, Centre Drive greens at Epping -Amenity greenspace at Stewards Green Road, Epping -Piazza in front of shops, Coopersale -A414 grass verges 	Appendix 1	The Council will consider these helpful suggestions in identifying potential projects.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jon Whitehouse	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest?</p> <p>Attractive all year round, Large scale spaces - able to walk / run for several miles with minimal road crossings and urban settings</p>		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jon Whitehouse	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement? Please state here.</p> <p>SANG should predominantly be delivered on new sites, especially at or adjacent to the masterplan sites, not simply divert people to already existing sites</p>		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jon Whitehouse	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Proposals for Copped Hall don't mention need to take account of and protect setting of Registered Park, listed building and conservation area status. There are also access issues. Charging for forest car parks risks diverting parking into more sensitive parts of the forest and roadside</p>	Further comments	See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jason Pottle	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages?</p> <p>Think the plans for north Weald golf course should be looked at as they plan to provide at lot of recreational space for local clubs and outside use also</p>	Appendix 1	These projects are small scale proposals intended to be implementable in suitable locations across the District
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jason Pottle	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects could happen?</p> <p>North Weald golf course</p>		These projects are small scale proposals intended to be implementable in suitable locations across the District.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Jason Pottle	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest?</p> <p>Open spaces fishing lakes sports fields</p>		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Stacey Smith	Survey response	16-Jul-20	<p>Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages?</p> <p>The proposed provision for green infrastructure is unclear and the council don't appear to be able to demonstrate that what they are proposing is deliverable. The proposed provision for children and young people in north weals is woefully inadequate and lacking in variety and quality. There is a clear link between anti social behaviour and lack of suitable provision for young people and the council should be conscious of their responsibility in this area.</p>	Appendix 1	The GI Strategy has been amended to make it clearer that there are a number of components which collectively achieve the provision of enhancement of GI across the District. The matter of GI provision in relation to North Weald is linked to the North Weald Masterplan Area.

Draft v2 - June 2020	Stacey Smith	Survey response	16-Jul-20	Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects could happen? North weald park, the proposed development for the old north weals golf course on Rayley lane offers a once in a generation opportunity to provide fantastic community facilities for children, young people and adults.		See overarching SANG response.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Harry Dunn	Survey response	20-Jul-20	Do you agree that we have included all of the GI assets within the District and assessed them correctly in Section 2? No - The old North Weald Golf Course (disused) is a beautiful area, dotted with ponds and -- presumably natural -- wildflowers. Since falling into disuse, it has become meadowland. It has several public footpaths criss-crossing it, and is a true Public Good -- walking distance from North Weald. It should be protected and enhanced.	Section 2	The purpose of the Section is to provide an analysis of the different types of Green Infrastructure assets rather than identifying all locations which accord with these attributes.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Harry Dunn	Survey response	20-Jul-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Natural beauty. Ability to spot wildlife.		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Harry Dunn	Survey response	20-Jul-20	Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement? Please state here. North Weald Golf Course		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Moreton Bobbingworth & Lavers Parish Council	Survey response	24-Jul-20	Do you think that we have identified the right themes? No - cannot find any reference to putting in electric charging points for vehicles in the villages and at various points in the forest. This is essential		The provision of electric vehicle charging points is not a matter for the Strategy but will be considered as part of the Climate Action Plan.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Moreton Bobbingworth & Lavers Parish Council	Survey response	24-Jul-20	Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects could happen? Charging point at all village halls		See response above.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Alexa Kotonou	Survey response	19-Aug-20	Do you have any comments on the District-wide projects identified in the Project Pages? Not enough detail: no map of plan given for south Epping in any detail, important farmland & hedgerows for wildlife.	Appendix 1	The Landscape-Led approach requires development proposals to undertake this type of analysis. This level of specificity is not appropriate for the Strategy.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Alexa Kotonou	Survey response	19-Aug-20	Do you know of any specific locations where you think these projects could happen? The cultivated farmland between Brook Rd, M25 tunnel footpath at Gardners Farm and beyond, where the footpath runs right to Theydon Bois Tube Station. With important habitat for the endangered Sky Lark as well as other wildlife, fauna and flora.		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Alexa Kotonou	Survey response	19-Aug-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Wildlife preservation. Clearly marked footpaths.		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Alexa Kotonou	Survey response	19-Aug-20	Do you know of any additional sites that you would like to see as a Site for Enhancement? Stewards Green Lane		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Alexa Kotonou	Survey response	19-Aug-20	The document isn't clear whether the residential proposals were now abolished in favour of a Green infrastructure strategy in South Epping!? I hope they are. Preserve wildlife.	Further comments	Part of the purpose of the GI Strategy is to ensure that GI is designed in to new development rather than to preclude development.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Luke Moxham	Survey response	04-Oct-20	Do you agree that we have included all of the GI assets within the District and assessed them correctly in Section 2? No - Green Roofs are only mentioned contextually within Section 1. Further detail required on the different types of green/brown roofs, especially on biodiverse roofs.	Section 2	Comment noted. Links to resources in relation to best practice have now been provided. Sustainability guidance will also provide information
Draft v2 - June 2020	Luke Moxham	Survey response	04-Oct-20	Do you think that we have identified the right themes? I agree, however, more emphasis is required on green roofs.		See response above.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Luke Moxham	Survey response	04-Oct-20	What features would encourage you to visit these new or enhanced spaces instead of the Epping Forest? Accessible green roof/gardens and buildings featuring living walls with a variety of plants species. These create excellent social points for the district.		Comment noted.
Draft v2 - June 2020	Luke Moxham	Survey response	04-Oct-20	If you do live near [the sites shown as a 'Strategic Allocation' or a 'Site for Enhancement'] would you be likely to visit any of these sites instead of the Epping Forest? Yes - all of them		Comment noted.

This page is intentionally left blank

Ref	Infrastructure Type	Intervention	Priority	Delivery Partners	Potential Funding Source	Cost	Delivery Phasing	2016-2021	2021-2026	2026-2031	2031-2036	Notes	Baseline source
DW13	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Existing allotment sites to be upgraded to improve facilities and entrances	Required	EFDC	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Dependent upon exact size and nature of schemes	Unknown		Unknown			Upgrades could include better parking provision, improved water supply, and better site security. Priorities for improvement include: better signage on all sites in Buckhurst Hill, Lime Avenue in Chigwell, Moreton Road in Ongar, and all sites in Nazeing and Roydon; improved security fencing and access at Tylers Green in North Weald Bassett; and better, more welcoming access at all sites in Waltham Abbey.	Open Space Strategy
DW14	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Upgrades to play areas where required, including: interventions to make them more welcoming; upgrades to rubberised safety surfacing in provision for children and young people; and more exciting and stimulating play equipment.	Required	EFDC	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Dependent upon exact size and nature of schemes	Unknown		Unknown			Upgrades could involve informative signage and landscaping, including more tree planting to increase their attraction, enhance biodiversity, and provide shade.	Open Space Strategy
DW15	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Improving existing links through signage, physical upgrades etc. and extending the natural and semi-natural green space network	Required	EFDC	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Dependent upon exact size and nature of schemes	Unknown		Unknown			Upgrades could include: enhanced linkages to existing walking and cycling routes; improved waymarking, including of rights of way and footpaths; and the linking of different greenspaces to connect open space, link settlements, and provide improved wildlife habitats.	Open Space Strategy
DW16	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Improvement of existing amenity open spaces to increase their functionality and experience	Required	EFDC	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Dependent upon exact size and nature of schemes	Unknown		Unknown			Improvements could take the form of additional seating, the provision of interpretive signage where there is local heritage and history or landscaping to promote biodiversity.	Consultation with Epping Forest District Council
DW17	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Wayfinding Strategy for the District's Public Rights of Way network to make the network more legible and accessible and to guide people to underused GI assets wherever possible and/or appropriate	Required	TBC	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Dependent upon exact size and nature of schemes	2016-2033						Draft Green Infrastructure Strategy 2020
DW18	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Wildflower verges to district roads	Required	TBC	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Dependent upon exact size and nature of schemes	2016-2033						Draft Green Infrastructure Strategy 2020
DW19	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Wide-scale tree planting	Required	TBC	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Dependent upon exact size and nature of schemes	2016-2033					A public 'Call for Tree Planting Sites' using social media, the involvement of Parish and Town councils, existing community groups the project identifies small and medium scale sites which can be planted by either communities, the Council, or partner organisations.	Draft Green Infrastructure Strategy 2020
DW20	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Art curation	Required	TBC	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Dependent upon exact size and nature of schemes	2016-2033					Establish a means through which the landscape is curated with art of the highest quality.	Draft Green Infrastructure Strategy 2020
DW21	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Contributions towards air quality monitoring, Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) and Strategic Access Management and Monitoring (SAMMS)	Required	Various	Developer Contributions (S106)	TBC	2016-2033	As development is consented			Requirements for contributions will vary by distance from Epping Forest SAC. Locations for SANGs are set out elsewhere in the Infrastructure Delivery Schedule.	Draft Green Infrastructure Strategy 2020	
SSC20	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Ongoing stewardship and governance of open space	Required	Stewardship body (potentially under Qualis Group)	Developers / Grant / Revenues / Other	Unknown	2021-2033						Harlow and Gilston Garden Town Stewardship Advice Stage 2 Final Report
EHA14	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Appropriate provision of public parks and gardens in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 1.40 ha)	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£384,386	2021-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision. Indicative figures relate to the EFDC portion of the site only.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
EHA15	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Appropriate provision of amenity greenspace in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 1.05 ha)	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£154,030	2021-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision. Indicative figures relate to the EFDC portion of the site only.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
EHA16	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Appropriate provision for natural and semi-natural space in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 3.15 ha)	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£165,067	2021-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision. Indicative figures relate to the EFDC portion of the site only.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
EHA17	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Appropriate provision for children and young people in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.44 ha)	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£102,233	2021-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision. Indicative figures relate to the EFDC portion of the site only.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy

Ref	Infrastructure Type	Intervention	Priority	Delivery Partners	Potential Funding Source	Cost	Delivery Phasing	2016-2021	2021-2026	2026-2031	2031-2036	Notes	Baseline source
EHA18	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Appropriate provision of allotments in agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.35 ha)	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£8,373	2021-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide allotments in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Indicative figures relate to the EFDC portion of the site only.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
EHA19	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Compensatory Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) habitat	Essential	Developer / EFDC / Natural England	Developer Funded	Unknown	2021-2033					On-site compensatory habitat creation, in line with BAP priorities.	Consultation with EFDC
LPR7	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Appropriate provision of public parks and gardens in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 1.97 ha)	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£540,885	2021-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
LPR8	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Appropriate provision of amenity greenspace in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 1.48 ha)	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£217,109	2021-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
LPR9	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Appropriate provision for natural and semi-natural space in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 4.44 ha)	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£232,666	2021-2031					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
LPR10	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Appropriate provision for children and young people in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.62 ha)	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£144,056	2021-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
LPR11	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Appropriate provision of allotments in agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.49 ha)	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£11,722	2021-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide allotments in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
LPR12	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Site specific Green Infrastructure Interventions	Required	Developers	Developer Contributions (S106)	Unknown	2021-2033					Site specific requirements in accordance with EFDC Local Plan Policy SP 7 The Natural Environment, Landscape Character and Green and Blue Infrastructure; Chapter 5 Place Policies - Vision and Policies by Settlement; Site Specific Requirements for site allocations in Part 2 of the Local Strategy; and Green Infrastructure Strategy. Policies and site allocation set out requirements for the developer on a site by site basis, including green infrastructure interventions, the protection of ecological assets and high quality landscape design. Site infrastructure details will be confirmed at master planning stage. Likely to include strategic walking routes which tie into the Stort and Lea Valley and with Harlow's green spaces and town centre, and activation and interpretation projects to engage a wider range of people with the countryside.	Draft Green Infrastructure Strategy 2020 / Consultation with EFDC
LPR13	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Unknown	2021-2033					See DW20.	Draft Green Infrastructure Strategy 2020
WLA10	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Appropriate provision of public parks and gardens in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 3.88 ha)	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£1,065,297	2021-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
WLA11	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Appropriate provision of amenity greenspace in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 2.91 ha)	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£426,883	2021-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
WLA12	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Appropriate provision for natural and semi-natural space in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 8.47 ha)	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£443,848	2021-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
WLA13	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Appropriate provision for children and young people in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 1.21 ha)	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£281,141	2021-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
WLA14	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Appropriate provision of allotments in agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.97 ha)	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£23,205	2021-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide allotments in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy

Ref	Infrastructure Type	Intervention	Priority	Delivery Partners	Potential Funding Source	Cost	Delivery Phasing	2016-2021	2021-2026	2026-2031	2031-2036	Notes	Baseline source
WLA15	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Site specific Green Infrastructure Interventions	Required	Developers	Developer Contributions (S106)	Unknown	2021-2033					Site specific requirements in accordance with EFDC Local Plan Policy SP 7 The Natural Environment, Landscape Character and Green and Blue Infrastructure; Chapter 5 Place Policies - Vision and Policies by Settlement; Site Specific Requirements for site allocations in Part 2 of the Local Plan; and Green Infrastructure Strategy. Policies and site allocation set out requirements for the developer on a site by site basis, including green infrastructure interventions, the protection of ecological assets and high quality landscape design. Site infrastructure details will be confirmed at master planning stage. Likely to include strategic walking routes which tie into the Stort and Lea Valley and with Harlow's green spaces and town centre, and activation and interpretation projects to engage a wider range of people with the countryside.	Draft Green Infrastructure Strategy 2020 / Consultation with EFDC
WLA16	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Unknown	2021-2033					See DW20.	Draft Green Infrastructure Strategy 2020
WLA17	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Activation and interpretation projects to engage a wider range of people with the countryside	Required	Developers	Developer Contributions (S106)	Unknown	2021-2033						Draft Green Infrastructure Strategy 2020 Consultation with EFDC
BUC13	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of public parks and gardens in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 4.19 ha)	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	#VALUE!	2016-2031					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
BUC14	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of amenity greenspace (potentially to south of Buckhurst Hill) in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 7.10 ha).	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£1,041,536	2016-2031					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
BUC15	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision for children and young people in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 1.99 ha)	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£462,372	2016-2031					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
BUC16	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Consider rationalisation and release of surplus allotments	Required	EFDC	Grant Funding	Unknown	Unknown			Unknown			Open Space Strategy
BUC17	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Contribution to access management and monitoring of visitors to the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	Essential	Epping Forest Conservators / City of London Corporation / EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106)	Variable	2016-2033			As development is consented		Financial contributions should be made in accordance with Visitor Survey Information which demonstrates this is needed. Per dwelling contribution still to be determined. Per dwelling contribution still to be determined.	Consultation with EFDC
EPP25	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of amenity greenspace in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 1.78 ha).	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£261,117	2021-2033					Epping currently has sufficient amenity greenspace but will require additional greenspace later in the plan period. Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
EPP26	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of public parks and gardens, which could take the form of a public park, in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 11.68 ha)	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	#VALUE!	2016-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
EPP27	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Enhanced signage, access and seating at Lower Swaines in Epping	Required	EFDC	Grant Funding	Dependent upon exact size and nature of scheme	Unknown			Unknown			Open Space Strategy
EPP28	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision for children and young people in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 3.34 ha)	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	#VALUE!	2016-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
EPP29	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Re-provision of LEAP at Lower Swaines in Epping	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Match cricket pitch on macadem base (32 x 3)	2016-2033						Open Space Strategy
EPP30	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Contribution to access management and monitoring of visitors to the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	Essential	Epping Forest Conservators / City of London Corporation / EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106)	Variable	2016-2033			As development is consented		Financial contributions should be made in accordance with Visitor Survey Information which demonstrates this is needed. Per dwelling contribution still to be determined.	Consultation with EFDC
EPP31	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Unknown	TBC			TBC		See DW20.	Draft Green Infrastructure Strategy 2020

Ref	Infrastructure Type	Intervention	Priority	Delivery Partners	Potential Funding Source	Cost	Delivery Phasing	2016-2021	2021-2026	2026-2031	2031-2036	Notes	Baseline source
CHG8	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of amenity greenspace in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 4.33 ha).	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£635,190	2016-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
CHG9	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of public parks and gardens, which could take the form of a public park, in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 12.23 ha)	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£0	2016-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
CHG10	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Enhanced maintenance, access and signage at High Meadow in Chigwell	Required	EFDC	Grant Funding	Dependent upon exact size and nature of scheme	Unknown	Unknown					Open Space Strategy
CHG11	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision for children and young people in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 3.64 ha)	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	#VALUE!	2016-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
CHG12	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of allotments in agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 2.31 ha)	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	#VALUE!	2016-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide allotments in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
CHG13	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Contribution to access management and monitoring of visitors to the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	Essential	Epping Forest Conservators / City of London Corporation / EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106)	Variable	2016-2033	As development is consented				Financial contributions should be made in accordance with Visitor Survey Information which demonstrates this is needed. Per dwelling contribution still to be determined.	Consultation with EFDC
HON4	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of amenity greenspace in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.15 ha).	Required	EFDC/Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£22,004	2016-2026					Newly arising need only. Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
HON5	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of public parks and gardens, which could take the form of a public park, in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.20 ha)	Required	EFDC/Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£54,912	2016-2026					Newly arising need only. Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
HON6	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision for children and young people in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.06 ha)	Required	EFDC/Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£13,941	2016-2026					Newly arising need only. Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
FYF4	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of amenity greenspace in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.10 ha).	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£14,670	2016-2026					Newly arising need only. Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
FYF5	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of public parks and gardens, which could take the form of a public park, in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.13 ha)	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£35,693	2016-2026					Newly arising need only. Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
FYF6	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision for children and young people in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.04 ha)	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£9,294	2016-2026					Newly arising need only. Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
LOU27	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of public parks and gardens in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 27.71 ha)	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£7,608,088	2016-2031					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
LOU28	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Upgrading of Roding Valley Recreation Ground	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Dependent upon exact size and nature of scheme	2016-2031					Upgrades required to fulfil Ground's role as a public park for Buckhurst Hill and to meet future demand arising from Loughton.	Open Space Strategy
LOU29	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Enhanced signage at the seven natural and semi-natural greenspace sites in Loughton (Roding Valley Meadows; Home Mead; Willingale Road Nature Area; Borders Lane, Loughton; Debden Road; Area adjacent Roding Valley Meadows; Woodland, Theydon Bois)	Required	EFDC	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Dependent upon exact size and nature of scheme	Unknown	Unknown					Open Space Strategy
LOU30	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision for children and young people in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 8.31 ha)	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£0	2016-2031					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)

Ref	Infrastructure Type	Intervention	Priority	Delivery Partners	Potential Funding Source	Cost	Delivery Phasing	2016-2021	2021-2026	2026-2031	2031-2036	Notes	Baseline source
LOU31	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Improved play areas at Roding Valley Recreation Ground (in line with creating multifunctional parks and garden provision)	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Dependent upon exact size and nature of scheme	2016-2031						Open Space Strategy
LOU32	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Potential upgrading of Westall Road and Rectory Road children's play facilities	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Dependent upon exact size and nature of scheme	2016-2031						Open Space Strategy
LOU33	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	New cemetery	Required	EFDC / ECC / Developers / Religious bodies	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Dependent upon exact size and nature of scheme	2016-2031						Open Space Strategy
LOU34	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Contribution to access management and monitoring of visitors to the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	Essential	Epping Forest Conservators / City of London Corporation / EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106)	Variable	2016-2033	As development is consented				Financial contributions should be made in accordance with Visitor Survey Information which demonstrates this is needed. Per dwelling contribution still to be determined.	Consultation with EFDC
LSH3	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of amenity greenspace in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.08 ha).	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£11,736	2016-2026					Newly arising need only. Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
LSH4	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of public parks and gardens, which could take the form of a public park, in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.11 ha)	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£30,202	2016-2026					Newly arising need only. Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
LSH5	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision for children and young people in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.03 ha)	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£6,970	2016-2026					Newly arising need only. Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
LNA7	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of public parks and gardens in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 3.90 ha, assuming equal share of existing capacity between Roydon and Nazeing)	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£1,070,788	2016-2026					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
LNA8	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of amenity greenspace in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 2.33 ha, assuming equal share of existing capacity between Roydon and Nazeing), in the centre of Nazeing	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£341,800	2016-2026					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
LNA9	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision for children and young people	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Dependent upon exact size and nature of scheme	2016-2026					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy
LNA10	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Potential upgrading of Pound Close, Nazeing Common and Elizabeth Close children's play facilities	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Dependent upon exact size and nature of scheme	2016-2026						Open Space Strategy
NWB10	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of public parks and gardens in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 6.14 ha)	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£1,685,805	2016-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
NWB11	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of amenity greenspace in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 3.08 ha).	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£451,821	2016-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
NWB12	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Enhanced entrance signage at the Bassett Road N, Bassett Road E, and Bassett Road sites in North Weald Bassett	Required	EFDC	Grant Funding	Dependent upon exact size and nature of scheme	Unknown	Unknown					Open Space Strategy
NWB13	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision for children and young people in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 1.84 ha)	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£0	2016-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
NWB14	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Potential upgrading of the LAP at School Green Lane in North Weald Bassett	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Dependent upon exact size and nature of scheme	2016-2033						Open Space Strategy
NWB15	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Contribution to access management and monitoring of visitors to the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	Essential	Epping Forest Conservators / City of London Corporation / EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106)	Variable	2016-2033	As development is consented				Financial contributions should be made in accordance with Visitor Survey Information which demonstrates this is needed. Per dwelling contribution still to be determined.	Consultation with EFDC

[SHOULD BE SANG]

Ref	Infrastructure Type	Intervention	Priority	Delivery Partners	Potential Funding Source	Cost	Delivery Phasing	2016-2021	2021-2026	2026-2031	2031-2036	Notes	Baseline source
NWB16	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Site-specific green infrastructure interventions	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Unknown	2016-2033					Site specific requirements in accordance with EFDC Local Plan Policy SP 7 The Natural Environment, Landscape Character and Green and Blue Infrastructure; Chapter 5 Place Policies - Vision and Policies by Settlement; Site Specific Requirements for site allocations in Part 2 of the Local Plan; and Green Infrastructure Strategy. Policies and site allocation set out requirements for the developer on a site by site basis, including green infrastructure interventions, the protection of ecological assets and high quality landscape design. Site infrastructure details will be confirmed at master planning stage. Likely to include landscape connections to the Lea and Stort Valleys, complimentary networks of green open spaces tying together new and existing communities, and activation and interpretation projects to engage a wider range of people with the countryside.	Draft Green Infrastructure Strategy 2020; Consultation with EFDC
NWB17	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Unknown	TBC		TBC			See DW20.	Draft Green Infrastructure Strategy 2020
ONG10	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of amenity greenspace in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 1.99 ha)	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£291,923	2021-2026					Ongar currently has sufficient amenity greenspace but will require additional greenspace later in the plan period. Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
ONG11	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of public parks and gardens, which could take the form of a public park, in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 6.66 ha)	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£0	2016-2026					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
ONG12	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of natural and semi-natural greenspace in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 4.41 ha)	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	#VALUE!	2016-2026					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
ONG13	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision for children and young people in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 2.08 ha)	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	#VALUE!	2016-2026					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
ONG14	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Upgrading of LEAP at Greensted Road in Ongar	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Survey Fees	2016-2026						Open Space Strategy
ROY3	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of amenity greenspace in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 2.08 ha, assuming equal share of existing capacity between Roydon and Nazeing)	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£305,126	2016-2026					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
ROY4	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of public parks and gardens in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 3.58 ha, assuming equal share of existing capacity between Roydon and Nazeing)	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£982,929	2016-2026					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
ROY5	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision for children and young people	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Dependent upon exact size and nature of scheme	2016-2026					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy
ROY6	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Potential upgrading of Roydon Playing Fields Playground	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Dependent upon exact size and nature of scheme	2016-2026						Open Space Strategy
SHE3	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of amenity greenspace in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.18 ha).	Required	EFDC/Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£26,405	2016-2026					Newly arising need only. Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
SHE4	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of public parks and gardens, which could take the form of a public park, in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.23 ha)	Required	EFDC/Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£63,149	2016-2026					Newly arising need only. Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
SHE5	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision for children and young people in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.07 ha)	Required	EFDC/Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£16,264	2016-2026					Newly arising need only. Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy

Ref	Infrastructure Type	Intervention	Priority	Delivery Partners	Potential Funding Source	Cost	Delivery Phasing	2016-2021	2021-2026	2026-2031	2031-2036	Notes	Baseline source
STA4	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of amenity greenspace in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.16 ha).	Required	EFDC/Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£23,471	2016-2026					Newly arising need only. Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
STA5	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of public parks and gardens, which could take the form of a public park, in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.22 ha)	Required	EFDC/Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£60,403	2016-2026					Newly arising need only. Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
STA6	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision for children and young people in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.07 ha)	Required	EFDC/Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£16,264	2016-2026					Newly arising need only. Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
THB6	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of public parks and gardens in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 3.58 ha)	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£982,929	2016-2026					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
THB7	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision for children and young people in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 1.04 ha)	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	#VALUE!	2016-2026					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
THB8	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Contribution to access management and monitoring of visitors to the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	Essential	Epping Forest Conservators / City of London Corporation / EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106)	Variable	2016-2033	As development is consented				Financial contributions should be made in accordance with Visitor Survey Information which demonstrates this is needed. Per dwelling contribution still to be determined.	Consultation with EFDC
THO4	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of amenity greenspace in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.28 ha).	Required	EFDC/Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£41,075	2016-2026					Newly arising need only. Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
THO5	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of public parks and gardens, which could take the form of a public park, in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.37 ha)	Required	EFDC/Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£101,588	2016-2026					Newly arising need only. Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
THO6	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision for children and young people in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.12 ha)	Required	EFDC/Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£27,882	2016-2026					Newly arising need only. Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
THO7	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of allotments in agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 0.09 ha)	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£2,153	2016-2026					Newly arising need only. Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide allotments in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy.	Modelled output, based on standards in Open Space Strategy
THO8	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Contribution to access management and monitoring of visitors to the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	Essential	Epping Forest Conservators / City of London Corporation / EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106)	Variable	2016-2033	As development is consented				Financial contributions should be made in accordance with Visitor Survey Information which demonstrates this is needed. Per dwelling contribution still to be determined.	Consultation with EFDC
WAB34	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of public parks and gardens in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 11.40 ha)	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£3,129,996	2016-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
WAB35	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of amenity greenspace in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 10.57 ha).	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	£1,550,568	2016-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
WAB36	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Potential upgrading of Town Mead and Honey Lane children's play facilities	Required	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	Dependent upon exact size and nature of schemes	2016-2033						Open Space Strategy
WAB37	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision for children and young people in line with Fields in Trust Standards and agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 5.66 ha)	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	#VALUE!	2016-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide open space in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy. Nationally adopted standards will be used as a starting point for provision.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)

Ref	Infrastructure Type	Intervention	Priority	Delivery Partners	Potential Funding Source	Cost	Delivery Phasing	2016-2021	2021-2026	2026-2031	2031-2036	Notes	Baseline source
WAB38	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Additional provision of allotments in agreement with EFDC (likely to be around 3.13 ha)	Essential	EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106) / Grant Funding	#VALUE!	2016-2033					Where appropriate, development proposals will be required to provide allotments in accordance with the guidance contained in the Open Space Strategy.	Open Space Strategy (revised by Arup to reflect Main Modifications)
WAB39	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Contribution to access management and monitoring of visitors to the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	Essential	Epping Forest Conservators / City of London Corporation / EFDC / Developers	Developer Contributions (S106)	Variable	2016-2033	As development is consented			Financial contributions should be made in accordance with Visitor Survey Information which demonstrates this is needed. Per dwelling contribution still to be determined.	Consultation with EFDC	
OTH16 Epping	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Recreation for young teenagers, improvement and expansion to the skateboard area and pavilion at Stonards Hill		Epping Town Council									
OTH17 Ongar	Open Space and Green Infrastructure	Existing play areas expanded at Shelley, High Street and Elizabeth II recreation field		Ongar Town Council Proforma response									



FRAME PROJECTS

Epping Forest District Quality Review Panel

Report of Chair's Review Meeting: Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy

Friday 6 March 2020

Frame Projects, 44-48 Wharf Road, London, N1 7UX

Panel

Peter Maxwell (chair)

Neil Davidson

Attendees

Ben Smith	Epping Forest District Council (EFDC)
Ione Braddick	Epping Forest District Council (EFDC)
Lydia Grainger	Epping Forest District Council (EFDC)
Allison De Marco	Frame Projects

Apologies / report copied to

Alison Blom-Cooper	Epping Forest District Council (EFDC)
Deborah Denner	Frame Projects
Sarah Thwaites	Frame Projects

1. Project name

Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy

2. Aims of the Quality Review Panel meeting

The Quality Review Panel provides impartial and objective advice from a diverse range of highly experienced practitioners. This report draws together the panel's advice and is not intended to be a minute of the proceedings. It is intended that the panel's advice may assist project and development management teams in making design improvements where appropriate and in addition may support decision-making, in order to secure the highest possible quality of development.

3. Background

The Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy aims to provide guidance to support EFDC's emerging Local Plan policies – to ensure high quality Green and Blue Infrastructure, including Suitable Alternative Natural Green Spaces (SANGS), is delivered alongside the proposed growth in the District.

There is a desire in the Council to develop a document that supports the aspirations of the Local Plan, in relation to Green and Blue Infrastructure, landscape-led masterplanning and high-quality design

In conjunction with Natural England, the Council have agreed to produce a combined Green Infrastructure and SANGS document which looks to improve the Green Infrastructure network across the district. This work has a particular focus on bringing forward Green Infrastructure in and around new developments to provide a high-quality offer and encourage new and existing residents to use local green space rather than visit Epping Forest SAC.

The final document will be a material consideration in planning decisions.



4. Quality Review Panel's views

Summary

The Quality Review Panel welcomes and supports the work being undertaken in developing the Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy ('the Strategy') – it promises to be a powerful tool for demonstrating some of the public benefits enabled through the emerging Local Plan's housing ambitions. While the panel commends the broad scope, it recommends further work to balance the Strategy's top down approach, with bottom-up engagement to incentivise local communities to take stewardship over individual site-specific projects. It also recommends reviewing audiences, messages and information to be conveyed – further thinking on this will make the document and its structure clearer and more specific to the key groups that it wishes to engage. While it commends the depth of thinking shown the Strategy should be more explicit and evocative, if it is intended to be read by the general public. The panel thinks legibility, brevity and inspiration will be key to the document's efficacy. While the panel supports the overarching aims of the Strategy it recommends refinements including: further work to define and measure 'quality' cross-referencing; embedding physical and mental health more strongly into the Strategy; cultural interpretation; and monitoring and stewardship. It also provides advice on engagement and testing the Strategy. Further details on the panel's views are provided below.

Approach and delivery

- The panel supports the work being undertaken developing the Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy ('the Strategy'). It commends the Council in taking the lead on this piece of work, which represents a genuine opportunity to excite and engage local communities.
- It thinks the Strategy will be a powerful tool for tangibly demonstrating some of the public benefits that will arise from EFDC's emerging Local Plan ambitions for 11,000 new homes.
- The panel highlights how the document could be used to build popular and political capital – leveraging political goodwill and funding. It will be a useful tool, illustrating outcomes people can readily engage with and embrace.
- The panel thinks there is scope to articulate the role of engagement in promoting participation by local communities, and the potential for them to take stewardship over individual site-specific projects. This will complement the Strategy's strategic vision.
- For example, it points to the London National Park City Foundation. Its approach was to set a strategic vision complemented by volunteer stewardship buy-in from the outset – enabling grass-roots delivery to support the project in the long-term.



Leading by example and quality

- The panel supports the emphasis placed on high quality design, maximising qualitative value, including biodiversity value – alongside increases in overall quantum. In balancing quality and quantum, it encourages promotion of a dense network of smaller ecologically rich open spaces – which will be as valuable as big landscape attractors.
- The panel recommends further consideration of how Epping Forest District Council will define and measure ‘quality’. While defining ‘quality’ is subjectively challenging, it will be important to have clear objectives or aspirations. For example, it points to the example of the London Legacy Development Corporation ‘Design Quality Policy’ which provides a definition of good design specific to that place and organisation’s vision.
- The panel highlights the importance of the Council leading by example – delivering the ambitions of the Strategy on its own projects, including housing development on Council owned sites.
- It also recommends exploring how the Strategy’s objectives can be delivered through cross-Council collaboration.

Audience

- The panel points to its previous comments on the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town Sustainability Guidance, about the need to understand intended audiences. It also highlights the challenge of successfully engaging with broad audiences.
- While it understands the Strategy’s critical importance in supporting emerging Local Plan work, it highlights other potential audiences, including developers and the public.
- The panel recommends further work to tailor the document, including creating separate documents or sections within the Strategy to respond to differing audiences. For example, an introduction could be written with the general public in mind, and policy-led element focused within an Appendix.
- The panel points to the suite of documents developed as part of the East London Green Grid (ELGG) work as an exemplar document, which responds to a range of audiences:
 - the ELGG ‘Primer’ is an accessible strategic high-level document identifying existing green grid assets and strategic opportunities illustrated spatially. The Primer can be found [here](#);



- the ELGG draft Supplementary Planning Guidance is a lengthier policy guidance document which supported the spatial strategy and was subsequently carried through to the All London Green Grid SPG; and
- the six ELGG area frameworks provided detail on individual site-specific projects to be taken forward.

Applicability and legibility

- The panel has been asked to comment on the legibility and accessibility of the Strategy, and how this could be improved. If the Strategy is intended to be read by the general public it recommends being clear about why they should read it – and it needs to evocatively present benefits and opportunities.
- It highlights that local communities will want to understand how they can be involved in developing briefs for new open spaces and enhancements of existing spaces. They will want to understand what help is available for them to influence and take stewardship of these spaces.
- It suggests reconsidering chapter lengths, relative to intended audiences and distilling objectives into concise bullet points and augmenting illustrations and images.
- It supports considering how elements of the Strategy could be translated digitally, to increase the Strategy's efficacy, longevity and reach to particular audiences.
- The panel suggests caution at replicating other guidance at length, instead it should focus more on what is important for Epping and its wider environment

Cross-referencing

- The panel supports adopting a similar approach to that being used on the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town Sustainability Guidance, identifying cross-cutting themes within the Strategy and signposting to other relevant guidance.
- For example, the panel points to exemplar sustainable urban drainage systems guidance such as Transport for London's guidance (SuDS in London – a guide) and Construction Industry Research and Information Association (CIRIA) publications.

Engagement and health

- The panel understands that some soft consultation has already been undertaken, including with Councillors and statutory stakeholders. It recommends and supports testing and further refining the Strategy in consultation with local communities.



- It suggests that local engagement could be used to check the Strategy with what is really happening on the ground – noting that local communities will have an intimate knowledge of these sites and spaces.
- The panel also recommends embedding physical and mental health more strongly into the Strategy.

Cultural interpretation

- The panel recommends further analysis on cultural interpretation – this will be critical in evolving landscape character and engaging with local communities. For example, it points to the Hainault Old Forest Boundary Stones, which have been in place for 100s of years but on which there is limited local knowledge.
- It thinks emphasising the cultural value of the District’s open spaces could be a good way to approach enhancements for spaces with lower amenity and ecological value.

Monitoring and stewardship

- The panel wants to understand how implementation of the Strategy’s objectives will be monitored and measured. It suggests a combination of community and Council monitoring and measurement would be most successful.
- It will be critical that local communities are invested in stewardship. The panel recommends early consideration of spaces where volunteers may wish to steward, and those that may require more intensive maintenance – and consideration of alternative arrangements and management and maintenance funding.
- The panel recommends developing a system of community feedback. It suggests a monitoring and evaluation process that enables a circular process, where feedback influences future work.
- It recommends considering how conditioning requirements for landscape or ecology management plan details could ensure robust commitments to protect proposals in the long-term.

Next steps

The panel strongly supports the work undertaken on the Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy. It would like to see this work influence schemes currently travelling through pre-application, and existing schemes already submitted as planning applications.

The panel would like to hear more on how the Strategy is influencing key strategic sites, including Latton Priory.





Epping Forest District Quality Review Panel

Report of Chair's Review Meeting: Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy

Friday 18 September 2020

Zoom video conference

Attendees

Ione Braddick	Epping Forest District Council (EFDC)
Lydia Grainger	Epping Forest District Council (EFDC)
Rosie Sargen	Epping Forest District Council (EFDC)
Deborah Denner	Frame Projects
Lana Elworthy	Frame Projects

Apologies / report copied to

Alison Blom-Cooper	Epping Forest District Council (EFDC)
Rhian Morgan	Epping Forest District Council (EFDC)
Lydia Grainger	Team Manager– Joint Planning Implementation (EFDC)

1. Project name and site address

Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy

2. Presenting team

Rosie Sargen Landscape and Ecology Officer, EFDC
Ione Braddick Senior Urban Design Officer, EFDC

3. Planning authority's briefing

Epping Forest District Council's strategic residential allocations are primarily on the edges of existing settlements and are set on former green belt land. There is a desire in the council to develop a document that supports the aspirations of the local plan, in relation to Green and Blue Infrastructure, landscape led masterplanning and high-quality design.

In conjunction with Natural England the council has agreed to produce a combined Green Infrastructure and Suitable Alternative Natural Green Space document which looks to improve the Green Infrastructure network across the district. This work has a particular focus on bringing forward Green Infrastructure in and around new developments to provide a high-quality offer which will encourage new and existing residents to use local green space rather than visit Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation.

The final strategy will be a material consideration in planning decisions.

The vision for the Epping Forest District Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy is:

'By 2033 a well-connected network of Green and Blue Infrastructure will be created which ensures that both existing and new communities have access to high-quality, well-maintained multi-functional spaces. These green and blue spaces will be safe, sociable and support peoples' health and well-being. The District's important ecological, natural heritage and landscape assets will be protected and enhanced. Net gains in carbon capture and biodiversity will be achieved and a design-led approach to the provision and integration of Green and Blue Infrastructure will be at the heart of creating the District's new places.'

The aim is for the Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy to be reported to Epping Forest District's Cabinet in December for endorsement. Planning officers asked for the panel's views on the strategy, and the way this has evolved in response to previous Quality Review Panel comments.



5. Quality Review Panel's views

The Epping Forest District Quality Review Panel is very supportive of the initiative taken by the council to develop a Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy. At this workshop session, the panel discussed a number of questions posed by planning officers, to help refine and finalise the strategy. The panel's discussion on these topics is set out below.

Question - Is the restructure and layout of the document proving beneficial to its readability and accessibility, and in relation to different audiences? (Please see 'Primer' and 'How to use this document' page in each part)

- In general, the panel felt that the structure and layout of the strategy is very clear - and the use of sub-documents is helpful.
- However, there may be an issue when people refer to individual documents in isolation - for example, Document 1 is very strategic, whereas Document 3 provides much more specific detail.
- Cross referencing will be needed to ensure that the suite of documents, and their different purposes are understood. For example, Document 3 should link back to Document 1 and the Primer, which reflect the unique nature of Epping Forest District.
- The panel highlights that some aspects of the strategy would be generally applicable best practice, rather than being specific to Epping Forest District. Wherever possible, the documents should show how the special landscape character of the area can be celebrated and enhanced.
- In terms of layout, the panel feels that the text appears quite dense, making it difficult to absorb. Giving the page layouts more 'breathing space' would make it easier to read.
- At the previous review, the panel discussed how the strategy could be written with clear audiences in mind. It continues to think that greater clarity about who each document is intended to influence could give it more impact e.g. developer or community.
- If one of the suite of documents is intended primarily for the community, it should be written in plain English. A review of the text by the council's communication officers could help with this.
- Documents intended to be read by developers and their design teams could be made more concise, by omitting general best practice guidance, and being more directive about Epping Forest District's specific ambitions above and beyond this.



- Wherever possible, the panel would encourage brevity - to make the strategy as 'punchy' and effective as possible. Again, communications colleagues may be able to assist with this task.
- For example, it should be possible to cover aspects such as sustainable urban drainage or biodiversity once, and not repeat this - giving a greater focus to specific detailed guidance.
- Messages should be as clear as possible, so that they can be used by planning officers in pre-application negotiations, and by elected members to support decision making. What are the green and blue infrastructure opportunities and deficits for Epping Forest District? What are the potential benefits? How can this be achieved?
- The wider community benefits of increasing green and blue infrastructure are more obvious than ever in the current pandemic - so the strategy is timely and can be expected to attract both public and political support.
- A delivery plan is currently missing from the strategy documents - and the panel would encourage clearer commitments, responsibilities and target dates.
- It would be valuable to consider how much of the green and blue infrastructure strategy can be delivered by current Local Plan strategic allocations?
- Setting clear targets, such as 40% of the strategy to be delivered by 2024, will help hold both developers and the council to account.

Question - Are there ways EFDC can better demonstrate bottom up engagement in the document / any future action plans? (See Stewardship and Funding pages in Parts 1 and 2, and incorporation of responses from consultation into the document)

- The panel applauds the intention to make the green and blue infrastructure strategy meaningful to the community, by supporting bottom up engagement. However, the long timeframes needed for implementation will make it a challenge to give communities a tangible sense of influence.
- One way of addressing this would be to identify a few exemplar projects, that can be delivered in the short to medium term - allowing communities to engage and see the results of their efforts fairly immediately.
- Online engagement platforms such as Commonplace can be a useful tool to enable community input. For example, Camden and Islington have recently used Commonplace to seek community views on changes to streets, as part of their post-Covid response.



- Likewise, with stewardship being an important element of the strategy, it would be great to test different stewardship models through exemplar projects - to see what works best.

Question - Do you consider cross-referencing to the 'Green Infrastructure & Biodiversity' pages of the HGGT/ EFDC Sustainability Guidance a suitable mechanism for monitoring/ evaluating quality? (See 'Green Infrastructure' pages of HGGT Sustainability Guidance, provided.)

- The panel agrees that it is valuable to cross reference the HGGT/EFDC Sustainability Guidance as part of the Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy.
- Similarly, the more the strategy itself is cross referenced, the more embedded it will become in the planning and development process.
- In terms of monitoring / evaluating quality the panel would encourage an approach that identifies top level priorities, with clear target setting as part of the Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy.
- A whole raft of more detailed issues will need to be assessed on a scheme by scheme basis, and the strategy should provide a framework for target setting at this more detailed level.

Question - Would you consider the development of a more detailed Landscape Design Guidance document helpful? At this time, EFDC think it could follow on from Part 2: Landscape-led design - aimed specifically at improving landscape design quality across developments of all scales in the district and helping planning and tree officers and smaller scale developers.

- The panel does not think that a district wide Landscape Design Guidance Document is likely to be effective. It would be difficult to do justice to the wide range of landscape character areas in Epping Forest District.
- The panel feels that it would be a better approach to commission or produce landscape guidance for smaller areas, with more defined character.
- An assessment of strategic allocations, and where you believe no one else will produce a landscape design guide, could help identify where council led guidance would be of most value vs and where responsibility can lie with others.

Post meeting note: the chair of the Quality Review Panel followed up with several examples of landscape design guidance that may be helpful to inform the approach by Epping Forest District. These are listed below.

Whitechapel Public Realm and Open Space Strategy - by Muf Architecture Art - <https://issuu.com/mufarchitectureartllp/docs/wprosg>



LLDC Canal Park Design Guide - by J&L Gibbons
<https://jlg-london.com/Canal-Park>

LLDC Leaway Primer and Design Manual - by 5th Studio
<https://www.newham.gov.uk/downloads/file/862/lrp-primer-nov-2016>

https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/Documents/Planning-and-building-control/Strategic-Planning/Local-Plan/Evidence_base_2016_Local_Plan/DRAFT_LRP_Design_Manual_Nov_2016.pdf

LLDC Odd Guides - following artist involvement / for three areas of the LLDC
<https://issuu.com/queenelizabetholympicpark1/docs>

Park design guide for the Olympic park
https://www.queenelizabetholympicpark.co.uk/-/media/lldc_park-design-guide_web.ashx?la=en

Other comments by the Quality Review Panel

- In general, the panel would encourage a robust and ambitious approach to the Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy - which should make it clear that developers will be held to account against its targets.
- It will be essential to the success of the strategy that it becomes seen as setting binding requirements, not optional guidance.
- The panel feels climate change adaptation could be expanded on.
- The panel also feels that the value and ambition of the strategy merits additional resources and support to realise its full potential. Opportunities for the council's communication team to assist are highlighted above, and others may be able to assist.
- Establishing a delivery strategy, including a programme, will be essential. As part of this process, the monitoring regime will need consideration. Will the planning committee champion the strategy's aims in their decision making? Will there be a commitment to reporting to the community? Can Natural England assist in a formal or informal way?
- Engaging the community and involving them in the creation and stewardship of landscapes, will require a budget. Whether this is resourced via the council or S106 agreements or other sources should be thought through.

Next steps

The panel looks forward to seeing the completed Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy and playing a part in its delivery, through advice on development proposals.



Overarching response to the provision of Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace and the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation

Officer response

- 1.1 A significant number of submissions made in response to the consultation on the Draft Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy ('the GI Strategy') related to the provision of Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) in order to avoid or mitigate any adverse effects on the integrity of the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation ('the SAC'). Having reviewed the submissions officers consider that the most appropriate way of providing a response, recognising the level of commonality in the matters raised, is by providing an overarching response rather than commenting on each individual submission. The officer response is set out in the paragraphs below.

Legal Duties

- 1.2 To clarify some points raised in submissions the Council, as a competent authority under the Habitats Regulations, has a legal duty to ensure that plans and projects, either alone or in combination do not have an adverse effect on the integrity of internationally important sites such as the Epping Forest SAC. This includes the Council's emerging Local Plan. Where an adverse effect on integrity is identified then the Council is required to have in place strategies which avoid or mitigate that effect. There is no hierarchy within the legislation that sets out that avoidance should have priority over mitigation – either approach is legally compliant.

The need for a separate Mitigation Strategy

- 1.3 Submissions have been made that guidance in relation to SANG provision should form part of a separate Strategy. Officers are of the view that the provision of SANG should form a component part, albeit a critical one, of the GI Strategy rather than providing a 'standalone' Strategy. Taking this approach will enable the provision of SANG to be integrated with other forms of Green and Blue Infrastructure provision.
- 1.4 The Strategy has been amended to make it clear that SANG should be incorporated as part of the overall Masterplanning process of those strategic sites where the provision of SANG is required. This reflects the fact that the Council's published guidelines on Masterplanning require the development of a Landscape Framework (see Cabinet report of 18 October 2018: Appendix 4 EB133 which sets out the requirements for the preparation of Masterplans <https://www.efdclocalplan.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/EB133-Governance-Arrangements-for-Local-Plan-Implementation-18th-Oct-2018.pdf>). SANG should be an integrated part of the GI offer on such sites recognising that SANG is not the only element of GI provision that is required as set out in the site-specific policies in the Council's emerging Local Plan. Such an approach supports the place-making principles set out in the relevant strategic policies.
- 1.5 Officers also consider that taking this approach creates greater opportunities to secure SANG which positively enhances the overall GI provision, provides variety in the collective offer and ultimately a greater 'offer' for new residents.

1.6 In response to comments made that it was not clear what the Council's overall approach to avoidance and mitigation is, the Strategy has been amended to clearly set this out. The introduction (Part 0 – Primer) now includes greater detail about the component parts of the Council's approach to mitigation which are as follows:

- Strategic Access Management and Monitoring (SAMMs). The Council endorsed an 'Interim Approach to Managing Recreational Pressures on the Epping Forest Special Area of Conservation': October 2018 (EB143) in October 2018
<https://www.efdclocalplan.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/EB143.pdf>
This was prepared jointly with the Conservators of Epping Forest (as the landowner) and neighbouring local authorities. The Strategy contains measures which will be implemented within the SAC itself.
- Bespoke SANG provision or site-specific measures. This is set out in Part 3 to the Strategy and provides the mechanism for ensuring that strategic sites 'consume their own smoke' so that new residents have Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) available which acts as an alternative recreation offer to the SAC. The provision of SANG in close proximity to where new residents will live is considered to be an effective approach based on findings from the Epping Forest Visitor Surveys where closeness to home was cited as the main factor influencing their choice of site to visit.
- Infrastructure Projects as set out in Part 4 of the GI Strategy. These projects are specific to Debden, Loughton and Buckhurst Hill and involve the enhancement of existing GI assets to increase their attractiveness as a recreational offer for new residents. This approach has been adopted recognising that the sites proposed for development in the emerging Local Plan within this part of the District are of an insufficient size to accommodate any meaningful proportion of SANG.
- Air Pollution Mitigation Strategy as adopted by the Council in January 2021.

1.7 At a more strategic level the creation of a separate SAC Mitigation Strategy which contains all of the elements of mitigation identified would provide a number of procedural, governance and implementation challenges. As can be seen from paragraph 1.6 there are a number of components that collectively avoid and mitigate the effects on the SAC arising from development in the District. It is considered that the on-site mitigation measures are more appropriately addressed on a more strategic basis because of the cross-over of residents from one local authority area using parts of the SAC in another. However other measures are considered to be specific to Epping Forest District. Consequently, it would not be appropriate for other authorities to make decisions on the Council's approach to mitigation, nor oversee their delivery. The approach the Council has proposed is considered to be appropriate and, whilst the Habitats Regulations require a competent authority to have regard to other plans and projects including those within other relevant local authority areas (otherwise known as the 'in-combination' requirement) there is no legal requirement to adopt a composite mitigation strategy. Furthermore, the Council is only legally required to mitigate the effects of development arising from its emerging Local Plan.

The level of guidance provided for the Masterplan Sites

1.8 A number of submissions set out that further detail should be provided in relation to the provision of SANG. Others suggested that too much detail had been provided and concerns were raised that additional requirements were being sought which went beyond that necessary, or did not relate appropriately to the wider Masterplanning process. It is considered that it is important to achieve an appropriate balance between providing

sufficient certainty that SANG provision will come forward at an appropriate time whilst not fettering the proper Masterplanning of individual sites.

- 1.9 Part 3 of the Strategy now includes an indication of the quantum and location of SANG to be provided on individual strategic sites. This is based on the indicative quantum of development proposed in the emerging Local Plan. Some submissions sought clarification on why a figure of 8ha per 1,000 new population has been used to determine the level of SANG to be provided in relation to the relevant sites. The rationale for using this figure was clearly set out in Appendix 3 of the draft Strategy. Officers consider that the quantum being sought is justified and therefore no amendment to the Strategy has been made in this regard. An average occupancy of 2.36 people per household has been used. No material objections were raised with regard to the use of this figure.
- 1.10 In doing so recognition is given to the fact that the Latton Priory, Water Lane and North Weald Bassett Masterplan areas do not lie entirely within the current 6.2km 'Zone of Influence'. The Strategy acknowledges this but also sets out that provision will need to be made for an element of residential development beyond the current Zone of Influence in order to 'future-proof' the developments. This reflects the fact that the Zone of Influence may extend further over the lifetime of the Plan in response to further Visitor Surveys which are proposed to be conducted and to ensure that development on these sites would not contribute to such an expansion. The Strategy has been amended to make it clear that the guidance provided are principles to inform the provision of SANG but are not prescriptive. This enables flexibility in site specific design to respond to site specific circumstances. It also reflects the fact that the Masterplans for the strategic sites are still being developed. Furthermore, it is not necessary to have the full details of each SANG determined as part of the GI Strategy or at the time of the adoption of the emerging Local Plan.
- 1.12 Some respondents raised concerns that additional processes and site requirements were being proposed. The Council has already endorsed guidance on what is expected as part of the Masterplanning of strategic sites through its 'Strategic Masterplanning Briefing Note' (October 2018). This includes the requirement to prepare a landscape framework as part of any Masterplan. The reference to 'Landscape Framework' within the Strategy relates to that component of the Masterplanning process rather than being separate to it. The Strategy has been amended to reflect this.
- 1.13 Comments were raised regarding the need for a Memorandum of Understanding in relation to the delivery of SANG. The policies in the emerging Local Plan, and the Council's published Masterplanning guidance, require joint working between landowners. In particular the guidance states that:

'Where the Masterplan Area comprises more than one allocation site, the Strategic Masterplan should be undertaken jointly between all promoters of the site allocations with oversight by EFDC (and where applicable Harlow District Council and the Harlow and Gilston Garden Town team).'

Consequently, the requirement for a Memorandum of Understanding would be an unnecessary duplication of processes and this has been removed from the Strategy.

- 1.14 The use of the term 'strategic SANG' has caused an element of confusion as to what the role of SANG to be provided at the Masterplan sites is. In particular, concerns were raised that

seeking to provide SANG on the Masterplan sites to provide for existing residents was contrary to Regulation 122 of the Community Infrastructure Levy Regulations. The purpose of the site specific SANG is to mitigate the effects of that new development and not to address existing issues. The level of SANG provision identified is directly related to the number of new homes to be provided within or in close proximity to the 6.2km Zone of Influence, and the number of new residents that would arise based on household projections. The level of provision does not include any requirements to provide land for existing recreational impacts. There is no requirement to do so in the Habitats Regulations and would be contrary to Regulation 122 of the CIL Regulations. . To reflect this the Strategy has been amended to make reference to ‘bespoke’ SANG rather than ‘Strategic’ SANG to make this clearer and the previous guidance in relation to the provision of car parking has been removed.

- 1.15 The provision of SANG is not specifically intended to provide mitigation from other development. Nevertheless, the Strategy does not preclude additional SANG from being provided if an appropriate commercial agreement is arrived at between the relevant parties. The Strategy has been amended to reflect this. Other relevant residential development proposals will be required to mitigate their effect on the Epping Forest SAC as set out in Paragraph 1.6 above.

Delivery and costs

- 1.17 Concerns were raised that the provision of SANG would be an on-going cost burden to local councils and residents. The cost of providing the SANG and its on-going maintenance will be the responsibility of the developer of the site. This will be secured through the use of Section 106 planning obligations at the planning application stage which will require that an appropriate and robust approach to the long-term stewardship of such assets and funding to achieve this. Further information on potential stewardship models has been provided in Part 2 of the GI Strategy as proposed to be adopted. This is a well-established approach to managing assets such as these. The Council will also be adopting an approach of using a 125 year period to equate to ‘in-perpetuity.’ This is an industry wide figure that is regularly used.
- 1.18 Submissions were made in relation to the lack of detail in relation to the timing of the delivery of SANG. The Strategy has been amended to provide indicative timescales of delivery. This reflects the Council’s most up-to-date Housing Trajectory. The Strategy has been amended to make it clear that the land proposed for the delivery of SANG should be made available from first occupation of residential development within the first Phase of development within the Masterplan area. The laying out of the SANG will be undertaken on a phased basis in accordance with a phasing plan to be agreed with the Council as part of the outline planning permission. This will be secured through a Section 106 planning obligation as will the requirement for the SANG to be provided and retained for that purpose. The Strategy has been amended to make this clear.

The appropriateness and efficacy of the ‘Sites for Enhancement’ identified in Appendix 4 of the consultation draft of the Strategy.

- 1.19 Concerns were raised regarding the deliverability of SANG on sites identified in Appendix 4 ‘Sites for Enhancement’ not within either a developers or the Council’s control. A number of concerns were also raised in relation to the acceptability and/or appropriateness of a number of the sites identified including at Copped Hall, Warlies Park and Jessel Green. The inclusion of these sites in the draft Strategy were to ‘test’ the community’s views on their

appropriateness as part of the consultation. These sites were either identified by responders to the Epping Forest Visitor Survey 2019 or where landowners had initially indicated that land could be made available for the provision of SANG.

- 1.20 Further consideration has been given to the appropriateness, effectiveness and potential unintended consequences of enhancing the sites identified – including the potential for attracting more traffic to use roads in close proximity to the Epping Forest SAC. Consideration has also been given to potential sites for enhancement identified through the consultation on the draft Strategy. This has identified specific projects which officers consider are both deliverable and provide a more robust approach to mitigating the effects of residential development on the Epping Forest SAC. These have been included within Part 4 to the Strategy including how they will be delivered and funded. The projects focus on enhancements to the Roding Valley Recreation Ground and the adjoining part of the Roding Valley Nature Reserve and to the Public Rights of Way linking Debden and Theydon Bois to Theydon Bois Wood. It is therefore not proposed to pursue the enhancement of the Sites identified in Appendix 4 of the draft Strategy at this point in time.

The relationship with the Lee Valley Regional Park

- 1.22 There were requests that more recognition should be given to the Lee Valley Regional Park (LVRP). The Strategy has been amended to include more information on the LVRP. In addition, the Strategy has been amended to reflect the proximity of the Waltham Abbey North Masterplan Area to the LVRP. The Masterplan Area lies within the Zone of Influence of the SAC. Officers consider that because of the site's proximity to the LVRP the provision of SANG would be unlikely to be effective as a mitigation measure for the SAC. Rather the Masterplan Area should be required to enhance connections to the LVRP and make financial contributions towards the implementation of a number of projects identified within the Area 6 Strategy developed by the LVRP Authority. The Strategy has been amended to reflect this.

Applying a multi-functional approach within SANG

- 1.23 Submissions were made in relation to the appropriateness of applying a multifunctional approach to the provision of SANG. The Strategy has been amended to make it clear that there are only limited opportunities for multi-functionality on SANG – primarily for the provision of natural play to act as an attractor and for the incorporation of Sustainable Drainage Systems where these are of a natural design which would add value to the visual interest and biodiversity of the SANG.

A need to provide additional SANG beyond the Masterplan areas

- 1.24 Submissions were made regarding the need for SANG to be provided in addition to that required for a number of the strategic Masterplanning sites. The Council has undertaken further analysis of SANG provision and is of the view that the provision of new SANG not associated with that for the identified strategic Masterplan sites would not be effective in diverting new visitors from the Epping Forest SAC. This is because of the scale of development proposed through the emerging Local Plan and its distribution. Consequently, such an approach would not be justified in accordance with either the Habitats Regulations or Regulation 122 of the CIL Regulations. Instead the Council, through Part 4 of the Strategy, has identified two projects which could be justified in terms of securing contributions from new residential development within the parishes of Debden, Loughton and Buckhurst Hill. These projects would provide for enhancements to the Roding Valley Playing Fields which is

a significant existing asset but which has capacity to absorb additional use, and for enhancements to the PRow network to support access to the Theydon Bois Woodland Trust site. This site has been developed for the benefit of local residents within this part of Epping Forest District in particular as there are no car parking facilities and can again accommodate some increase in use. It is considered that these provide more effective opportunities to address Epping Forest SAC visitor pressures as part of the package of measures that the Council is proposing.

The Strategy should mitigate for the full quantum of Local Plan development

- 1.25 Submissions were made regarding the quantum of development that should be mitigated for, within the context of the emerging Local Plan housing requirement of 11,400 dwellings. It is important to recognise that, in relation to recreational pressures, there is only a legal requirement to mitigate for residential development within the 6.2km Zone of Influence (Zoi). Furthermore, a quantum of residential development has been built since the start of the Plan period i.e. 2011 – the Plan period has been set at 2011 for technical planning reasons. This predated the approach now required to be taken by the Council. Consequently the quantum of residential development that needs to be mitigated for is materially less than the 11,400 housing requirement figure. Appendix 1 to this response identifies the sites proposed for allocation in the emerging Local Plan (having had regard to the Local Plan Inspector’s Advice Note of 2 August 2019) and the associated indicative quantum of development.

Introducing charging for car parks within the SAC

- 1.26 Submissions have been made in relation to the Council encouraging the Conservators of Epping Forest to apply car parking charges at car parks within their control and the impact this would have for residents of the District, and particularly those on low incomes or with mobility issues. Submissions were also made in relation to the introduction of on-road parking restrictions (red-lining) and the impacts of both initiatives on local roads.
- 1.27 Car parking charging is ultimately a matter for the Conservators of Epping Forest. The suggestion within the draft Strategy was in order to encourage new residents to make use of the SANG provided. It is also important to consider that many of the visitors to the Forest who come by car are from further afield and therefore put pressure on the Forest. Recognising that this adds to vehicular traffic on roads in close proximity to the Forest and therefore contributes to the atmospheric pollution that is impacting on the health of the Forest, charging for parking could act as a deterrent to some visitors. Any proposals to introduce car parking would need to be undertaken in conjunction with Essex County Council as the local highway authority within the area to ensure that parking isn’t diverted to local streets.
- 1.28 Since the publication of the draft Strategy for consultation in June 2020 a proposal to introduce car parking charging within Forest Car Parks was considered by the City of London Corporation’s Epping Forest & Commons Committee on 16 November, 2020. ([Item 12 pages 285-294](#)). The committee resolved to approve the implementation of a car park charging scheme in Epping Forest. [A further report](#) was considered by the same committee on 18 January 2021 (Item 13) with three options for levels of charging.

An alternative approach to Mitigation should be adopted.

- 1.29 Submissions were made suggesting that the Council should adopt a different approach to mitigation, such as that being pursued through the Essex Coast Recreational Disturbance, Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy ('the Essex Coast RAMS'). The Council is satisfied that the approach that it is taking towards the mitigation of recreational pressures arising from development is an appropriate, robust and proportionate approach having regard to the particular geographic context and the specific nature of the challenges facing the Epping Forest SAC.

Appendix 1: Location and quantum of Local Plan development

The Masterplan sites identified as requiring the provision of 'bespoke' SANG are as follows:

Latton Priory Garden Community

This site has an indicative capacity for 1050 homes. Based on this indicative c. 20ha of SANG would be required. Part of the site lies beyond the current 6.2km ZoI. However, the Council has determined that there is a need to 'future-proof' the development and therefore expect that the full quantum of residential development is mitigated for. Further work is currently being undertaken by the site promoter in terms of the detailed form of the SANG provision once the final location of the access road has been resolved. Notwithstanding this, as indicated at the Examination Hearing Session on 21 May 2019, the site promoter has control over land contiguous with the southern boundary of the site allocation (as proposed to be amended) such that the Council considers there is sufficient land available to provide a sufficient quantum of SANG.

Water Lane Garden Community

The Masterplan area provides for some 2,100 new homes. Based on the total number of homes proposed within the Masterplan area the provision of SANG would equate to c.40ha. However, it is also important to note that a significant part of the site lies beyond the current 6.2km Zone of Influence. The Council has determined that there is a need to 'future-proof' the development and will therefore expect SANG provision for the southern development site of West Sumners. An assumed figure of 700 dwellings on the land would result in the need for some 13ha of SANG.

North Weald Bassett Masterplan Area

The Masterplan Area provides for 1050 new homes. Based on the total number of homes proposed within the Masterplan area this equates to 20ha. The approach to be taken is set out in Appendix 2 of the Strategy. The Council as landowner is currently working with the site promoters to incorporate land as part of the SANG provision. However, it is also important to note that a large part of the site lies beyond the current 6.2km Zone of Influence. Nevertheless, the Council has determined that there is a need to 'future-proof' the development and will therefore require an element of additional SANG provision in this location.

South of Epping Masterplan Area

The site lies within 3km of the EFSAC. The proposed MMs in relation to the Masterplan Area include a significant reduction in the number of new homes to be provided from c.950 dwellings to c. 450 dwellings. This change will significantly reduce the number of new residents potentially accessing the northern part of the EFSAC. Nevertheless, due to the proximity of the Masterplan Area to the EFSAC it is key that SANG provision should be of a sufficient size to accommodate a reasonable length of walk within the Masterplan Area itself. Consequently the indicative quantum of SANG required is therefore a minimum of 10ha. The Council's updated housing trajectory indicates that this site will not begin delivering new homes until 2028 i.e. in the second five year period of the plan.

1.18 Masterplan sites not required to provide SANG.

Waltham Abbey North Masterplan Area

The vast majority of the Masterplan Area lies some 3km from the Epping Forest SAC. And is proposed to deliver some 740 new homes. Both the 2017 and 2019 Visitor Surveys show that very few EFSAC visitors are derived from the Waltham Abbey area. It is one of the nuances that in deriving a Zol that an average across the area is used which does not necessarily reflect different geographic variances. In the case of Waltham Abbey the limited number of visitors is not surprising recognising its proximity to the Lee Valley Regional Park (LVRP). The Waltham Abbey North Masterplan Area is located within a few hundred metres of an access point into the LVRP at its closest point. Consequently it is considered that the provision of on-site strategic SANG would be unlikely to be either effective or necessary and may well not pass the CIL Regulation 122 tests. Rather the Council is of the view that investment in improving/providing new walking and cycling links, including in to the LVRP, are more justifiable and more likely to be effective based on the evidence contained in the 2017 and 2019 Visitor surveys. Such an approach is considered to be in line with the Lee Valley Regional Park Authority's Strategy for the area (Area 6).

Residential sites within 3km of the SAC not required to provide SANG

Epping

- EPP.R4 Land at St Johns Road – approximately 34 homes and appropriate uses.
- EPP.R5 Epping Sports Centre – approximately 42 homes
- EPP.R6 Cottis Lane Car park – approximately 47 homes
- EPP.R7 Bakers Lane Car Park – approximately 31 homes
- EPP.R8 Land and part of Civic Offices – approximately 44 homes
- EPP.R9 Land at Bower Vale – approximately 50 homes
- EPP.R11 Epping Library – approximately 11 homes

Total number of new homes: 259

Loughton and Debden

- LOU.R3 Land at Vere Road – Approximately 9 homes
- LOU.R4 Borders Lane playing fields – Approximately 217 homes
- LOU.R6 Royal Oak public house – Approximately 10 homes
- LOU.R7 Loughton Library – Approximately 20 homes
- LOU.R9 Land at former Epping Forest College – Approximately 111 homes
- LOU.R10 Land at Station Road – Approximately 12 homes
- LOU.R11 Land west of Roding Road – Approximately 9 homes
- LOU.R12 Land at 63 Wellfields – Approximately 10 homes
- LOU.R13 Land at 70 Wellfields – Approximately 6 homes
- LOU.R14 Land at Alderton Hill – Approximately 19 homes
- LOU.R15 Land at Traps Hill – Approximately 6 homes
- LOU.R16 St Thomas More RC Church – Approximately 18 homes
- LOU.R18 Land at High Beech Road – Approximately 8 homes

Total number of new homes: 455

LOU.R4 (Borders Lane) and LOU.R9 are required to provide an element of on-site open space provision. The remained are all smaller sites. Due to the scale of the developments there is no ability to make provision for SANG. The Council has identified opportunities to enhancement the Roding Valley Recreation Ground and adjoining parts of the Roding Valley Meadows Nature Reserve and access together with enhancements to the Public Rights of Way to Theydon Bois Wood. Developments in Loughton and Debden will be required to make a financial contribution to these enhancements in addition to the contributions required for the implementation of the Epping Forest SAMM measures.

Waltham Abbey

- WAL.R4 Fire Station, Sewardstone Road – Approximately 16 homes
- WAL.R5 Waltham Abbey Community Centre, Saxon Way – Approximately 53 homes and re-provision of a community centre
- WAL.R6 Waltham Abbey Swimming Pool, Roundhills – Approximately 27 homes

Total number of new homes: 96

These sites are primarily located within close proximity to the LVRP and therefore the Council is of the view that the LVRP has the potential to provide a suitable alternative recreational opportunity having had regard to the LVRP Authority's Area 6 Strategy.

Buckhurst Hill

- BUCK.R1 Land at Powell Road – Approximately 31 homes
- BUCK.R2 Queens Road car park – Approximately 41 homes
- BUCK.R3 Stores at Lower Queens Road – Approximately 15 new homes and reprovision of 24 homes and retail floorspace.

Total number of new homes: 87

The Council has identified opportunities to enhancement the Roding Valley Recreation Ground and adjoining parts of the Roding Valley Meadows Nature Reserve and access together with enhancements to the Public Rights of Way to Theydon Bois Wood. Developments in Buckhurst Hill will be required to make a financial contribution to these enhancements in addition to the contributions required for the implementation of the Epping Forest SAMM measures.

Chigwell

- CHIG.R5 Land at Chigwell Nurseries – Approximately 65 homes
- CHIG.R8 Land at Fencepiece Road – Approximately 6 homes
- CHIG.R9 Land at Grange Court – Approximately 8 homes
- CHIG.R11 Land at Hainault Road – Approximately 11 homes

Total number of new homes: 90

Theydon Bois

- THYB.R1 Land at Forest Drive – Approximately 39 homes
- THYB.R2 Theydon Bois London Underground Station car park – Approximately 12 homes
- THYB.R3 Land at Coppice Row – Approximately 6 homes

Total number of new homes: 57

The Council has identified opportunities to enhancement the Roding Valley Recreation Ground and adjoining parts of the Roding Valley Meadows Nature Reserve and access together with enhancements to the Public Rights of Way to Theydon Bois Wood. Developments in Buckhurst Hill will be required to make a financial contribution to these enhancements in addition to the contributions required for the implementation of the Epping Forest SAMM measures.

Sites between 3.0km and 6.2km

Chigwell

- CHIG.R4 Land between Froghall Lane and railway line – Approximately 105 specialist homes
- CHIG.R10 The Maypole – Approximately 11 homes.

Total number of new homes: 116

CHIG.R4 is for the provision of specialist housing and therefore, whilst it may result in some increase in recreational use on the Forest this is, in light of the nature of the use and its distance from the Forest, likely to be of limited impact.

Nazeing

- NAZE.R4 Land at St Leonards Farm – Approximately 21 homes

This site lies on the cusp of the 6.2km ZOI and is located significantly closer to the LVRP than to the EFSAC. Neither the 2017 or 2019 Visitor Surveys show visitors arising from Lower Nazeing which is not surprising considering its distance from the EFSAC and its immediate proximity to the LVRP.

Thornwood

- THOR.R1 Land at Tudor House – Approximately 124 homes
- THOR.R2 Land West of High Road – Approximately 48 homes

No mitigation provision is deemed necessary for these sites. Moreover, these sites are both located materially closer to the proposed new SANG provision at Latton Priory and North Weald Bassett and therefore the provision of alternative SANG sites elsewhere or requiring SAMM contributions is likely to be difficult to justify in accordance with CIL Regulation 122.

Coopersale

- COOP.R1 Land at Parklands – Approximately 6 homes

No mitigation provision is deemed necessary for this site. Moreover, it is located materially closer to the proposed new SANG provision at North Weald Bassett and therefore the provision of alternative SANG sites elsewhere or requiring SAMM contributions is likely to be difficult to justify in accordance with CIL Regulation 122.

This page is intentionally left blank