

SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL OF THE HARBOROUGH DISTRICT LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

Scoping Report
PART ONE

November 2008





SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL OF THE HARBOROUGH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

Part One Scoping Report

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Author:	NCB
Checked:	NJD
Approved:	NEJP

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Abbreviations

AQMA	Air Quality Management Area	NVQ	National Vocational Qualification
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan	ODPM	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister
BME	Black and Minority Ethnic [Groups]	ONS	Office of National Statistics
DCLG	Department of Communities and Local Government	PM ₁₀	Particulates
Defra	Department of the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	PPPs	Policies, plans and programmes
DPD	Development Plan Document	RIGS	Regionally Important Geological and Geomorphological Sites
EU	European Union	RSS	Regional Spatial Strategy
HDC	Harborough District Council	SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
IMD	Indices of Multiple Deprivation	SI	Statutory Instrument
LAQMA	Local Air Quality Management Area	SINC	Site of Importance for Nature Conservation
LDD	Local Development Document	SLINC	Site of Local Importance for Nature Conservation
LDF	Local Development Framework	SOA	Super Output Area
LNR	Local Nature Reserve	SPD	Supplementary Planning Document
LTP2	East Midlands Local Transport Plan 2006-11	SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
MYE	Mid-year Estimate	UKCIP	UK Climate Impacts Programme
NO ₂	Nitrogen Dioxide		

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this Report

This Part 1 Scoping Report has been prepared for Harborough District Council (HDC) as part of the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment of the Local Development Documents (LDDs) for the district's Local Development Framework (LDF). The report has been published for consultation with the consultation bodies¹ as required by Regulation 12 (5) of the UK SEA Regulations 2004.

Scoping is the process of deciding the scope and level of detail of an SA, including the environmental effects, the assessment methods to be used, and the structure and contents of the SA Report. Documenting this process, the Scoping Report sets out the scope of, and methodology for the SA of the LDF and summarises the tasks and outcomes of the first stage of the SA process.

1.2 The Part 1 and Part 2 Scoping Reports

The Scoping Report has been structured into two parts. This document, the Part 1 Scoping Report, focuses on the aspects of the SA process that will be common for all of the LDDs in the LDF. The information presented in this report is district-wide and is relevant to the whole of Harborough. Through this approach the Part 1 report sets out the context and methodology for the SA processes for each LDD.

The Part 2 Scoping Reports set out more specific information related to each LDD. Utilising the information provided in the Part 1 Scoping Report, they focus on the key sustainability issues directly relevant to the plan, and present a LDD-specific SA Framework against which the plan or programme can be assessed.

This Part 1 Scoping Report is designed to supplement the information provided in the Part 2 Scoping Reports developed for each LDD. Each LDD Scoping Report will be subject to consultation in line with the SEA and sustainability regulations and as set out in p.41 of the ODPM guidance on SA.²

¹ Natural England, English Heritage and the Environment Agency.

² Guidance referred to is the *Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents* (November, 2005) Office of the Deputy Prime Minister.

1.3 The Study Area: Harborough District

Harborough District is a predominantly rural district situated in south Leicestershire. As highlighted by the regional context plan in Figure 1.1 it is strategically located south east of the sub-regional centre of Leicester, and is located approximately 50 miles east of Birmingham, 85 miles north west of London, and 35 miles west of Peterborough. The district is located in the East Midlands Region and neighbours the following local authorities: Charnwood, Melton, Oadby and Wigston and Blaby in Leicestershire; the city of Leicester; Corby, Kettering and Daventry in Northamptonshire; Rugby in Warwickshire; and the county of Rutland.

Situated near the geographical centre of England, transport links with the rest of the country are excellent via the M1, which crosses the district from south to the north, and the A14/M6, which connects the district with East Anglia and the West Midlands. Market Harborough is also situated on the Nottingham- London rail line. The two main commercial centres of the district are Market Harborough and Lutterworth, and smaller settlements are located at Broughton Astley, Fleckney and Great Glen, Kibworth Beauchamp. Overall the district has a total population of approximately 82,800 (2007)³.

The area is characterised by high quality countryside and attractive settlements, many of which have retained much of their historic character. Reflecting this high quality environment, and its accessibility to larger centres, the district is a prosperous area, with a highly educated and skilled population. The desirability of the district as a place to live has increased demand for new housing, services and facilities, and the relative affluence of the area has increased issues relating to affordability and accessibility to services. Alongside, the government's inclusion of the district within the 3 Cities and 3 Counties Growth Point and designation of growth areas adjacent to the district in Corby and Northamptonshire (as part of the Milton Keynes and South Midlands Growth Area) has the potential to further increase pressures on housing and for development in Harborough. An Ecotown has also been proposed at Pennbury, a site between the villages of Oadby, Great Glen and Houghton on the Hill.⁴

The district's boundaries are set out in Figure 1.2.

³ Annual Monitoring Report 2007

⁴ The Government is due to release a Planning Policy Statement on Ecotowns in the near future.

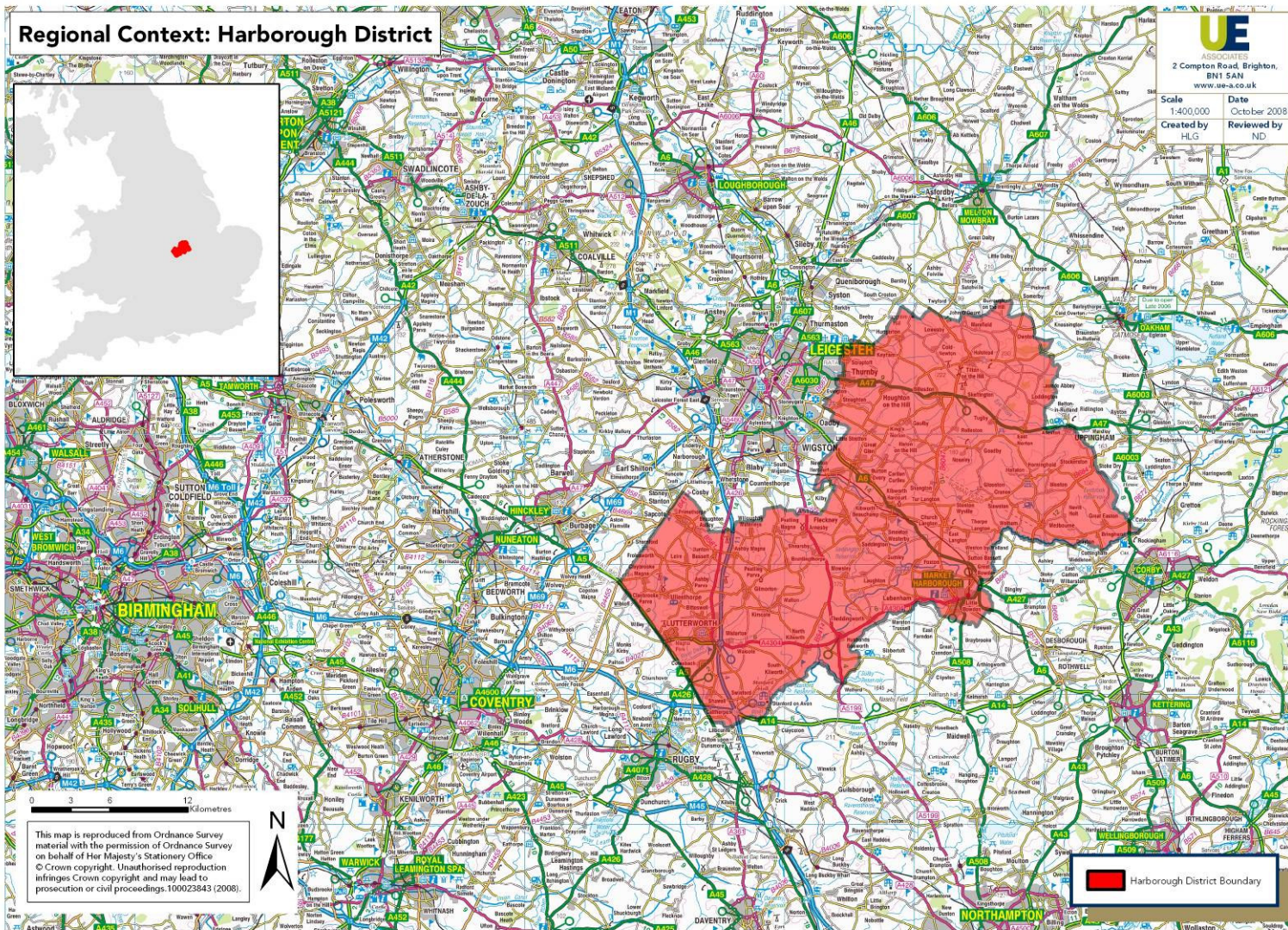


Figure 1.1: Harbrough: Regional Context

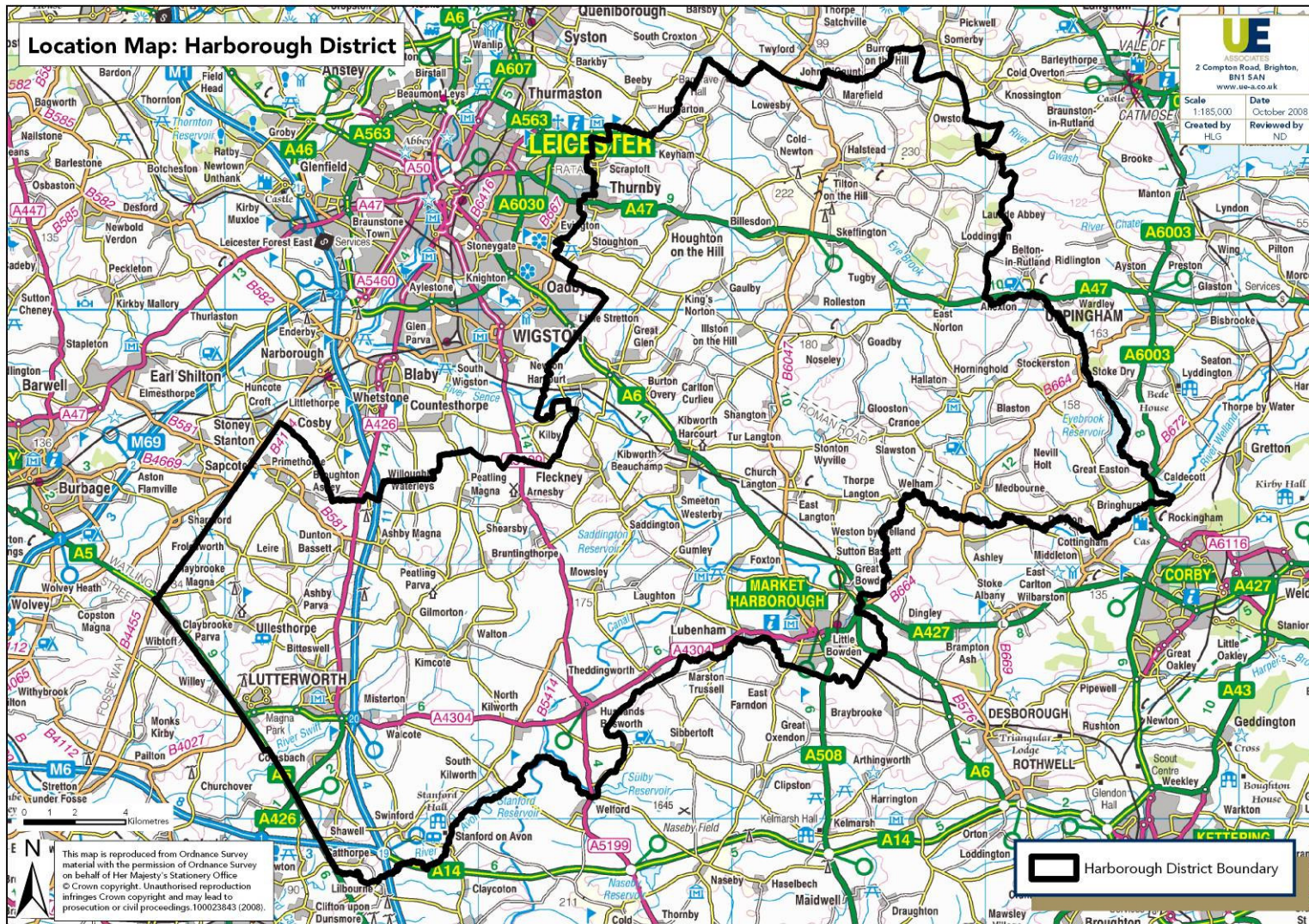


Figure 1.2: Harbrough District

1.4 The Harborough District Council Local Development Framework

1.4.1 Replacing the Harborough District Local Plan

Outlining the spatial planning strategy for Harborough, Harborough District Council is currently preparing a Local Development Framework (LDF) for the district. This will replace the Harborough District Local Plan which was adopted in April 2001, and updated through an alterations document in February 2004 to address changes in national housing guidance. Under the transitional arrangements of the revised planning system, the policies of the Local Plan were 'saved' for a 3 year period until September 2007 whilst the Council began development on the LDF.

Due to significant changes in national planning guidance, and to avoid a 'policy vacuum' the Government has permitted local authorities to save policies in their adopted Local Plans and indefinitely until their LDFs have been developed. Harborough District Council has now received notice from the Government Office for the East Midlands (GOEM) of the final list of HDLP policies that will be saved. The final list of saved policies represents approximately 75% of the total number of policies and includes the most significant, locally specific and well-used policies, as requested to be saved by the Council. These policies will be saved indefinitely, or until they are replaced by policies within the LDF.

1.4.2 The Local Development Framework

The LDF will consist of a folder of Local Development Documents (LDDs) that set out how Harborough may change over the next few years. These LDDs comprise the following documents:

Local Development Scheme: The LDS provides a list of the Local Development Documents to be included in the Local Development Framework and a timetable for their production.

Statement of Community Involvement: The SCI sets out the Council's intended approach to involving partners, interested parties and the community (including hard to reach groups) in the production of the LDF and major development control decisions and the proposed arrangements for participation and consultation.

Development Plan Documents: Development Plan Documents (DPDs) will set out the vision, strategy and policies for the district. Policies contained within such documents will have considerable weight in the determination of planning applications. All DPDs will be subject to independent examination by a Planning Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State.

Supplementary Planning Documents: Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs) are non-statutory documents that elaborate upon a policy or proposal contained within either a DPD or a saved Local Plan policy. They are not subject to independent examination by an Inspector but have to follow statutory procedures in their preparation. Once adopted, these documents will form a material consideration in planning decisions. SPDs can be both district wide or specific to a particular area or site within the district. Whilst the nature of SPDs will

vary, they include design advice, development briefs and documents relating to specific planning issues (for example, affordable housing, lighting or householder extensions).

The DPDs and SPDs that it is currently anticipated will be included in the LDF are as follows (other DPDs/SPDs may be developed as the LDF progresses):

- ▶ Local Development Scheme (2006 – 2009)
- ▶ Statement of Community Involvement (adopted July 2006)
- ▶ Core Strategy DPD
- ▶ Residential and Employment Allocations DPD
- ▶ Developer Contributions SPD
- ▶ Affordable Housing SPD (SPD to the Local Plan, and adopted February 2006)
- ▶ Proposals Map
- ▶ Annual Monitoring Report LDD

As these LDDs and their SAs are developed, further Part 2 SA Scoping Reports will be released for consultation.

1.5 Sustainable Development

The UK's Sustainable Development Strategy, *Securing the Future* (March, 2005)⁵ suggests that for a policy to be sustainable, it must respect all five of the principles set out in Figure 1.3. The Strategy also recognises that some policies, while underpinned by all five, will place more emphasis on certain principles than others. Any trade-offs should be made in an explicit and transparent way. The Strategy states that "we want to achieve our goals of living within environmental limits and a just society, and we will do it by means of a sustainable economy, good governance, and sound science" (*Securing the Future*, 2005, p. 17).

⁵ Ibid.

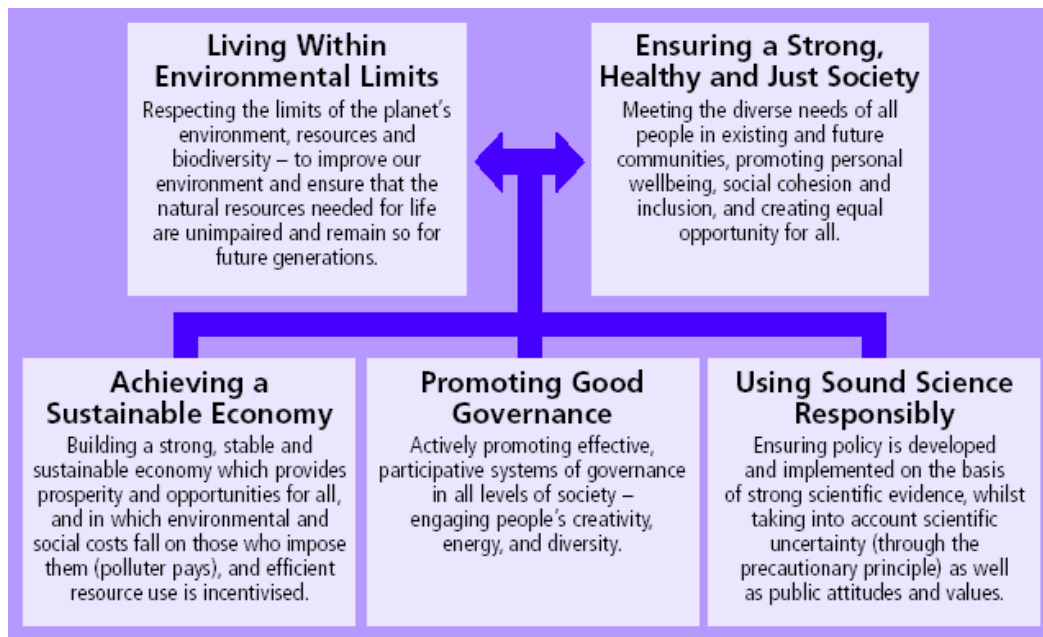


Figure 1.3: Five guiding principles of the UK Sustainable Development Strategy, *Securing the Future* (2005).

Securing the Future (2005, p.17) states that the five guiding principles are promoted through four shared priorities:

“Sustainable Consumption and Production – Sustainable consumption and production is about achieving more with less. This means not only looking at how goods and services are produced, but also the impacts of products and materials across their whole lifecycle and building on people’s awareness of social and environmental concerns. This includes reducing the inefficient use of resources which are a drag on the economy, so helping boost business competitiveness and to break the link between economic growth and environmental degradation.

“Climate Change and Energy – The effects of a changing climate can already be seen. Temperatures and sea levels are rising, ice and snow cover are declining, and the consequences could be catastrophic for the natural world and society. Scientific evidence points to the release of greenhouse gases, such as carbon dioxide and methane, into the atmosphere by human activity as the primary cause of climatic change. We will seek to secure a profound change in the way we generate and use energy, and in other activities that release these gases. At the same time we must prepare for the climate change that cannot now be avoided. We must set a good example and will encourage others to follow it.

“Natural Resource Protection and Environmental Enhancement – Natural resources are vital to our existence and that of communities throughout the world. We need a better understanding of environmental limits, environmental enhancement and recovery where the environment is most degraded to ensure a decent environment for everyone, and a more integrated policy framework.

“Sustainable Communities – Our aim is to create sustainable communities that embody the principles of sustainable development at the local level. This will involve working to give communities more power in the decisions that affect them and working in partnership at the right level to get things done. The UK uses the same principles of engagement, partnership, and programmes of aid in order to tackle poverty and environmental degradation and to ensure good governance in overseas communities. These priorities for action within the UK will also help to shape the way the UK works internationally, in ensuring that our objectives and activities are aligned with international goals.”

The Sustainability Appraisals carried out for the Harborough LDDs will incorporate these key principles at the heart of the assessment process.

1.6 Sustainable Communities

Sustainable Communities lie at the heart of the UK Sustainable Development Strategy, as demonstrated by Section 1.5 above. Annex A of the Sustainable Development Strategy sets out a definition and identifies components of sustainable communities as presented in Table 1.1 below:

Table 1.1: Definition and Components of Sustainable Communities, as set out in Annex A of the UK Sustainable Development Strategy.

Definition and Components of Sustainable Communities (Defra, 2006)
<p>Sustainable communities embody the principles of sustainable development. They:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• balance and integrate the social, economic and environmental components of their community;• meet the needs of existing and future generations; and• respect the needs of other communities in the wider region or internationally also to make their communities sustainable. <p>Sustainable communities are diverse, reflecting their local circumstances. There is no standard template to fit them all. But they should be:</p> <p>(1) ACTIVE, INCLUSIVE AND SAFE – <i>fair, tolerant and cohesive with a strong local culture and other shared community activities;</i></p> <p>(2) WELL RUN – <i>with effective and inclusive participation, representation and leadership;</i></p> <p>(3) ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE – <i>providing places for people to live that are considerate of the environment;</i></p> <p>(4) WELL DESIGNED AND BUILT – <i>featuring a quality built and natural environment;</i></p> <p>(5) WELL CONNECTED – <i>with good transport services and communication linking people to jobs, schools, health and other services;</i></p>

Definition and Components of Sustainable Communities (Defra, 2006)

(6) THRIVING – with a flourishing and diverse local economy;

(7) WELL SERVED – with public, private, community and voluntary services that are appropriate to people's needs and accessible to all; and

(8) FAIR FOR EVERYONE – including those in other communities, now and in the future.

The baseline (**Chapter 4**) and review of plans, policies and programmes (**Chapter 3**) have been designed to cover each of these issues to enable an effective and appropriate level of sustainability appraisal.

1.7 Integrated Sustainability Appraisal of Harborough's Local Development Documents

The Local Development Framework's LDDs will be subject to the following assessments:

- ▶ Sustainability Appraisal; and
- ▶ Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Strategic Environmental Assessment is a systematic process for evaluating the environmental consequences of proposed plans or programmes to ensure environmental issues are fully integrated and addressed at the earliest appropriate stage of decision making. Sustainability Appraisals are broader and promote sustainable development through integration of environmental, social and economic considerations into the plan's preparation.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) has been introduced to the UK through the EU Directive 2001/42/EC. In England the Directive has been transposed via the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004. Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is a requirement of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and applies to Development Plan Documents. *Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Frameworks* (ODPM, November 2005) has combined these processes to allow for a single appraisal to be carried out by integrating the requirements of SEA into the SA process. SA should fulfil the requirements for producing an Environmental Report under the Annex 1 of the SEA Directive (see **Appendix A**).

In the interests of efficiency, following guidelines and the desire to avoid duplication, the two assessment types, SA and SEA, have been integrated under the umbrella of SA and are being undertaken simultaneously for each LDD. This Part 1 Scoping Report explains how the integration can be achieved and includes information about the proposed reporting procedure so that each assessment method is clearly referenced and recorded whilst being part of an integrated process.

Throughout this report, unless otherwise specified, SA refers to the integrated process incorporating both SA and SEA.

The combined approach has been prepared on the following principles:

- ▶ SA Objectives (see **Chapter 5**) will be used for appraising potential impacts of the proposed LDD's policies on various environmental, social and economic components;
- ▶ Baseline information (see **Chapter 4**) including environmental, social and economic factors will be collected and collated. Predicted effects of the LDD's policies will be measured against the baseline;
- ▶ Alternative options for the plan will be appraised using the SA Framework for each LDD (see **Chapter 5** and the **Part 2 Scoping Reports**), combined with careful consideration of baseline conditions;
- ▶ Preferred options for the plan will be appraised using the SA Framework for each LDD, combined with careful consideration of baseline conditions; and
- ▶ Indicators will be devised for all SA Objectives to assist in monitoring delivery of the plan and any significant effects thereof, as well as providing depth to the SA Framework.

1.8 Consultation on the Scoping Reports

Public involvement with decision making through consultation is a key element of the SA process. The SEA Regulations require consultation with statutory consultation bodies but not full consultation with the public at the scoping stage. Regulation 12 (5) of the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (SI 1633) states that:

"When deciding on the scope and level of detail of the information that must be included in the report the responsible authority shall consult the consultation bodies."

The statutory consultation bodies are English Heritage, the Environment Agency and Natural England (formerly the Countryside Agency and English Nature). For each of the LDDs' Scoping Reports consultees will have five weeks within which to respond.

This Part 1 Scoping Report consultation document is designed to supplement, and provide a background to the information provided in the Part 2 Scoping Reports developed for each LDD.

2 Approach to Sustainability Appraisal

2.1 Best Practice Guidance

The approach for carrying out the SAs of the Harborough LDF is based on current best practice and the following guidance:

- ▶ Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents (November, 2005) Office of the Deputy Prime Minister⁶;
- ▶ A Practical Guide to the SEA Directive (September, 2005) ODPM⁷; and

The ODPM SA Guidance provides advice for the appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies (RSS), Development Plan Documents (DPD) and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD). The appraisal methodology for DPDs and SPDs is covered on pages 36-75 of the ODPM SA Guidance; and **Appendix B**.

2.2 Deliverables of the SA Process

Harborough District Council have appointed UE Associates to assist with the SA process in order to fully integrate sustainability within the production of the Council's LDDs. The Council, statutory consultees, other environmental bodies and working groups in the region will be engaged in the SA process at different times. The SA process for each LDD will feature the same outputs:

- ▶ Scoping Report;
- ▶ Alternative Options SA Report;
- ▶ Sustainability Appraisal Report; and
- ▶ Post-Adoption Statement.

Appendix B sets out how these SA deliverables will be achieved; each SA deliverable is explained in terms of (i) purpose, (ii) output, and (iii) approach. Information is also included on consultation and procedural context.

Table 2.1 provides a summary of the key stages and illustrates the ODPM SA stages to be covered in the SA process for a DPD and a SPD. Those shaded in green indicate the stages covered in this report. The second column indicates where information about each respective stage can be found in this document.

⁶ The RSS/LDF SA guidance can be found on
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/142520>

⁷ The SEA guidance can be found on :
<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/practicalguide>

Table 2.1: SA stages, and stages covered in this Scoping Report.

Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope	Location in report
A1: Identify other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives	Chapter 3
A2: Collecting baseline information	Chapter 4
A3: Identifying sustainability issues and challenges	Chapter 4
A4: Developing the SA framework	Chapter 5
A5: Consulting on the scope of the SA	Chapter 6
Stage B: Developing and refining options and assessing effects	
B1: Testing the LDD objectives against the SA framework	N/A
B2: Developing the LDD options	N/A
B3: Predicting the effects the LDD	N/A
B4: Evaluating the effects of the LDD	N/A
B5: Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects	N/A
B6: Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the LDD	N/A
Stage C: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report	
C1: Preparing the SA Report	N/A
Stage D: Consulting on the preferred options of the LDD and SA Report	
D1: Public participation on the preferred options of the LDD and the SA Report	N/A
D2: Appraising significant changes	N/A
D3: Making decisions and providing information	N/A
Stage E: Monitoring the significant effects of implementing the LDD	
E1: Finalising aims and methods for monitoring	N/A
E2: Responding to adverse effects	N/A

3 Policy and Plan Review

3.1 Policies, Plans and Programmes and the SA Process

A policy, plan or programme (PPP) may be influenced in various ways by other policies, plans or programmes, or by external sustainability objectives such as those laid down in policies or legislation. The sustainability appraisal process will take advantage of potential synergies between these PPPs and address any inconsistencies and constraints.

3.2 PPP Review

Set out below is a summary of a review of these national, regional, sub-regional and local PPP and sustainability objectives. The purpose of this review is to provide sufficient information to allow consultees to form a view on relationships with other relevant PPP and sustainability objectives and how they inform the level and scope of the Sustainability Appraisal Report.

Appendix D represents a comprehensive, accurate and concise list of the key policies, plans and programmes (including legislation) that are likely to be relevant to the Harborough LDF and the SA assessment processes. They have been presented by the SA topics discussed in **Chapter 4** below and assessed in relation to the main objectives and sustainability requirements of the PPP, and how it affects, or is affected by the Harborough LDF in relation to sustainability issues covered by the SA.

This enables readers with specific interests to go directly to the relevant section of the PPP review, which includes consideration of international, UK-wide, regional and local PPPs.

A summary of this assessment is presented in the table below.

Table 3.1: Summary of the PPP Review

Summary of Objectives and Sustainability Requirements	Implications for the Harborough Local Development Framework
Accessibility and Transport	
<p>European and UK transport policies and plans place emphasis on the modernisation and sustainability of the transport network. Specific objectives include reducing pollution and road congestion through improvements to public transport, walking and cycling networks and reducing the need to travel. Congestion and poor air quality resulting from transport are seen to be issues for much of the East Midlands by the PPPs, and as such regional and local plans focus on increasing investment in infrastructure, improving the quality of public transport, reducing journey times, improving accessibility and enhancing road safety.</p>	<p>Increased housing provision, employment development and new services, facilities and amenities are likely to increase demand for travel in Harborough, with potential implications for congestion. In addition a further increase in out-commuting from the district is probable. To help address this, the LDDs which make up the LDF should ensure new development is allocated to areas with good access to public transport networks and promote development which reduces the need to travel. Provision should also be made where appropriate for new or improved public transport connections, including to harder-to-reach rural areas, as well as walking and cycling networks and green infrastructure.</p>
Air Quality	
<p>A number of objectives have been established in relation to air quality at both the European and the UK level (emanating from the 1996 EC Directive). This includes the setting of targets for reducing emissions of specific pollutants to minimise negative impacts on health and the environment. At the county level emphasis is placed on reducing emissions of nitrogen dioxide, particularly from the transport sector.</p>	<p>The Harborough LDF should seek to support improve air quality improvements by promoting the layout of development which limits congestion, supports modal shift, clean technologies and the provision of open space. This should in particular apply in relation to areas of poorer air quality in the district, including the Air Quality Management Area designated in Lutterworth.</p>
Biodiversity and Geodiversity	
<p>The objectives of policies and plans at all levels focus on the conservation of biological diversity (including a reduction in the current rate of biodiversity loss), and the protection and monitoring of endangered and vulnerable species and habitats. Emphasis is also placed on the ecological importance of brownfield sites, geodiversity, and enhancing areas of woodland, and the integration of biodiversity considerations into all environmental and socio-economic planning is strongly advocated. Due to the rural nature of Harborough, any land-use plans should seek to maintain, enhance and protect the biodiversity resource.</p>	<p>The LDDs which make up the Harborough LDF have the potential to have impacts on biodiversity. Protected species are present throughout the district, so mitigation will be necessary to reduce the negative impacts associated with development, including habitat loss, fragmentation, disturbance and pollution. In addition, development allocations should seek to increase the provision of wildlife friendly areas such as green space and woodland within the built-up area. Development should also avoid particularly sensitive areas and recognise local geodiversity assets.</p>

Summary of Objectives and Sustainability Requirements	Implications for the Harborough Local Development Framework
Climate Change	
<p>Climate-related PPPs focus on both mitigating the causes of climate change and adapting to the effects of climate change. Commitments reducing greenhouse gas emissions range from the international level to the regional level. The PPPs address policy development across all sectors and at all levels, combining both demand management (reduced energy consumption and increased efficiency of use) and supply side measures (low carbon options including fuel mix and renewables). A number of the PPPs state specific targets to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. Significantly, the Government has recently (in October 2008) confirmed that the target of a 60% reduction of greenhouse gas emissions on 1990 levels by 2050 will be increased to a 80% reduction.</p> <p>Adaptation measures proposed by the PPPs include a presumption against development in flood risk areas, appropriate design of new development and the promotion of new infrastructure such as sustainable urban drainage systems to help address the changes that are likely to occur as a result of climate change.</p>	<p>The Harborough LDF has a key role to play in the district's mitigation of and adaptation to climate change. The LDDs which make up the LDF should encourage efficient design of new development and redevelopment; support layout of development which reduces the need to travel and which encourages walking, cycling and public transport use; and support the growth renewable energy provision in the district.</p> <p>The LDDs which make up the LDF should also facilitate climate change adaptation, such as a presumption against development in flood risk areas, supporting a growth in green infrastructure and promoting the development of sustainable urban drainage systems.</p>
Deprivation	
<p>A wide range of objectives exist within policies and plans from a European to a local level with regards to deprivation. In particular these focus on improving social progress and social inclusion; reducing poverty; improving housing quality; preventing crime, anti-social behaviour and truancy; improving skill levels and employability; and regenerating communities.</p>	<p>Through developing new housing, employment and leisure/service centres across the district the LDDs which make up the LDF will be a key driver for limiting deprivation. The Harborough LDF should aim to limit deprivation in the district by: facilitating the provision of new educational and learning facilities to help improve skills and increase opportunities; promoting accessibility to services, facilities and amenities; and appropriate design and layout and incorporation of green infrastructure.</p>

Summary of Objectives and Sustainability Requirements	Implications for the Harborough Local Development Framework
Economic Factors	
<p>The improvement and maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment are key aims of the strategies at UK and European levels. Other objectives include improvements to the education system to increase the skill levels of both children and adults; and improved productivity and innovation, particularly with regards to technology. At a regional and local level particular emphasis is placed on improvements to the tourism and visitor economy; supporting SMEs and a strong entrepreneurial culture; new technologies; and a sustainable farming sector.</p>	<p>The LDF should facilitate the provision of new educational and learning facilities to help improve skills, improve community cohesion and increase opportunities in the district, including support of existing jobs. The LDDs which make up the LDF should support the growth of new technologies and seek to support the visitor/tourism economy and farming sector in the district.</p>
Green Infrastructure	
<p>At the EU level emphasis is placed on the protection of landscape as an essential component of people's surroundings. National, regional and local level policies advocate the provision of open space, green networks and woodland as opportunities for sport and recreation, creating healthier communities, supporting and enhancing biodiversity, reducing temperatures in built up areas in summer, reducing the impact of noise and air pollution, and limiting the risk of flooding.</p>	<p>The Harborough LDF should seek to increase the provision of green infrastructure in the district and support improvements to existing networks. The LDF should also support re-forestation programmes where appropriate.</p>
Health	
<p>National and regional health related PPPs focus on improving rates of infant mortality and life expectancy; reducing work related illness and accidents; significantly improving levels of sport and physical activity, particularly among disadvantaged groups; supporting the public to make healthier and more informed choices in regards to their health; improving accessibility to healthcare facilities; and reducing health inequalities, particularly for children and older people.</p>	<p>Whilst health levels are generally good in the district, the Harborough LDF should improve accessibility to existing and new health, sporting, leisure and recreational facilities and support layouts which encourage walking, cycling and more active lifestyles. The LDDs which make up the LDF should also ensure the provision of high quality, well located, energy efficient and affordable housing appropriate for local residents' needs.</p>

Summary of Objectives and Sustainability Requirements	Implications for the Harborough Local Development Framework
Historic Environment and Townscape	
<p>Cultural heritage priorities from international to local level include protecting designated resources and their settings (such as listed buildings, conservation areas, scheduled monuments, and registered parks and gardens); recognising the cultural aspects of landscape and establishing mechanisms for their protection against inappropriate development; recognising the potential value of unknown and undesignated resources; and preserving/enhancing sites and landscapes of archaeological and historic interest so that they may be enjoyed by both present and future generations.</p>	<p>The protection and enhancement of cultural heritage assets and their settings should be a key consideration for the LDDs which make up the LDF, with improvements made to the public realm, built environment and landscape quality in the district where possible. It should support high quality design and appropriate layout of new development, with particular regard paid to avoiding damage to the setting of cultural heritage features and archaeological assets (both potential and realised).</p>
Housing	
<p>UK Government objectives for housing include improvements in housing affordability; high quality housing; a more stable housing market; improved choice; location of housing supply which supports accessibility and patterns of economic development; and an adequate supply of publicly-funded housing for those who need it. In addition, new homes should meet high Code for Sustainable Homes ratings in terms of water and energy efficiency, and meet the government target of zero carbon emissions by 2016. Local plans and strategies (such as the Housing Strategy and the Homelessness Strategy) focus on the affordability of housing, the quality of housing, access to services, and meeting the housing needs of vulnerable people.</p>	<p>The Harborough LDF should ensure the provision of a wide range of high quality, well located and affordable housing appropriate for local residents' needs.</p> <p>The LDF should also support the development of energy efficient, environmentally sustainable housing which both limits short term impacts during construction and limits longer term impacts on a range of environmental receptors.</p>
Material Assets (including energy and waste)	
<p>Material assets covers a range of policy sectors, with renewable energy and sustainable waste management being identified as particularly relevant contextual policies at the local level. At the European level, member states are required to achieve 22% of electricity production from renewable energies by 2010, to significantly reduce the volumes of waste generated and the quantity going to disposal, and to give preference to waste recovery and recycling. Related objectives include the protection of human health and the environment (in particular the pollution of surface water, groundwater, soil and air) against harmful effects caused by the dumping of waste. Previously-developed land should be used where possible.</p>	<p>Sustainable waste management, including the provision of sites for localised recycling and reuse facilities, should be a key consideration for the LDDs which make up the LDF. The LDF should present a presumption against allocations for new landfill capacity; recognise the potential of former minerals sites for landscape and biodiversity/geodiversity-led restoration; support energy efficient layout and design in development; and help facilitate localised renewable energy provision.</p> <p>Development should also take place on previously developed land.</p>

Summary of Objectives and Sustainability Requirements	Implications for the Harborough Local Development Framework
Population and Equality	
<p>PPPs on population include a range of different objectives, including improving health; tackling social exclusion; improving human rights and public participation; and ensuring every child has the chance to fulfil their potential by reducing levels of education failure, ill health, substance misuse, crime and anti-social behaviour. At the sub-regional and local levels, support for cultural diversity and young people are key aims.</p>	<p>The Harborough LDF should support community cohesion through the provision of new educational, health, leisure and recreational facilities and by facilitating development which improves the public realm, and promotes social inclusion and accessibility. The LDDs which make up the LDF should also support development which increases the provision of cultural facilities in Harborough.</p>
Water	
<p>National water policies are primarily driven by the aims of the EC Water Framework Directive, as translated into national law by the Water Framework Regulations 2003. Key objectives include improving the quality of rivers and other waterbodies to 'good ecological status' by 2015; considering flood risk at all stages of the plan and development process in order to reduce future damage to property and loss of life; and incorporating water efficiency measures into new developments. PPS23 sets out how issues of pollution should be addressed in accordance with the <i>Pollution Prevention and Control Act 1999</i> and the <i>PPC Regulations 2000</i>. At a regional to local level, Strategic Flood Risk Assessments are currently being carried out.</p>	<p>The Harborough LDF should seek to ensure that water quality in the district is not negatively affected by planned development. It should also support water efficiency, conservation and re-use and the use of sustainable urban drainage systems in new development, and avoid development in existing or potential (due to climate change) flood risk areas. The LDF should have due regard to the outcome of local SFRA's when they become available. These will be important documents to help the district adapt to increases in flood risk brought about by the effects of climate change. The LDF should also set out the criteria against which applications for potentially polluting developments will be considered in accordance with PPS23.</p>

4 Baseline

4.1 Introduction

This section provides a review of current social, economic and environmental conditions within Harborough. Its purpose is to help identify key issues and opportunities facing the area which might be addressed by each LDD. The selected topics include those derived from Annex I(f) of the SEA Directive (see **Appendix A**): biodiversity flora and fauna, population, human health, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage (including architectural and archaeological heritage), landscape and the inter-relationship between these factors.

Alongside those included in Annex 1(f) of the SEA Directive, additional 'sustainability topics' have been included in the baseline to widen the scope of the SA to incorporate the full range of sustainability considerations. These additional topics include housing, social deprivation and economic growth. The topics and their relevant sub-sets are represented in Table 4.1.

4.2 Collection and Collation of Baseline Data

The currency, resolution and presentation of data are crucial to an effective baseline. Information selected seeks to:

- ▶ inform the situation at the local level;
- ▶ be the most up to date; and
- ▶ be fit for purpose.

One of the purposes of consultation on the Scoping Report is to seek views on whether the data selected is appropriate. The baseline has been constructed utilising a wide range of data sources, with GIS data proving to be an important information source where available. The data has been presented through tables, text and GIS mapping, and all data sources have been referenced in the following sections as appropriate. Meaningful data for the purposes of comparison and to address the topics being assessed as part of this SA is not always available. Data gaps are identified in the baseline.

Table 4.1: Sustainability Topic Areas.

Sustainability Topic Areas	What is Included in the Topic Areas
Accessibility and transportation	Transportation infrastructure Traffic flows Travel to work Public transport accessibility
Air quality	Air quality management Air pollution sources Air quality hotspots
Biodiversity and geodiversity	Designations Landscape features Key species Geological features
Climate change	Greenhouse gas emissions by source Greenhouse gas emissions trends Climate change adaptation
Deprivation	Indices of Multiple Deprivation Unemployment Crime Homelessness
Economic factors	Output and enterprise Income and employment Education and skills
Health	Health indicators Healthcare services Sport, fitness and activity levels Health inequalities
Historic environment and landscape	Historic development of the district Designated and non designated sites and areas Townscape character and quality of built environment Landscape character Canal network
Housing and green infrastructure	House prices and affordability Housing quality and vacancy rates Homelessness Open space and green infrastructure

Sustainability Topic Areas	What is Included in the Topic Areas
Material assets	Power stations Waste arisings Recycling rates Previously developed land
Population and equality	Population size and migration Population density Age structure Ethnicity
Water	Water resources Water quality Flooding

The following sections provide a summary of baseline conditions. Where possible, more specific information has been included on the communities and areas most affected by these issues to help identify areas most in need of change. This will help inform the LDD-specific key sustainability issues and opportunities presented in the **Part 2 Scoping Reports**.

4.3 Accessibility and Transport

4.3.1 Baseline Position

Harborough’s position at the geographical centre of England provides it with excellent regional and national transport links by road and motorway. With the M1 present in the district, providing a north-south link, and the M6/A14 located to the south of the district, providing a link to the West Midlands and East Anglia, road links to the rest of the country are good (although the M6/A14 route in particular suffers from congestion). The district’s other main routes include the A6, the A47 and the A508, which link the main settlements of the district with the nearby city and towns of Leicester, Northampton, Kettering and Corby.

The district is also has good links to the national rail network, with Market Harborough being located on the East Midlands Trains route, with frequent links to London, Leicester, Nottingham, Derby and Sheffield. The Cross-Country Cambridge to Birmingham line is also accessible via Oakham, Melton Mowbray and Leicester outside of the district. Harborough also has proximity to regional airports: both Birmingham Airport and Nottingham East Midlands Airport are approximately 45 miles away from Market Harborough.

These good road, rail and air links however mask significant accessibility issues in the district. Rural accessibility is an issue in Harborough, resulting from the disparate nature of settlements and the difficulty of providing frequent and economical public transport networks. Whilst both Lutterworth and Market Harborough both have frequent bus services, including between each other, and to surrounding towns such as Leicester and Hinckley, buses elsewhere in the

district are often infrequent, and many smaller settlements are reliant on community transport services. This has reduced accessibility, especially for those without access to a car. This is reflected by the district’s Index for Multiple Deprivation scores for the category “Barriers to Housing and Services.” This has been discussed further in the Deprivation section of this baseline summary.

Due partly to the district’s relative affluence, and due to its rural nature, car ownership in Harborough is higher than regional and national averages – 84% of households in Harborough have access to a car or van, compared to 76% for the East Midlands and 73% for England (2001 census data). This is reflected by travel to work data, where a higher proportion of the population travel by car to work than regional and national averages, and a lower proportion of people travel by public transport or walking. A large proportion of the working population (figure 4.1) also travel to destinations outside of the district for work, highlighting a significant trend of out-commuting in Harborough.

Table 4.2: Car ownership and travel to work in Harborough.

CAR OWNERSHIP and TRAVEL TO WORK in Harborough					
Feature	Indicator	Quantified data	Regional / National Comparator	Trends	Source
Car Ownership	Percentage of households with access to a car or van	2001 Harborough: 83.75	2001 East Midlands: 75.75 England: 73.16	No data available	National Statistics Online. 2001 Census Data [online]. Available from: http://www.statistics.gov.uk [Accessed: 22 October 2008]
Travel to Work	Percentage of people aged 16-74 who usually travel to work by train	2001 Harborough: 1.28	2001 East Midlands: 0.98 England: 4.23	No data available	National Statistics Online. 2001 Census Data [online]. Available from: http://www.statistics.gov.uk [Accessed: 22 October 2008]
	Percentage of people aged 16-74 who usually travel to work by bus, mini bus or coach	2001 Harborough: 2.14	2001 East Midlands: 6.98 England: 7.51	No data available	National Statistics Online. 2001 Census Data [online]. Available from: http://www.statistics.gov.uk [Accessed: 22 October 2008]

CAR OWNERSHIP and TRAVEL TO WORK in Harborough					
Feature	Indicator	Quantified data	Regional / National Comparator	Trends	Source
	Percentage of people aged 16-74 who usually travel to work by driving a car or van	2001 Harborough: 65.76	2001 East Midlands: 60.38 England: 54.92	No data available	National Statistics Online. 2001 Census Data [online]. Available from: http://www.statistics.gov.uk [Accessed: 22 October 2008]
	Percentage of people aged 16-74 who usually travel to work on foot	2001 Harborough: 9.41	2001 East Midlands: 10.49 England: 9.99	No data available	National Statistics Online. 2001 Census Data [online]. Available from: http://www.statistics.gov.uk [Accessed: 22 October 2008]
	Average distance (km) travelled to fixed place of work	2001 Harborough: 16.5	2001 East Midlands: 13.21 England: 13.31	No data available	National Statistics Online. 2001 Census Data [online]. Available from: http://www.statistics.gov.uk [Accessed: 22 October 2008]

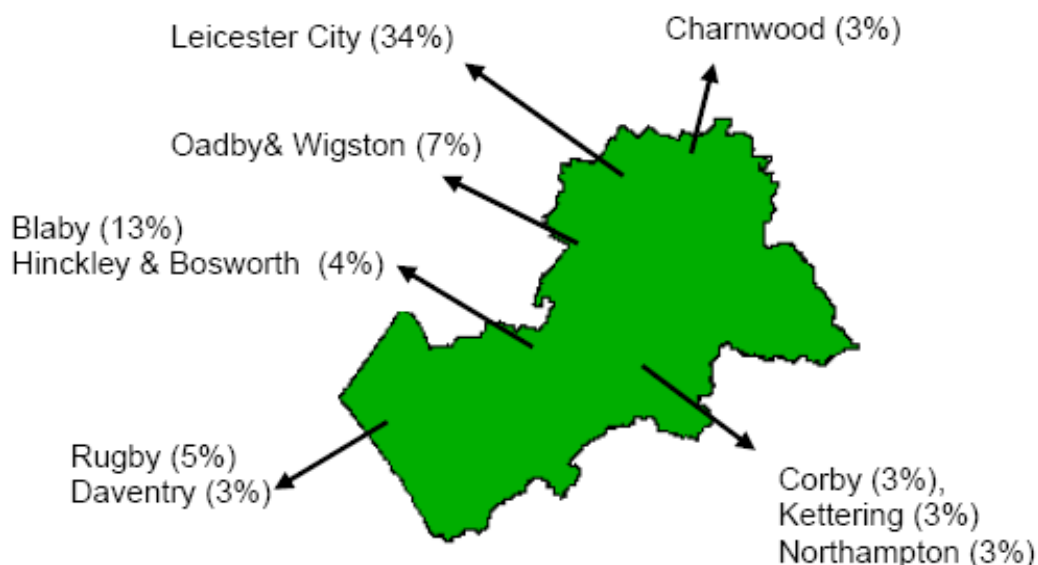


Figure 4.1: Journey destination for work, 2001 (source: Harborough Annual Monitoring Report 2007)

Whilst data was available at a county level for the Local Transport Plan Annual Progress Report indicators “Percentage of rural households within 800m of an hourly or better bus Service” or the “Number of bus passenger journeys” no data could be found specifically for Harbrough. It is therefore unclear as to whether improvements since 2001 related to these indicators in Leicestershire have been reflected at a district level.⁸

4.4 Air Quality

4.4.1 Baseline Position

Air quality across much of Harbrough is generally good. However air quality is worse near the M1 corridor and Lutterworth, areas of the district in close proximity to Leicester and in Market Harbrough (see figures 4.2 and 4.3).

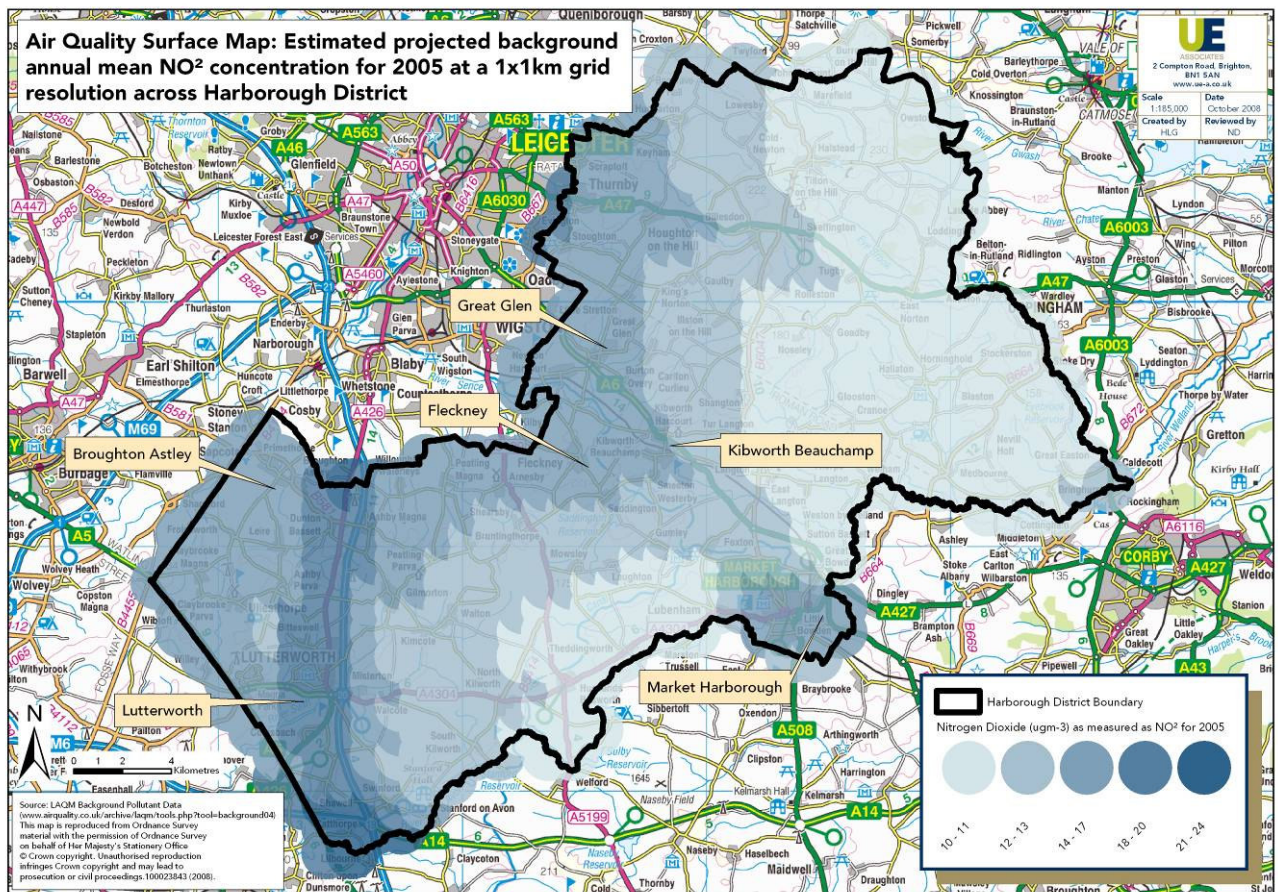


Figure 4.2: Air quality in Harbrough: NO₂ (nitrogen dioxide)

⁸ The 2005 LTP Annual Progress Report can be found at: http://www.leics.gov.uk/ltp_apr05_proforma_b.pdf

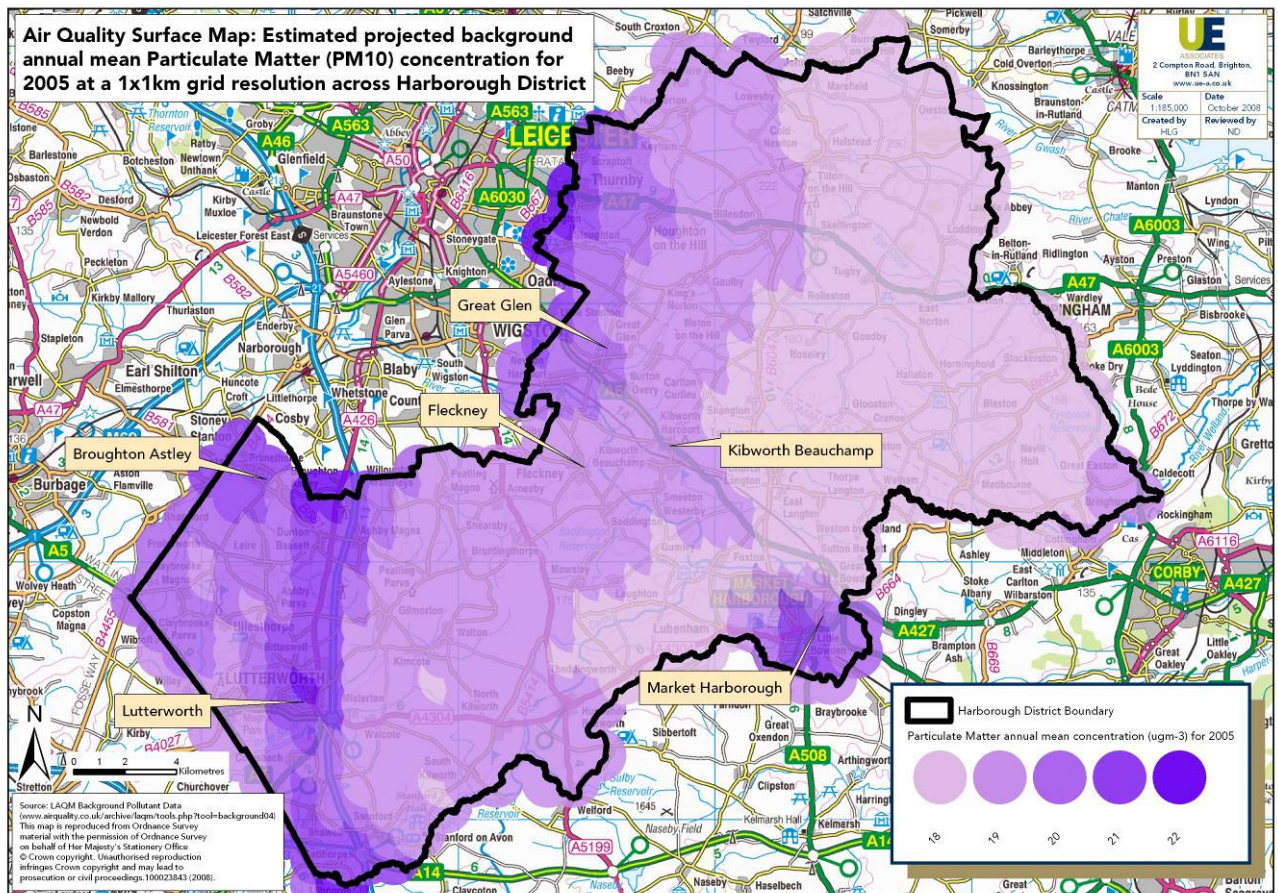


Figure 4.3: Air quality in Harbrough: PM₁₀ (particulates)

Following the publishing of the National Air Quality Strategy in 1997, an initial assessment of Harbrough’s air quality was made, which suggested that potentially elevated levels of carbon monoxide, lead, particulate matter and nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) might be present. A more detailed review was then carried out on these pollutants, which concluded that all of the pollutants except NO₂ was likely to meet the National Air Quality Objective. Subsequently, in July 2001, an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) was declared for NO₂ in the Market Street area of Lutterworth Town Centre.

Traffic emissions have been found to be the predominant cause of air pollution in parts of Harbrough, with 44.3% of NO₂ emissions in Lutterworth originating from vehicles.⁹ Monitoring in 2003¹⁰ revealed two hot-spots in Lutterworth where the annual mean NO₂ objective of 40µg/m³ was exceeded – near the Service Shop on the A426 Market Street (53.4 µg/m³) and at Regent Court just to the west of the High Street (60.5 µg/m³). The latter

⁹ Harbrough DC (2004). *Air Quality Review and Assessment: Stage 4 Review and Assessment Consultation Draft* (online). Available from: <http://www.harborough.gov.uk/dotGov/attachmentViewings/07HDC-Imported%20Service%20ID%201-99HDC06060173837.pdf>. Accessed 21 October 2008.

¹⁰ Harbrough DC (2004). *Air Quality Review and Assessment: Stage 4 Review and Assessment Consultation Draft* (online). Available from: <http://www.harborough.gov.uk/dotGov/attachmentViewings/07HDC-Imported%20Service%20ID%201-99HDC06060173837.pdf>. Accessed 21 October 2008.

location is not currently within the designated AQMA, and hence the Stage 4 Review and Assessment document recommended an extension to the AQMA, as shown in Figure 4.4 below.

As part of the AQMA designation, continuous monitoring¹¹ is undertaken in Lutterworth, at the Air Quality Monitoring Station on the A426 Market Street. This has highlighted that the town still exceeds the National Objective for NO₂, with the average mean NO₂ level at this monitoring station in 2007 being 50.8 µg/m³. The road on which the Monitoring Station lies is a link road to Junction 20 of the M1 motorway, and hence is particularly busy during morning and evening rush hour. Whilst the most common traffic in this part of Lutterworth is cars (76%), it is recognised that buses and HGVs emit substantially more NO₂ per km.

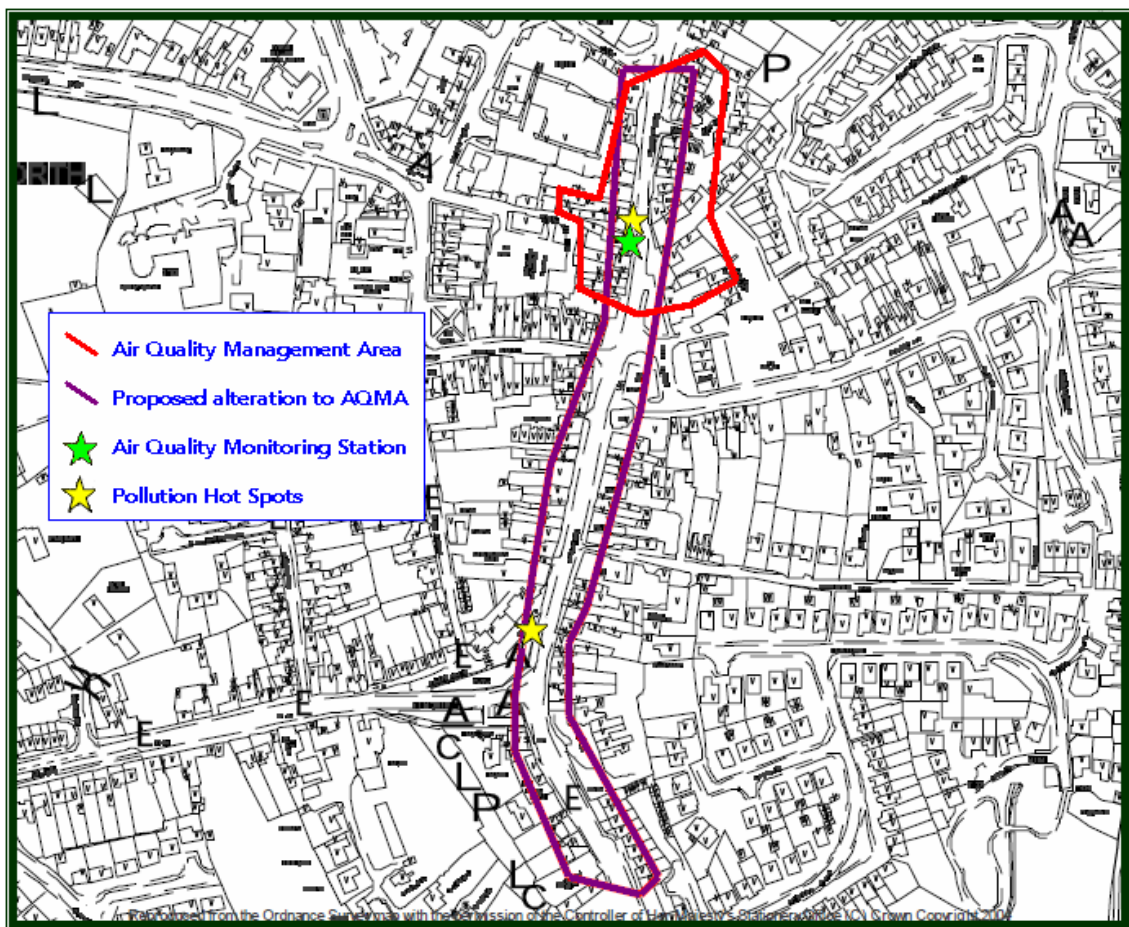


Figure 4.4: Air Pollution in Lutterworth, Harborough (Source: adapted from Harborough DC, 2004).

¹¹ Casella ETi (2008). *Harborough DC – Lutterworth: Station Status Screen* (online). Available from: <http://www.air-quality.net/stationStatus.php?stationNo=34>. Accessed 21 October 2008.

4.5 Biodiversity and Geodiversity

4.5.1 Biodiversity

Leicestershire is one of the poorest counties in the UK in terms of the biodiversity it contains¹², and like much of the rest of the country is experiencing further biodiversity loss. Though a largely rural area, Harborough is no exception, and only a small proportion of the land area is protected under nature conservation designations. The district does not have any sites designated at the European level, or any National Nature Reserves; but there are 14 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) falling either wholly or partially within the district boundary. These SSSIs (listed below) cover 718ha (or 1.21%) of Harborough's total land area and are designated for their nationally important wildlife and/or geology assets:

- ▶ Allexton Wood;
- ▶ Cave's Inn Pits;
- ▶ Chater Valley;
- ▶ Eyebrook Reservoir;
- ▶ Eyebrook Valley Woods;
- ▶ Great Bowden Borrowpit;
- ▶ Kirby-Foxton Canal;
- ▶ Launde Big Wood;
- ▶ Leighfield Forest;
- ▶ Misterton Marshes;
- ▶ Owston Woods;
- ▶ Saddington Reservoir;
- ▶ Stanford Park; and
- ▶ Tilton Cutting (designated for geological assets).

At the local level, Harborough District is home to two Local Nature Reserves, Scraftoft and North Kilworth, as well as numerous non-statutory nature conservation designations (which are relevant for both biodiversity and geodiversity), known as Local Wildlife Sites (LWS). These local sites consist of a range of different habitat types, including woodland, grassland, hedgerows, meadows, marshland, quarries, railway corridors, roadside verges, and ponds, as well as individual ash and oak trees. In total the Local Wildlife Sites make up 248.5ha (representing 0.42% of the total land area in Harborough District), whilst the LNRs, which consist primarily of grassland, scrub and bogs, total just 16.32ha. In addition to the above-mentioned designated biodiversity sites, the network of river/stream corridors, gardens and allotments provide good wildlife corridors, whilst brownfield sites and underutilised buildings can also often be important habitats for flora and fauna.

Harborough's nature conservation assets can be seen in Figure 4.5 and Table 4.3 below.

¹² Harborough DC CMIS (2003). *Issues paper 3 – The Natural Environment (online)*. Available from: <http://cmispublic.harborough.gov.uk/CMISWebPublic/Binary.ashx?Document=8488>. Accessed 21 October 2008.

The Draft Natural Environment Issues Paper (2003) suggested a need to encourage the designation of Local Nature Reserves and Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs), whilst the lack of woodland in the District has been noted as a particular problem¹³. The 2007 Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) revealed a decline in broadleaved woodland to 27.15ha down from 32.01ha the previous year; and similarly a decline in mixed woodland from 8.53ha to 6.64ha. However, there have been significant positive changes in the populations of a number of Harborough's species of biodiversity importance.

Recently, particularly during 2006-07, there has been an improved recording effort which has led to a large increase in records for a number of species within the District, particularly bird species. The Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland represents a framework for biodiversity initiatives in the area, and contains the following Habitat and Species Action Plans:

- ▶ Calcareous grassland;
- ▶ Eutrophic standing waters;
- ▶ Fast-flowing streams;
- ▶ Field margins;
- ▶ Field ponds;
- ▶ Floodplain wetland;
- ▶ Heath-grassland;
- ▶ Hedgerows;
- ▶ Lowland wood-pasture and parkland;
- ▶ Mature trees;
- ▶ Mesotrophic lakes;
- ▶ Neutral grassland;
- ▶ Reedbed;
- ▶ Roadside verges;
- ▶ Rocks and built structures;
- ▶ Sessile oakwood;
- ▶ Sphagnum ponds;
- ▶ Springs and flushes;
- ▶ Wet woodland;
- ▶ Otter;
- ▶ Dormouse;
- ▶ Water Vole;
- ▶ Bats;
- ▶ Barn Owl;

¹³ Harborough DC CMIS (2003). *Issues paper 3 – The Natural Environment (online)*. Available from: <http://cmispublic.harborough.gov.uk/CMISWebPublic/Binary.ashx?Document=8488>. Accessed 21 October 2008.

- ▶ Redstart;
- ▶ Nightingale;
- ▶ Sand Martin;
- ▶ Black Hairstreak; and
- ▶ White-clawed Crayfish.

This framework is important when considering land use planning issues and biodiversity in the LDF.

Table 4.3: Biodiversity, flora and fauna in Harborough

BIODIVERSITY, FLORA AND FAUNA in Harborough					
Feature	Indicator	Quantified data	Comparator	Trends	Source
SSSIs (Sites of Special Scientific Interest)	Hectares	2007-08: 718ha	2006-07: 718ha	No change since 2005-06.	Harborough DC (2008). GIS Data Harborough DC (2006 and 2007). Annual Monitoring Report 2005-06 and 2006-07
	Condition	2007-08: ▶ 27.29% of area favourable ▶ 37.08% of area unfavourable recovering ▶ 10.04% of area unfavourable no change ▶ 25.59% of area unfavourable declining	2006-07: ▶ 34.44% of area favourable ▶ 36.02% of area unfavourable recovering ▶ 11.09% of area unfavourable no change ▶ 18.45% of area unfavourable declining	Condition of SSSIs has remained stable over the period 2005-06 to 2007-08 except Leighford Forest which has improved each year, and Stanford Park which was declassified in 2007-08 from favourable to unfavourable recovering.	Nature on the Map (2008). <i>Sites of Special Scientific Interest (online)</i> . Available from: http://www.natureonthemap.org.uk/map . Accessed 24 October 2008. Harborough DC (2006 and 2007). Annual Monitoring Report 2005-06 and 2006-07
LNRS (Local Nature Reserves)	Hectares	2007-08: 16.32ha	2006-07: 16.32ha	Total area increased by 2ha in 2006 when second LNR (North Kilworth) was designated.	Nature on the Map (2008). <i>Nature Reserves (online)</i> . Available from: http://www.natureonthemap.org.uk . Accessed 24 October 2008.

BIODIVERSITY, FLORA AND FAUNA in Harborough					
Feature	Indicator	Quantified data	Comparator	Trends	Source
LWSs (Local Wildlife Sites)	Hectares	2007-08: 248.5ha	2006-07: 40.2ha	After a decrease from 53.1ha in 2005-06, there has been a significant increase in LWS designations following review in 2007/8.	Harborough DC GIS Data (2008) Harborough DC (2006 and 2007). Annual Monitoring Report 2005-06 and 2006-07

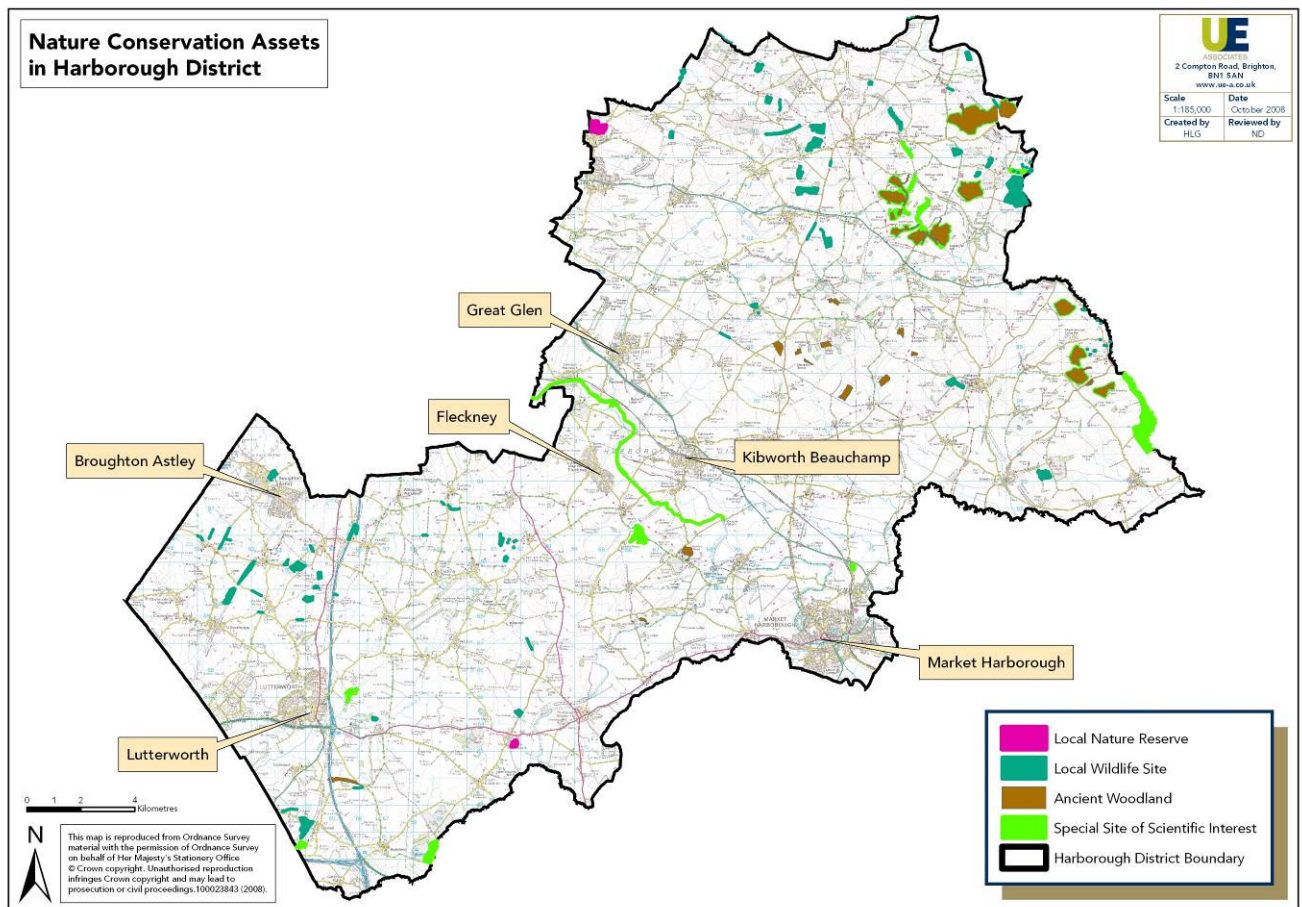


Figure 4.5: Nature Conservation Assets in Harborough

4.5.2 Baseline Position: Geodiversity

The geodiversity of Harborough is an important asset for the district. Geodiversity is the collective term describing the geological variety of the Earth’s rocks, fossils, minerals, soils and landscapes together with the natural process which form and shape them. Geodiversity underpins biodiversity by providing diversity of habitat and the ecosystem, with the soil being the link between them. It also embraces the built environment by providing the basis for neighbourhood character and local distinctiveness through building stone and material.

Figure 4.6 highlights the geology of Harborough and surrounding areas. The geodiversity of the district is dominated by Quaternary period, where during in the ice age large quantities of sediment (including clays and shale) were deposited over the land surface by the movement of glaciers and ice sheets. In the north and east of the district, older Jurassic rocks occur, the erosion of which has given rise to a ridge and valley landscape, where clays exist in the valleys and harder limestones form the tops of hills and valley sides.

Whilst the County of Leicestershire contains extensive mineral resources, and is one of the principal producers of minerals in the country, due to the geology of Harborough, the district itself is not comparatively a large minerals producer. Within Harborough there are three minerals sites: Husbands Bosworth Quarry; Shawell Quarry Slip Inn Quarry; and Ashby Parvall.

These all produce sand and gravel. Whilst there are no Regionally Important Geodiversity Sites in the district, there is one Geological SSSI, Tilton Railway Cutting SSSI, which is a 750m section of disused railway cutting providing exposures of sediments which were deposited during the Lower Jurassic Period, between 189 and 186 million years ago.

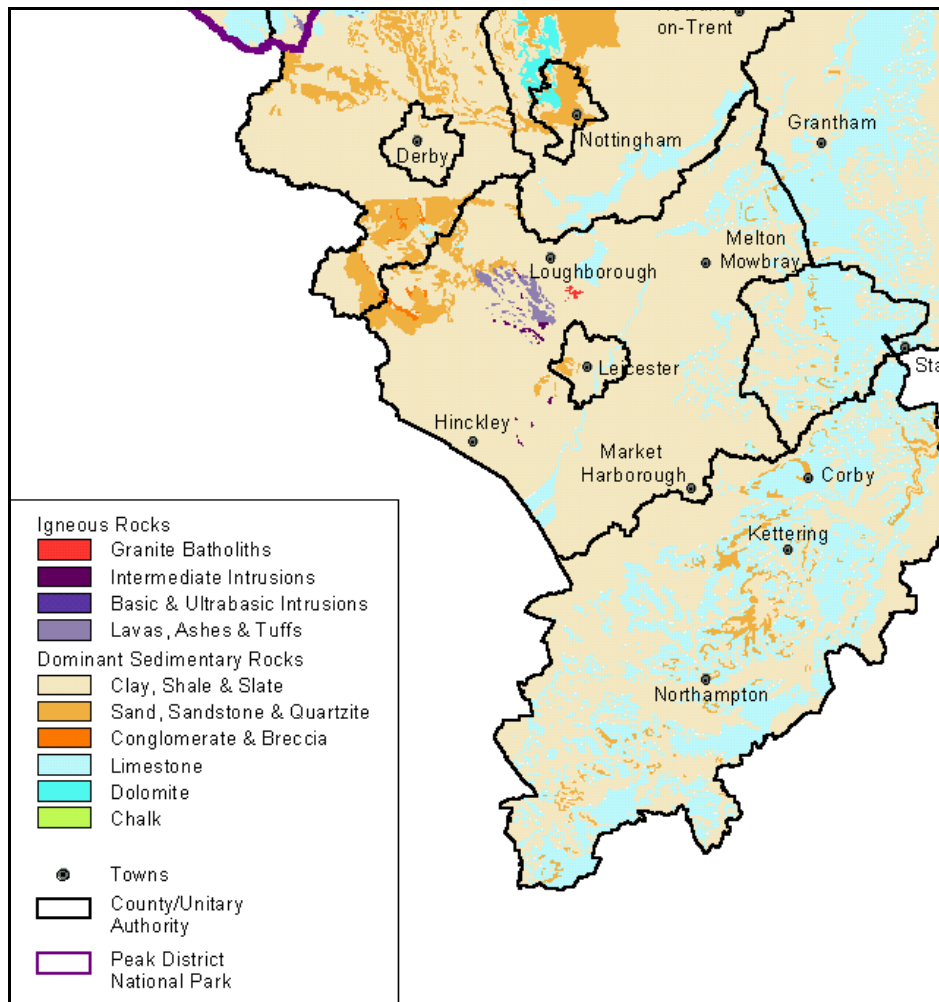


Figure 4.6: Geology of Leicestershire and the surrounding area (Source: Defra)

4.6 Climate Change

4.6.1 Baseline Position

Climatic and anthropogenic-induced climate change are increasing sustainability concerns for the district. Locally defined levels of emissions are seen as contributing to national and international changes in climate with implications for a range of environmental and socio-economic receptors.

As highlighted by the report produced by the East Midlands Round Table for Sustainable Development, *The Potential Impact Of Climate Change In The East Midlands* (2000, and

updated in 2004),¹⁴ the likely effects of climate change for Harborough's climate by 2080 are as follows:

- ▶ An annual average temperature increase of about 3.2°C;
- ▶ An average winter temperature increase of about 3.6°C;
- ▶ An average summer temperature increase of about 2.6°C;
- ▶ An average annual increase in rainfall of about 8%;
- ▶ An average winter increase in rainfall of about 11%;
- ▶ An average summer decrease in rainfall of about 4%;
- ▶ More intensive rainfall during winter months;
- ▶ An increase in the number of storms; and
- ▶ A significant decrease in the occurrence of frost and snow.

Resulting from these changes, the same report highlights a variety of risks for the East Midlands, and relevant for Harborough. These include:

- ▶ Increased incidence of heat related illnesses and deaths during the summer;
- ▶ Increase incidence of illnesses and deaths related to exposure to sunlight (e.g. skin cancer, cataracts);
- ▶ Increased incidence of pathogen related diseases (e.g. legionella and salmonella);
- ▶ Increase in health problems related to rise in local ozone levels during summer;
- ▶ Increased risk of injuries and deaths due to increased number of storm events;
- ▶ Effects on the region's water resources from climate change;
- ▶ Reduction in availability of surface water in reservoirs and rivers for abstraction in summer;
- ▶ Adverse effect on water quality from low river levels and turbulent rivers flow after heavy rain and a reduction of water flow;
- ▶ Increased risk of flooding, including increased vulnerability to 1:100 year floods;
- ▶ Changes in insurance provisions for flood damage;
- ▶ A need to increase the capacity of wastewater treatment plants and sewers;
- ▶ A need to upgrade flood defences;
- ▶ Increased likelihood of summer droughts and soil and water deficits, leading to demand for increased irrigation;
- ▶ Heat stress on livestock;

¹⁴ East Midlands Sustainability Round Table: The Potential Impacts of Climate Change in the East Midlands (2004, updated 2004) <http://www.emra.gov.uk/files/potential-impact-climate-change-010404.pdf>

- ▶ Soil erosion due to flash flooding;
- ▶ New crop pests;
- ▶ Loss of species that are at the edge of their southerly distribution;
- ▶ Spread of species at the northern edge of their distribution;
- ▶ Impact on the amount of grassland from a reduction in summer rainfall;
- ▶ Limitation on the use of water for chemical and food services & & drinks industry;
- ▶ Deterioration in working conditions due to increased temperatures;
- ▶ Changes to global supply chain;
- ▶ Increased difficulty of food preparation, handling and storage more difficult due to higher temperatures;
- ▶ An increased move by the insurance industry towards a more risk-based approach to insurance underwriting, leading to higher cost premiums for business;
- ▶ Increased demand for air-conditioning;
- ▶ Increased drought and flood related problems such as soil shrinkages and subsidence;
- ▶ Impacts from an increased number of tourists due to warmer weather;
- ▶ Risk of rail tracks buckling due to increased temperature and road surfaces melting more frequently; and
- ▶ Flooding of roads and railways

As Table 4.4 below highlights, in relation to CO₂ emissions by end user, road transport is by far the biggest contributor in Harborough, contributing to almost half- or 45% of the district's total emissions. This is in contrast to regionally and nationally, in which road transport contributes to 28% and 25% of total emissions respectively.

Whilst this in part reflects the lack of industry in the district and the transport of goods (including from the logistics and distribution centre at Magna Park near Lutterworth), the figure for road transport is high, and reflects the relative affluence of Harborough, the rural nature of the district and high car dependence (see accessibility and transportation).

Overall the district produces more carbon dioxide emissions per capita than regionally and nationally. This is particularly significant considering the lack of industry and power generation in the district.

Therefore, as the effects of climate change become increasingly apparent, both mitigation (measures taken to reduce adverse effects) and adaptation (changing the way in which we live to better cope with climate change) will become progressively more important considerations for Harborough.

Table 4.4: Climate change in Harborough¹⁵.

CLIMATE CHANGE in Harborough					
Feature	Indicator	Quantified data	Regional/ national comparator	Trends	Source
Carbon dioxide emissions	End user estimates of carbon dioxide emissions – total (kilotonnes)	2006 (ktCO ₂) Harborough: 867	2006 (ktCO ₂) East Midlands: 40,800 UK: 531,736	2005 (ktCO ₂) Harborough: 872 E Midlands: 40,584 UK: 532,373	Defra, September 2008. e-Digest Statistics about: Climate Change Emissions of carbon dioxide for local authority areas Available from: http://www.defra.gov.uk/Environment/statistics/globalatmos/galocalghg.htm [Accessed 21 October 2008].
	End user estimates of carbon dioxide emissions - Industry and Commercial per capita (kilotonnes (% of total))	2006 (ktCO ₂) Harborough: 238 (27%)	2006 (ktCO ₂) East Midlands: 18,350 (45%) UK: 245,076 (46%)	2005 (ktCO ₂) Harborough: 235 E Midlands: 18,114 UK: 246,088	
	End user estimates of carbon dioxide emissions - Domestic per capita (kilotonnes (% of total))	2006 (ktCO ₂) Harborough: 215 (25%)	2006 (ktCO ₂) East Midlands: 10,738 (26%) UK: 153,605 (29%)	2005 (ktCO ₂) Harborough: 211 E Midlands: 10,620 UK: 151,278	
	End user estimates of carbon dioxide emissions - Road Transport per capita (kilotonnes (% of total))	2006 (ktCO ₂) Harborough: 393 (45%)	2006 (ktCO ₂) East Midlands: 11,305 (28%) UK: 135,007 (25%)	2005 (ktCO ₂) Harborough: 405 E Midlands: 11,419 UK: 137,044	
	Per capita carbon dioxide emissions	2006 (ktCO ₂) Harborough: 10.66	2006 (ktCO ₂) East Midlands: 9.35 UK: 8.78	2005 (ktCO ₂) Harborough: 10.85 E Midlands: 9.38 UK: 8.84	

¹⁵ Also see Material Assets (Section 4.12) for renewable energy provision.

4.7 Deprivation

4.7.1 Baseline Position

In general, deprivation in Harborough is low. Based on the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), the district is ranked as the 10th least deprived out of 354 Local Authority areas in England and is the least deprived in Leicestershire. Overall, the majority of the 47 Super Output Areas (SOAs)¹⁶ in Harborough are ranked within the least deprived 50% in England (ranked 16,241 to 32,482), with only one SOA ranked within the 50% most deprived in England- part of Market Harborough-Welland ward.¹⁷

The ten most deprived Super Output Areas in the district, and the ward in which they are located are as follows:

- ▶ E01025806: Market Harborough – Welland;
- ▶ E01025796: Market Harborough - Great Bowden and Arden;
- ▶ E01025784: Kibworth;
- ▶ E01025788: Lubenham; and
- ▶ E01025801: Market Harborough – Logan.

As highlighted by the map below (Figure 4.7), which is shaded according to the SOA rankings for IMD, deprivation in Harborough is evenly distributed, with the slightly more deprived areas existing in the district mostly being located in Market Harborough. Overall however, as the map outlines, when compared to surrounding areas including in Leicester and Corby, deprivation is extremely low across the district.

¹⁶ Super Output Areas (SOAs) are a geographic hierarchy designed to improve the reporting of small area statistics in England and Wales, with the aim of developing a range of areas that would be of consistent size and whose boundaries would not change. These were built from groups of the Output Areas (OAs) used for the 2001 Census.

¹⁷ Research and Information Team Leicestershire County Council: Harborough Community Profile 2005 (2005)

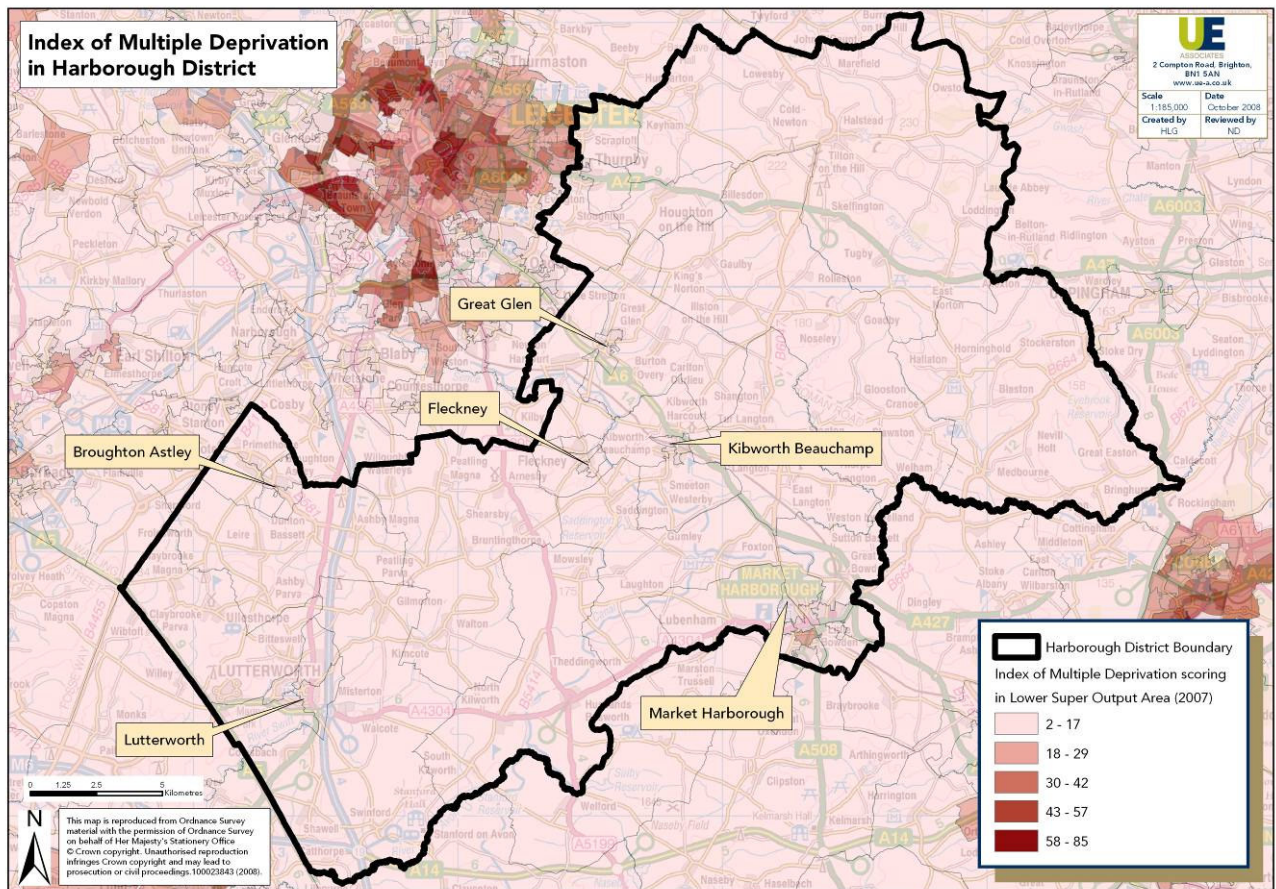


Figure 4.7: Index of Multiple Deprivation in Harbrough: overall scores

It should be noted however that, of the deprivation which does exist in Harbrough, the district experiences the most significant levels of deprivation within the “Barriers to Housing and Services” domain, which includes the following:

- ▶ Household overcrowding;
- ▶ Homeless households applications;
- ▶ Difficulty of access to owner occupation;
- ▶ Road distance to GP premises;
- ▶ Road distance to a supermarket or convenience store;
- ▶ Road distance to a primary school; and
- ▶ Road distance to a Post Office.

There are six SOAs which are ranked within the 10% most deprived in England for this category, and four of the five most deprived SOAs in Leicestershire for this category are located within the district. The most severe deprivation is experienced in Tilton ward (the SOA covers the entire ward), and this area is ranked as the 394th most deprived in England (out of 32,482 similar areas). Figure 4.8 highlights the extent of deprivation for the Barriers to Housing and Services domain in the district.

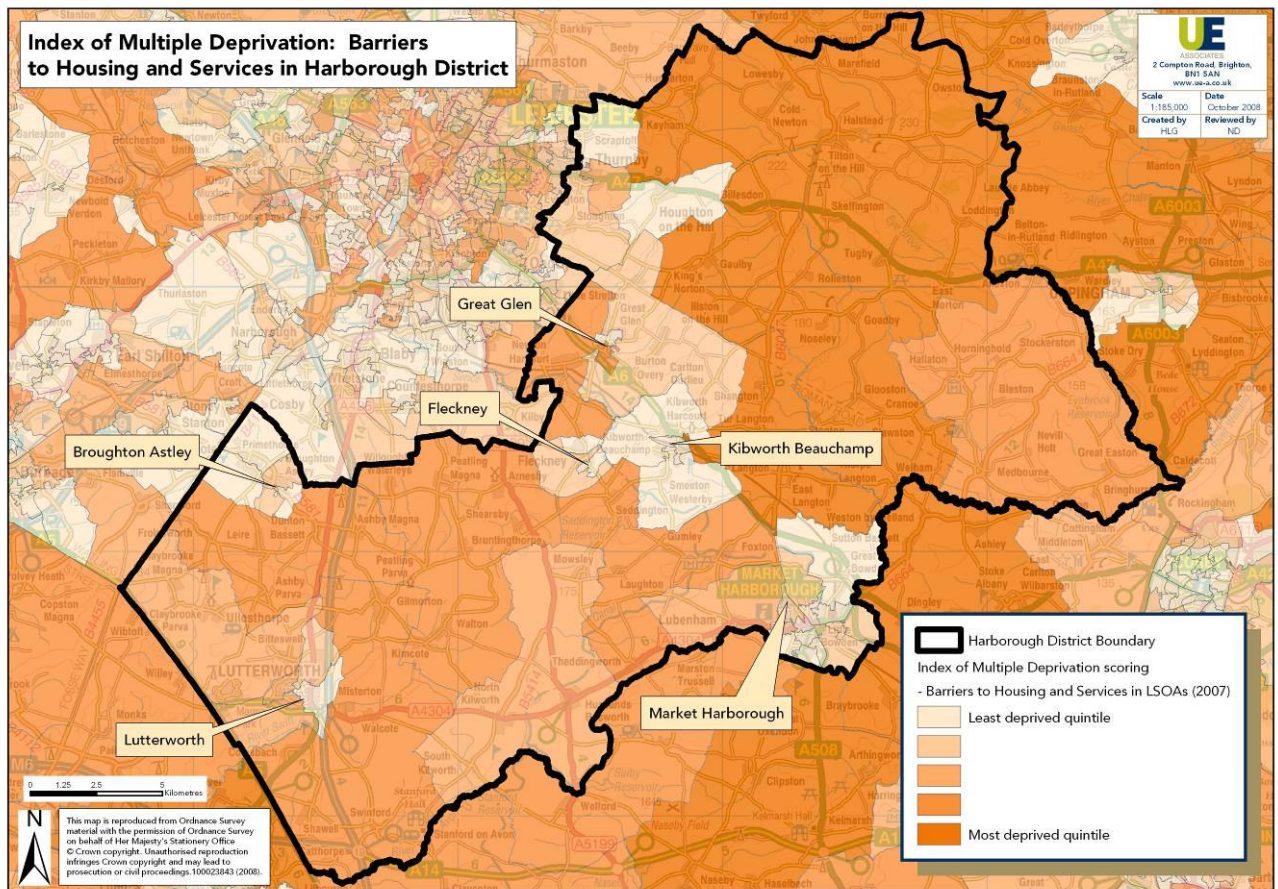


Figure 4.8: Index of Multiple Deprivation in Harbrough: Barriers to Housing and Services category

Therefore, whilst (as highlighted by table 4.5) the district enjoys high average incomes, high employment, low levels of crime and a good quality of life overall in comparison to regional and national averages, accessibility and affordable housing remain key issues for the district. For example some sectors of the population find it difficult to access suitable housing: although a total of 54 affordable units were built during 2006/07, representing an increase of 28 on the previous study year; this provision did not meet the Harbrough corporate target of 80 per annum or the perceived requirement (according to the 2007 housing needs update Housing Market and Needs Assessment) for 279 dwellings per year.¹⁸ Alongside, due to the rural nature of the district, and infrequent public transport links many people also have difficulties in accessing services. These issues have been discussed further in the Accessibility and Transport and the Housing sections of this baseline summary.

¹⁸ Harbrough District Council: Harbrough Annual Monitoring Report 2007 (December 2007) and Affordable Housing SPD (2006)

Table 4.5: Deprivation in Harborough.

DEPRIVATION in Harborough					
Feature	Indicator	Quantified data	Regional / National Comparator	Trends	Source
Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD)	Rank of average score	2007 Harborough: 344 (out of 354)	No data available	No data available	DCLG, 2007. English <i>Indices of Deprivation 2007</i> [online]. Available from: http://www.communities.gov.uk/communities/neighbourhoodrenewal/deprivation/deprivation07/ (accessed 23 rd October 2008)
	Wards within 50% most deprived in England	Market Harborough-Welland	No data available	No data available	DCLG, 2007. English <i>Indices of Deprivation 2007</i> [online]. Available from: http://www.communities.gov.uk/communities/neighbourhoodrenewal/deprivation/deprivation07/ (accessed 22 October 2008)
Affordable Housing	Annual shortfall of affordable housing per year	2007 Harborough: 225	No data available	No data available	Harborough Annual Monitoring Report 2007
Homelessness	Percentage of households accepted as homeless	April 2004-05 Harborough: 3.3	April 2004-05 East Midlands: 6.6 England 7.8	April 2000-01 Harborough: 9.0 East Midlands: 7.8 England :11.1	ONS. <i>Neighbourhood Statistics</i> [online]. Available from: http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/ [Accessed: 22 October 2008]
Crime	Recorded offences per 1,000 population	April 2006-07 Harborough: 28	April 2006-07 Leicestershire: 58 England & Wales: 61	Decreasing nationally, regionally and for Harborough	Crime in England and Wales 2006/2007, Home Office http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/pdfs07/laa1.xls [Accessed: 22 October 2008]

DEPRIVATION in Harborough					
Feature	Indicator	Quantified data	Regional / National Comparator	Trends	Source
Unemployment	Percentage of working aged population unemployed	2006 Harborough: 4.3	2006 East Midlands: 5.2 England: 5.5	2004 Harborough: 2.8 East Midlands: 4.7 England: 5.1	Neighbourhood Statistics: www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk [Accessed 22 October 2008]
Income	Gross weekly pay for working age population employed full time (£)	2007 Harborough: 458	2007 East Midlands: 430 Great Britain: 459	2002 Harborough: 429 East Midlands: 370 Great Britain: 393	ONS, 2008. Official Labour Market Statistics: Local Authority Profiles [online]. Available from: http://www.nomisweb.co.uk [Accessed: 22 October 2008]

4.8 Economic Factors

4.8.1 Baseline Position

Harborough has a highly skilled population. A significantly higher proportion of the district's working age population is qualified to NVQ4 level (35.7%) than regional (25.5%) and national (28.6%) averages, and the proportion of the working age population with no qualifications (9.3%) is significantly less than for the East Midlands (13.5%) and England (13.1%). Improvements in skills levels in the district have broadly been similar to that at the regional and national level.

Reflecting this, a higher proportion of the district's working population are in managerial/senior, professional or associate professional and technical occupations (55.4%) when compared to regionally (39.5%) and nationally (42.9%).¹⁹ Alongside, the proportion of employment in knowledge based industries in the district is 44%.²⁰ Overall unemployment in the district is low compared to regional and national levels (see figure 4.9 below).

¹⁹ Occupations in Soc 2000 group 1-3: source <http://www.nomisweb.co.uk>

²⁰ Harborough District Council: Harborough Economic Development Strategy 2008-2013 (2008)

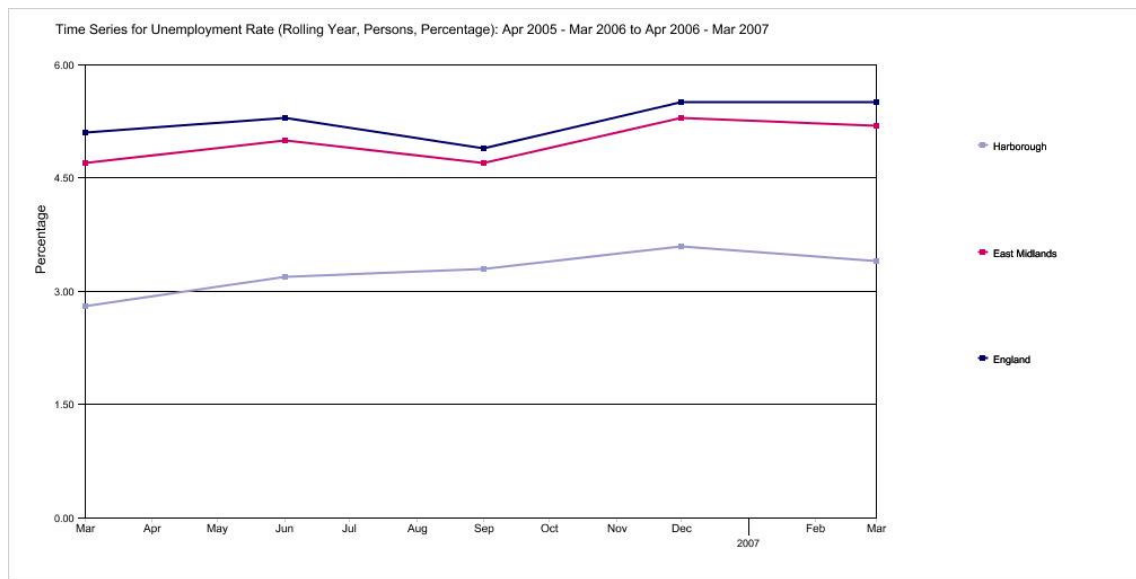


Figure 4.9: Unemployment in Harborough in comparison to regional and national averages (source: www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk)

Whilst skills levels are high in the district, and unemployment is low, in many respects the district is underperforming in economic terms. For example VAT registrations in Harborough are slightly less than regional and national averages, and de-registrations are similar. Alongside, the district has seen a disparity between the scale of employment growth and that of housing. Reflecting this, increasing levels of commuting out of the area for employment purposes has been taking place over the last decade (due in part to the proximity of larger centres, good transport links and the desirability of the district as a place to live). Poor public transport provision & reliance on private transport to access employment and training possibilities has also reduced access to opportunities for some.

There is also scope to improve the visitor economy in Harborough, utilising the district’s high quality environment and distinctive cultural heritage features, by increasing visitor spend and increasing the number of overnight stays. This has the potential to support the rural economy of the district.

Table 4.6: Economic factors in Harborough.

ECONOMIC FACTORS in Harborough					
Feature	Indicator	Quantified data	Regional/national comparator	Trends	Source
Enterprise	VAT registrations	2006 Harborough: 365 (9% proportion of stock)	2006 East Midlands: 12,320 (9.2%) GB: 177,765 (9.4%)	Harborough: 2005: 330 2004: 380 2003: 355 2002: 340 2001: 330	ONS, 2008. Official Labour Market Statistics: Local Authority Profiles [online]. Available from: http://www.nomisweb.co.uk [Accessed: 22 October 2008]

ECONOMIC FACTORS in Harborough					
Feature	Indicator	Quantified data	Regional/ national comparator	Trends	Source
Business survival rates	VAT deregistrations	2006 Harborough: 290 (7.2% proportion of stock)	2006 East Midlands: 9,180 (6.8%) GB: 139,205 (7.4%)	Harborough: 2005: 270 2004: 290 2003: 325 2002: 320 2001: 325	ONS, 2008. Official Labour Market Statistics: Local Authority Profiles [online]. Available from: http://www.nomisweb.co.uk [Accessed: 22 October 2008]
Unemployment	Percentage of working aged population unemployed	2006 Harborough: 4.3	2006 East Midlands: 5.2 England: 5.5	2004 Harborough: 2.8 East Midlands: 4.7 England: 5.1	Neighbourhood Statistics: www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk [Accessed 22 October 2008]
Skills	Percentage of the working age population with no qualifications	2007 Harborough: 9.3	2007 East Midlands: 13.5 Great Britain: 13.1	2001 Harborough: 15.7 East Midlands: 18.6 Great Britain: 16.5	ONS, 2008. Official Labour Market Statistics: Local Authority Profiles [online]. Available from: http://www.nomisweb.co.uk [Accessed: 22 October 2008]
	Percentage of the working age population qualified to NVQ2 level and above	2007 Harborough: 70.4	2007 East Midlands: 62.6 Great Britain: 64.5	2001 Harborough: 63.3 East Midlands: 56.0 Great Britain: 59.5	ONS, 2008. Official Labour Market Statistics: Local Authority Profiles [online]. Available from: http://www.nomisweb.co.uk [Accessed: 22 October 2008]
	Percentage of the working age population qualified to NVQ4 level and above	2007 Harborough: 35.7	2007 East Midlands: 25.5 Great Britain: 28.6	2001 Harborough: 26.9 East Midlands: 19.3 Great Britain: 23.6	ONS, 2008. Official Labour Market Statistics: Local Authority Profiles [online]. Available from: http://www.nomisweb.co.uk [Accessed: 22 October 2008]

ECONOMIC FACTORS in Harborough					
Feature	Indicator	Quantified data	Regional/ national comparator	Trends	Source
	Percentage of 15-16 year olds achieving 5+A*-C GCSEs	2007 Harborough: 67.7	2007 East Midlands: 57.9 England: 62.0	1997 Harborough: 50.7 East Midlands: 41.5 England: 45.1	DfES: GCSE and equivalent results [online]. Available from: http://www.dfes.gov.uk/inquiryarea/statics/las_lea_336_4.shtml [Accessed: 22 October 2008]
Income	Gross weekly pay for working age population employed full time (£)	2007 Harborough: 458	2007 East Midlands: 430 Great Britain: 459	2002 Harborough: 429 East Midlands: 370 Great Britain: 393	ONS, 2008. Official Labour Market Statistics: Local Authority Profiles [online]. Available from: http://www.nomisweb.co.uk [Accessed: 22 October 2008]
Visitor economy	Day visitors per annum	2006/7 Harborough: 2,206,2600	No data available	No data available	Harborough Economic Development Strategy 2008-2013
	Average spend per visitor (£)	2006/7 Harborough: 84.02	No data available	No data available	Harborough Economic Development Strategy 2008-2013

4.9 Health

4.9.1 Baseline Position

Health service provision in Harborough reflects the rural nature of the district, and health facilities are limited to the main towns and villages, as shown in Figure 4.10. The limited scope of healthcare facilities within the district means reliance for hospital provision is focused on Leicester and Kettering, outside of Harborough.²¹ However, for residents in Market Harborough, the main centre of health provision in the district, there are approximately 900 people per doctor; which is far lower than the regional average of 1,808 people per doctor.²²

²¹ Harborough District Local Strategic Partnership (2008) Draft Sustainable Community Strategy [online]/ Available from: http://www.leics.gov.uk/harborough_sc_strategy_2008.pdf [Accessed: 23 October 2008].

²² East Midlands Health Profile 2003

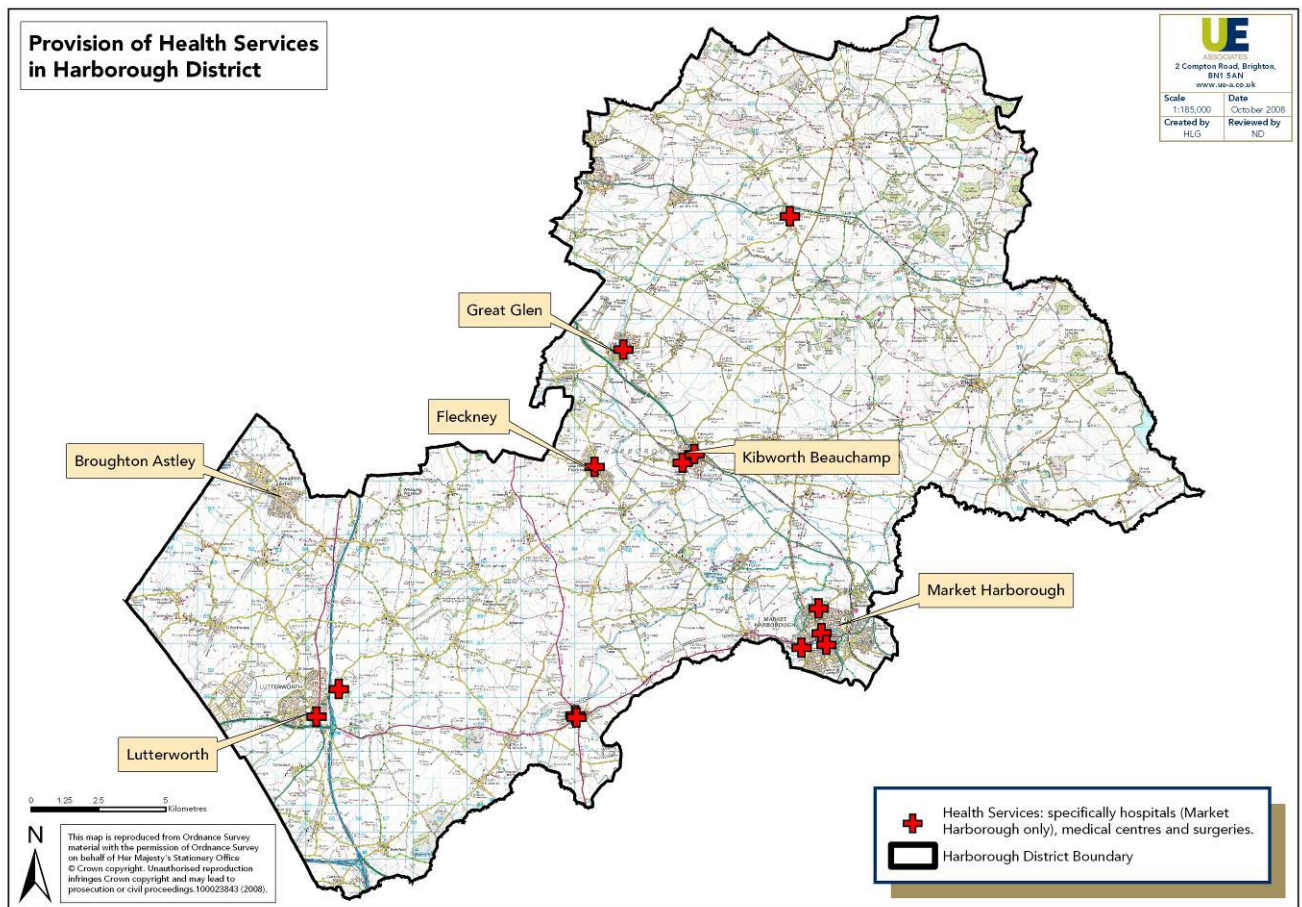


Figure 4.10: Health services in Harborough

In the 2001 Census, 73% of people reported that they were in 'good health', with 6.3% reporting that they were of 'not good health'. Table 4.7 indicates that Harborough has similar levels of 'not good' health in comparison to regional and national trends. The 2001 Census also reported that 14% of people in Harborough had a limiting long-term illness (LLTI); this varies only slightly from Leicestershire and England averages.

Table 4.7: Limiting long-term illness and 'not good' health within Harborough (Census 2001)

	% of people with a limiting long-term illness	% of people with 'not good' health
Harborough	14%	6%
Leicestershire	15%	7%
England	18%	9%

Females have the highest rates of LLTI in Harborough²³. The majority of people with either a LLTI or in 'not good' health live in rented accommodation from the council, and/or are unemployed. Market Harborough-Welland ward has the highest proportion of people with a LLTI, as well the highest proportion of people with 'not good' health (8.7% of people) - more than double the proportion of the ward with the lowest level (Broughton Astely-Astley). Market-Harborough-Welland ward has a particularly high LLTI rate for the 45 to 65 age groups, as demonstrated in Figure 4.11:

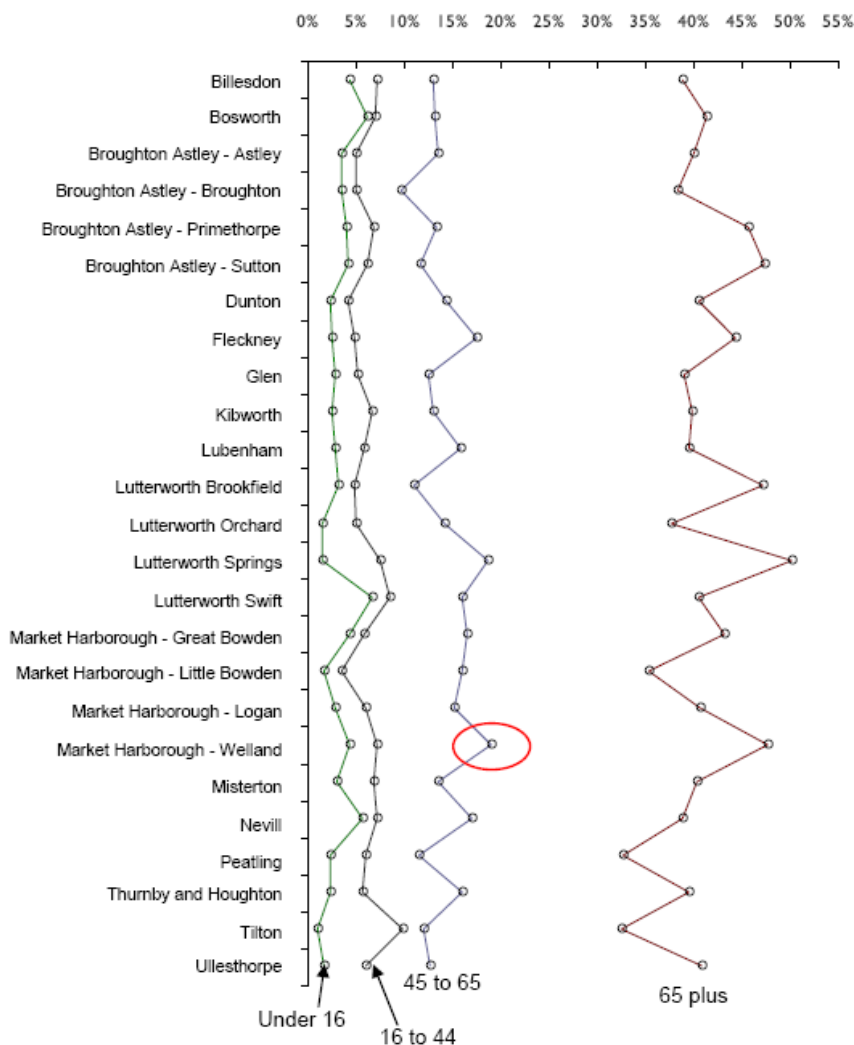


Figure 4.11: Limiting Long Term Illness By Age in Harborough Wards (2001)²⁴

²³ Leicestershire County Council, Harborough Community Profile (2005) [online]. Available from: http://www.leics.gov.uk/harboroughweb_ch2_demographic.pdf [Accessed: 23 October 2008]

²⁴ Leicestershire County Council, Harborough Community Profile (2005) [online]. Available from: http://www.leics.gov.uk/harboroughweb_ch2_demographic.pdf

Despite a low availability of health care services in many areas of the district, Harborough fares well in many categories of health issues. Infant deaths and low birthweights are lower than regional and national averages; the district has a lower proportion of people providing unpaid care (10%) than in Leicestershire (11%), and England (10.2%); and less than a quarter of people in the District smoke.²⁵

Life expectancy for both males and females is higher in Harborough than the national average²⁶ and life expectancy is rising in the District; 2.4 years for men and 1.5 years for women between the 1991 and 2001 Census. Within Harborough, there are notable differences between life expectancy; female life expectancy is highest in Glen ward (86.5 years) and lowest in Broughton Astley-Sutton wards (76.4 years), whilst male life expectancy is highest in Lutterworth Brookfield ward (83.2 years) and lowest in Broughton Astley-Sutton ward (74.5 years).

The number of under-18 conceptions in Harborough is far lower than the regional and national average; per 1,000 females, the rate of under 18 conceptions in 2005 was 17.0 in Harborough. This compares to a regional average of 40.2, and a national average of 41.3.²⁷

The NHS has produced a Health Poverty Index (HPI), as part of the NHS Plan (2000). For each indicator, a score of zero indicates the best situation in terms of health poverty and a score of 1 the worst situation. For Harborough, the index scores the district as having poor levels of quality of preventative healthcare and social care resourcing. In contrast the index has better scores for income, recreation facilities, home environment, work and local environment, psychological morbidity, premature morbidity and premature mortality.

[Accessed: 23 October 2008]

²⁵ Harborough District Local Strategic Partnership (2008) Draft Sustainable Community Strategy [online]/ Available from: http://www.leics.gov.uk/harborough_sc_strategy_2008.pdf [Accessed: 23 October 2008].

²⁶ ONS Key Figures for Health and Care, [online]. Available from:

<http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/LeadKeyFigures.do?a=3&b=277031&c=harborough&d=13&e=6&g=465794&i=1001x1003x1004&m=0&r=1&s=1224781355626&enc=1>

²⁷ ONS Key Figures for Health and Care (2005), [online]. Available from:

<http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/LeadKeyFigures.do?a=3&b=277031&c=harborough&d=13&e=6&g=465794&i=1001x1003x1004&m=0&r=1&s=1224781355626&enc=1>

Table 4.8: Health in Harborough

HEALTH in Harborough					
Feature	Indicator	Quantified data	Regional / National Comparator	Trends	Source
Life Expectancy	Life expectancy at birth - Males	2003-05 H'borough: 79.8	2004-06 E. Mids: 77.3 England: 77.32	2001-03 East Midlands: 76.3 England: 76.23	Department of Health, 2006. Choosing Health: Health Profiles 2006. and Department of Health, 2007. Choosing Health: Health Profiles 2007.
	Life expectancy at birth - Females	2003-05 H'borough: 82.3	2004-06 E. Mids: 81.3 England: 81.55	2001-03 East Midlands: 80.5 England: 80.7	
Infant Mortality	The number of infant deaths (deaths under 1 year) per 1,000 live births	2003-05 H'borough: 3.1	2002-04 E. Mids: 5.2 England: 5.0	2002-04 W'hampton: 8.0 East Midlands: 5.2 England: 5.1	ONS Key Figures for Health and Care, [online]. Available from: http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/ [Accessed: 22 October 2008]
Coronary Heart Disease	Directly age standardised mortality rates per 100,000 population for coronary heart disease and stroke related conditions (circulatory disease) at all ages under 75 years	2001-02 Harborough : 63.12	2001-02 East Midlands: 64.83 England: 90.5	No data available	Department of Health, 2008. Choosing Health: Health Profiles 2007.
Doctor provision	Number of people per doctor	Market Harborough (2001): 900 people per doctor	2001: East Midlands: 1808 England: 1742	No data available	2003 East Midlands Health Profile

HEALTH in Harborough					
Feature	Indicator	Quantified data	Regional / National Comparator	Trends	Source
Good health	% of population that consider themselves to have good or fairly good health	Harborough (2003): 73.2% good 20.6% fairly good	2003: East Midlands : 68% good 23% fairly good England: 68.6% good 22.2% fairly good	No data available	Census 2001, ONS
Low Birth-weight	Percentage of babies of a low birthweight (live births)	(2003-5) H'borough: 6.3	(2003-5) East Midlands: 5.2 England: 5.1	No data available	ONS Key Figures for Health and Care, [online]. Available from: http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/ [Accessed: 22 October 2008]

4.10 Historic Environment and Landscape

4.10.1 Baseline Position

The historic environment of Harborough, which gives the district its sense of place and identity, is defined both by its individual heritage assets, designated and non-designated, and the setting of these assets through the district's historic landscapes and townscapes. The historic growth of Harborough was determined by the development of the area as an important and prosperous agricultural area, the development of Market Harborough and Lutterworth as significant regional market towns and the growth of transport networks such as the Grand Union Canal.

Reflecting this development, in addition to built up areas, many of Harborough's landscapes are of historic significance, through for example containing woodlands and hedgerows which are evidence of management by farmers and landowners over many centuries. The district is made up of five broad landscape character areas (as determined by the Harborough District Historic Landscape Character Assessment); the Laughton Hills, the Lutterworth Lowlands, the Welland Valley, High Leicestershire and the Upper Soar. In addition to these there are five main rivers (Swift, Avon, Welland, Sence and Eyebrook) and three reservoirs (Saddington, Stanford and Eyebrook). The landscape of Harborough is of high quality, especially in the east of the country, which is characterised by deep valleys and hilltops, as recognised by the existing Harborough Local Plan:

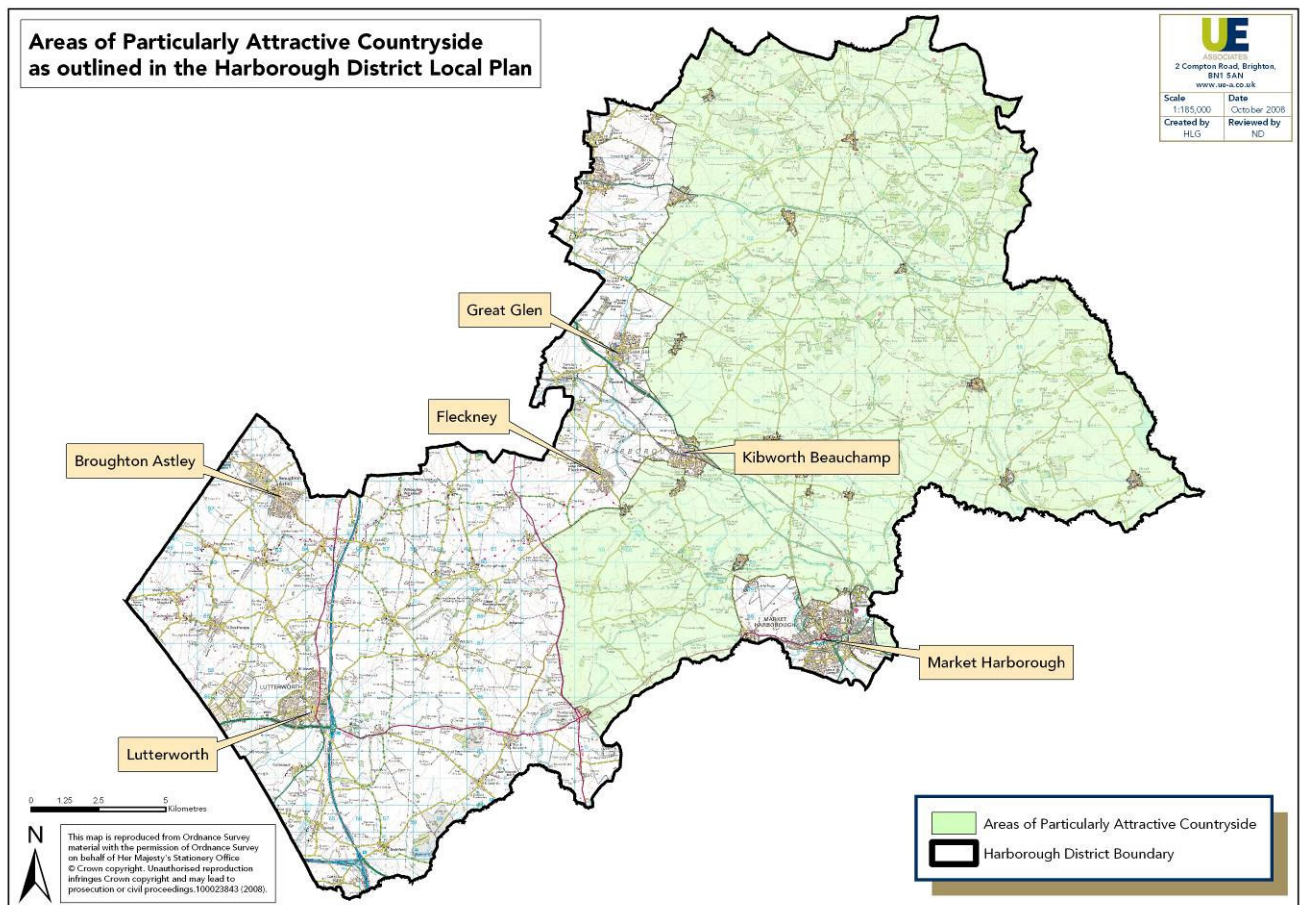


Figure 4.12: Area of Particularly Attractive Countryside, as determined by the Harbrough Local Plan

A number of important features and areas for the historic environment in Harbrough, such as Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, Scheduled Ancient Monuments and Registered Parks and Gardens, are protected by statutory designations. Any alterations to these sites and buildings which would harm their historic character and special features must have consent from English Heritage to proceed. In addition to statutory protection, many valuable features of the historic environment are protected through the planning system via conditions imposed on developers. The locations of listed buildings and conservation areas within the district can be seen in Figure 4.15.



Figure 4.13: Grade I listed building: Stanford Hall, south east of Lutterworth

The Leicester Line of the Grand Union Canal is a particularly important cultural heritage asset for the district. Constructed in the early 1800s, and the original part of the Grand Union Canal, the waterway was constructed to transport heavy goods including coal from the Derbyshire and Nottingham coalfields, and was part of the network which would later connect Birmingham to London. A prominent feature of the canal in the district is the Grade II* listed Foxton Locks, which allowed boats to travel up a 75ft hill using a series of lock gates.

With the passing of the Civic Amenities Act in 1967, local authorities were able to protect groups of buildings in villages and towns through the designation of Conservation Areas. Harborough's first designation was made in 1969, and the district now has 62 such areas (a relatively large number), including older cores of settlements, whole villages, small group of buildings, rural areas relating to large estates or a features such as canals. Conservation areas contain buildings, structures and other features of historic or architectural importance which, together with the open spaces between them, interact to create areas of special quality and interest. The location of conservation areas in Harborough are shown in Figure 4.15.



Figure 4.14: Conservation area: Lowesby Village

It should be noted that not all of Harborough's historic environment resource is subject to statutory designations, and non-designated features comprise a large part of what people have contact with as part of daily life – whether at home, work or leisure. For example, although not listed, many buildings and areas are of historic interest, and which are seen as important by local communities. An example of this in Harborough include a number of parks in the district.

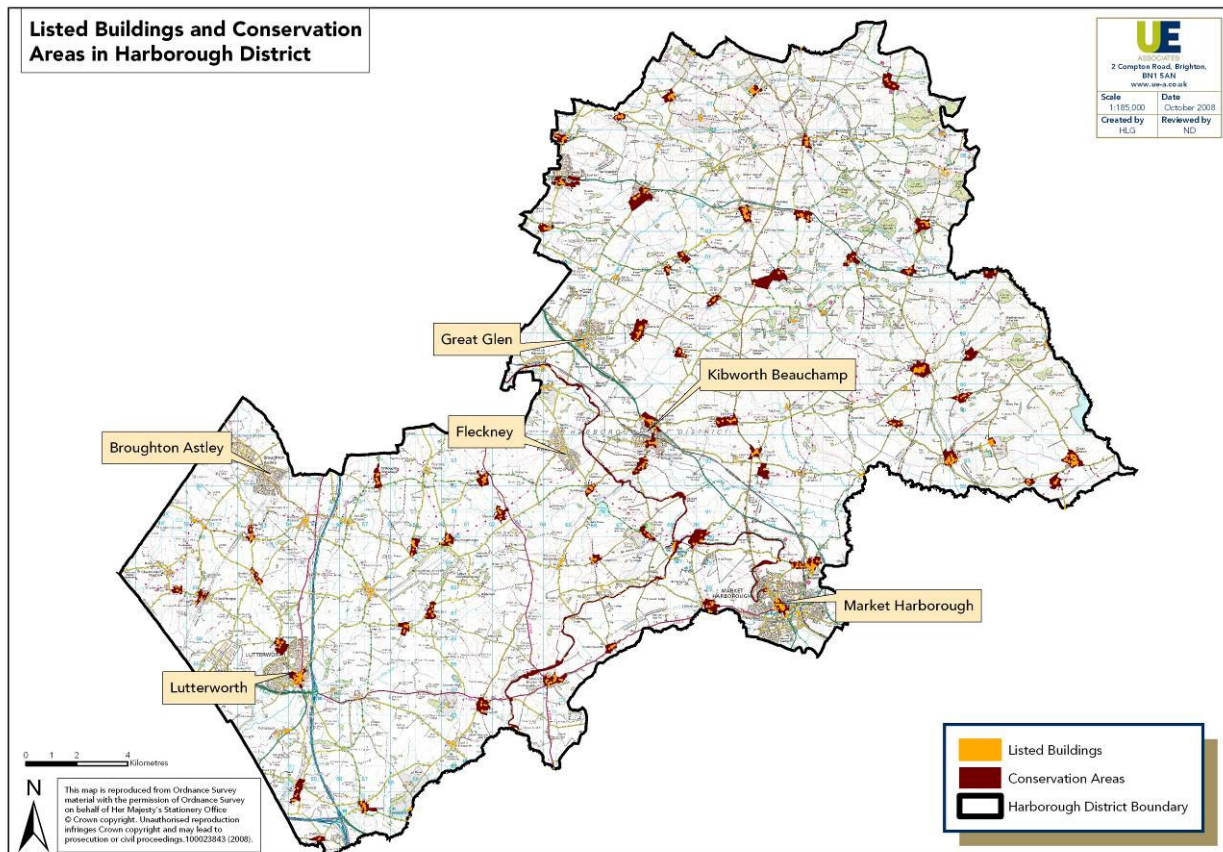


Figure 4.15: Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas in Harborough.

The district’s cultural heritage designations are set out below:

Table 4.9: Designated cultural heritage assets in Harborough²⁸.

DESIGNATED CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSETS in Harborough		
Feature	Number and Sites	Source
Listed Buildings	2008 Harborough: 1,250	English Heritage, 2007. Heritage Counts – The State of the East Midlands Historic Environment [online]. Available from: http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/hc/server/show/nav.10736 [Accessed: 22 October 2008].

²⁸ It should be noted that the English Heritage BAR Register only counts grade I and II* buildings and Scheduled Monuments at risk - there are likely to be many more Grade II buildings at risk in Harborough.

DESIGNATED CULTURAL HERITAGE ASSETS in Harborough		
Feature	Number and Sites	Source
Buildings at Risk	2008 Harborough: 2 - Withcote Hall - Scraftoft Hall	English Heritage, 2008. Buildings at Risk Register [online]. Available from: http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/nav.19186 [Accessed: 22 October 2008]
Scheduled Ancient Monuments	2008 Harborough: 60	Harborough DC - Scheduled Ancient Monuments [online]. Available from: http://www.harborough.gov.uk/dotGov/home.do?crumb=Scheduled%20Ancient%20Monuments&&page_css=xDefault&view_schema=service&view_name=07HDC-Imported%20Service%20ID%20245&homepage_name=07HDC-Imported%20Service%20ID%20245&page_name=details [Accessed 22 October 2008].
Registered Parks and Gardens	2008 Harborough: 6 Including: Baggrave; Lowesby; Quenby; Nevil Holt; West Langton; and Stanford	Harborough DC - Registered Parks and Gardens [online]. Available from: http://www.harborough.gov.uk/pp/gold/viewGold.asp?IDType=Page&ID=2426 [Accessed 22 October 2008].
Conservation Areas	2008 Harborough: 62	Harborough DC - Conservation areas [online]. Available from: http://www.marketharboroughonline.co.uk/pp/gold/viewGold.asp?IDType=Page&ID=7670 [Accessed 22 October 2008].

4.11 Housing and Green Infrastructure

4.11.1 Baseline Position: Housing

Average house prices in Harborough are the highest in Leicestershire and are significantly higher than East Midlands averages. Affordability of housing is a major issue in Harborough, and, as highlighted by the Economic Development Strategy 2008-2013, the Housing affordability ratio (between average house prices and average salaries) is 9.4. This large gap between house prices and earnings is a particular problem for people living in rural areas of the district.

To help address this issue, the Affordable Housing SPD (2006) now requires a minimum of 30% of housing developments of 5 or more dwellings to be affordable and a total of 54 affordable units were built in the district during 2006/07. This represents an increase of 28 on the previous study year; however this increase does not meet the corporate target of 80 per annum²⁹- an issue made more pertinent by the suggestion by the 2007 update to the Housing Needs Study that 279 affordable dwellings need to be built per year to meet district shortfalls. This shortage of affordable housing is reflected by the number of Households on the Local Authority Housing Register increasing from 770 to 1,254 between 2001 and 2005.

The majority of the District's 33,455 dwellings are privately owned (92%) while the remaining 8% are owned by Harborough District Council or Registered Social Landlords. Homelessness has been decreasing in the district since 2001 and is lower than regional and national averages.

Table 4.10: Housing in Harborough

HOUSING in Harborough					
Feature	Indicator	Quantified data	Regional/ National Comparator	Trends	Source
House Prices	Average house price	April-June 2008 Harborough: £232,628	April-June 2008 East Midlands: £164,886 England: £219,262	Data not available	UK Land Registry (through BBC website). http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/shared/spl/hi/in_depth/uk_house_prices/regions/html/regions.stm [Accessed: 22 October 2008]
Affordable Housing	Annual shortfall of affordable housing per year	2007 Harborough: 144	No data available	No data available	Harborough Annual Monitoring Report 2007
Housing affordability ratio	Ratio between average house prices and average salaries	9.4	No data available	The affordability ratio has been increasing over the last 10 years.	Harborough Economic Development Strategy 2008-2013

²⁹ Harborough District Council: Harborough Annual Monitoring Report 2007 (December 2007)

HOUSING in Harborough					
Feature	Indicator	Quantified data	Regional/ National Comparator	Trends	Source
Home-lessness	Percentage of households accepted as homeless	April 2004-05 Harborough: 3.3	April 2004-05 East Midlands: 6.6 England 7.8	April 2000-01 Harborough: 9.0 East Midlands: 7.8 England: 11.1	ONS. <i>Neighbourhood Statistics</i> [online]. Available from: http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/ [Accessed: 22 October 2008]
Households on the Local Authority Housing Register	Number of households	April 2005-06 Harborough: 1,355	East Midlands: 133,823 England: 1,634,301	Harborough: 04/05: 1,254 03/04: 1,038 02/03: 1,172 01/02: 770	ONS. <i>Neighbourhood Statistics</i> [online]. Available from: http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/ [Accessed: 22 October 2008]

4.11.2 Green Infrastructure

Green infrastructure is the network of multi-functional open spaces, including formal parks, gardens, woodlands, green corridors, waterways, street trees and open countryside of green spaces and natural elements that intersperse and connect cities, towns and villages.³⁰

Natural England's Urban Green Space Standards³¹ recommend that everyone should have access to natural green space within 300 metres from their home, whilst the National Playing Fields Association recommends 2.4 ha of open space per 1,000 head of population. As a predominantly rural district with low population density, Harborough has a wide diversity of open space (including parks and gardens, local wildlife sites, allotments, sports/play areas and golf courses) as well as high quality and accessible open countryside. There are ten parks and recreation grounds in the district and over 120 smaller recognised open spaces,³² with one park in the district, Welland Park, meeting Green Flag standards. According to the ONS 2005 Land Use Database³³, green space in Harborough makes up 93.7% of the total land area, compared to 89.8% in the East Midlands and 84.5% across the whole of England.

³⁰ Definition provided by the online Green Infrastructure Planning Guide <http://www.greeninfrastructure.eu/>

³¹ Natural England Board - Scope of Natural England's Health Policy [online]. Available from: www.naturalengland.org.uk/about/board/jun07/060607-NEB%20P07%2021%20-%20Final.pdf [Accessed: 26 Oct 2007].

³² <http://www.harborough.gov.uk/pp/gold/viewgold.asp?ID=493>

³³ ONS. *Neighbourhood Statistics* [online]. Available from: <http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/> [Accessed: 22 October 2008]

The waterway network of Harborough is a key part of the district's Green Infrastructure network. Including the River Welland and the Grand Union Canal Leicester Line, these corridors provide multifunctional opportunities for recreation, improved biodiversity linkages and natural resource management. Reflecting this, part of National Cycleway No.6 follows the route of the Grand Union Canal Leicester Line, and the Millenium Mile follows the River Welland and links areas of open space in Market Harborough.

4.12 Material Assets (including energy and waste)

4.12.1 Renewable energy

There are two installations in Harborough which produce significant renewable energy: Two Photovoltaic Sunflowers providing 600 kwhs at a site in Magna Park; and 24 Photovoltaic modules providing 3000Wp above a shop (One Stop) in Lutterworth.³⁴

4.12.2 Waste

In comparison with national and regional averages, recycling rates in Harborough are extremely favourable; the district recycles 49% of its household waste in comparison to 36% regionally and 31% nationally.³⁵ This was the tenth best household recycling and composting rate of local authorities in England. Data on the proportion of municipal waste going to landfill or being incinerated was not available at the district level (although is available from Defra for Leicestershire).

Table 4.11: Waste Arisings and Recycling Rates in Harborough.

WASTE ARISING AND RECYCLING RATES in Harborough*					
Feature	Indicator	Quantified data	Regional/ National Comparator	Trends	Source
Waste Arisings	Household waste arisings per head (tonnes)	2006/7 Harborough: 0.23	2006/7 East Midlands: 0.52	2005/6 data not available for Harborough	Defra, 2007. <i>Municipal waste statistics 2006/7</i> [online], Available from: http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/wastats/bulletin07.htm [Accessed: 23 October 2008]
	Household	2005/6	2005/6	2004/5 data	Defra, 2007. <i>Municipal waste</i>

³⁴ Harborough Annual Monitoring Report 2007

³⁵ Defra, 2007. *Municipal waste statistics 2006/7* [online], Available from:
<http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/wastats/bulletin07.htm>.

WASTE ARISING AND RECYCLING RATES in Harborough*					
	waste arisings (tonnes)	Harborough: 37,207	East Midlands: 2,847,000	not available for Harborough	statistics 2006/7 [online], Available from: http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/wastats/bulletin07.htm [Accessed: 23 October 2008]
	Municipal waste arisings (tonnes)	2005/6 Harborough: 41,234	2005/6 East Midlands: 2,428,000	2004/5 data not available for Harborough	Defra, 2007. <i>Municipal waste statistics 2006/7</i> [online], Available from: http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/wastats/bulletin07.htm [Accessed: 23 October 2008]
Local Authority Recycling Rates	Household recycling & composting rate (%)	2006/7 Harborough: 48.6	2006/7 East Midlands: 35.6 England: 30.9	2005/6: Harborough 42.5 East Midlands: 31.8 England: 26.7	Defra, 2007. <i>Municipal waste statistics 2006/7</i> [online], Available from: http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/wastats/bulletin07.htm [Accessed: 23 October 2008]
	Municipal recycling rate (%)	2005/6 Harborough: 38.6	2005/6 East Midlands: 27.1 England: 27.1	2004/5 data not available for Harborough	Defra, 2006. <i>Municipal waste statistics 2005/6</i> [online]. [Accessed: 23 October 2008] (data not available for 2006/7)

*Data at the district level are not yet available for 2006/7- only at the County level.

4.12.3 Brownfield Land

In relation to the reuse of brownfield land, completions of housing on previously developed land has been steadily increasing in the district since 2001. More recent figures, (since 2004) are very high, especially when seen in the context of the rural nature of much of Harborough.

Table 4.12: Housing completions on brownfield sites (Source: Harborough Annual Monitoring Report 2007)

Year	Percent of development on brownfield sites
2001/02	33%
2002/03	25%
2003/04	38%
2004/05	61%

Year	Percent of development on brownfield sites
2005/06	64%
2006/07	84%

4.13 Population and Equality

4.13.1 Baseline Position

Mid-year estimates from the Office of National Statistics (ONS) placed the population of Harborough at 82,300 in 2007.³⁶ Harborough has a population density of 1.29 people per hectare, the second least densely populated area within Leicestershire³⁷. Approximately 49% of the district's population is male; with 51% female.

The largest proportion of the population live in the larger settlements of Market Harborough (18,600 people), Broughton Astley (8,680 people) and Lutterworth (8,350 people). Figure 4.16 demonstrates population variation across the district.

³⁶Neighbourhood Statistics – Resident Population, All Persons, Mid Year Estimates 2007 [online]. Available from: [http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/viewFullDataset.do?instanceSelection=023866&productId=1813&\\$ph=60_61&datasetInstanceId=23866&startColumn=1&numberOfColumns=8&containerAreaId=276726](http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/viewFullDataset.do?instanceSelection=023866&productId=1813&$ph=60_61&datasetInstanceId=23866&startColumn=1&numberOfColumns=8&containerAreaId=276726) [Accessed: 23 October 2008].

³⁷ Neighbourhood Statistics – Census 2001 Population Density [online] Available from: [http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/viewFullDataset.do?instanceSelection=03267&productId=789&\\$ph=60_61_62&datasetInstanceId=3267&startColumn=1&numberOfColumns=8&containerAreaId=276693](http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/viewFullDataset.do?instanceSelection=03267&productId=789&$ph=60_61_62&datasetInstanceId=3267&startColumn=1&numberOfColumns=8&containerAreaId=276693) [Accessed:23 October 2008]

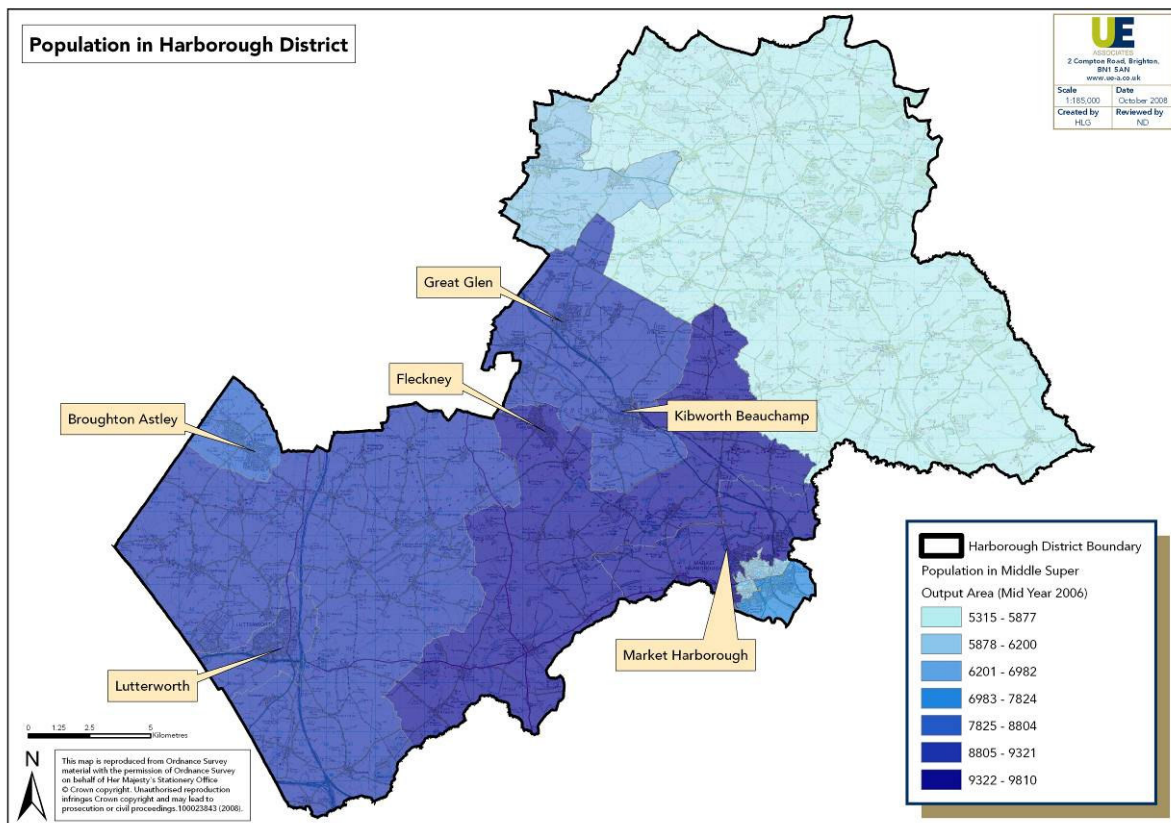


Figure 4.16: Population density in Harborough (ONS, 2006)

Harborough saw an increase in the annual number of births from 791 to 812 (3%) from 1997 to 2002.³⁸ In general, the district saw a steady population increase of 6.9% (5,741 people) between the 2001 Census and 2007³⁹ and the population is set to continue to rise by 19% by 2016 (compared to the 2001 census figure) due to natural population increase and a rise in migration into Harborough.⁴⁰ Market Harborough has seen the largest rise in population in the district (39.5%).⁴¹

Figure 4.17 demonstrates the population changes over time in Harborough.

³⁸ Leicestershire County Council, Harborough Community Profile (2005) [online]. Available from: http://www.leics.gov.uk/harboroughweb_ch2_demographic.pdf [Accessed: 23 October 2008]

³⁹ Neighbourhood Statistics – Census 2001 Population [online] Available from: [http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/viewFullDataset.do?instanceSelection=038&productId=75&\\$ph=60_61_62&datasetInstancelid=38&startColumn=1&numberOfColumns=8&containerArealid=554920](http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/viewFullDataset.do?instanceSelection=038&productId=75&$ph=60_61_62&datasetInstancelid=38&startColumn=1&numberOfColumns=8&containerArealid=554920) [Accessed: 23 October 2008]

⁴⁰ Harborough District Local Strategic Partnership (2008) Draft Sustainable Community Strategy [online] Available from: http://www.leics.gov.uk/harborough_sc_strategy_2008.pdf [Accessed: 23 October 2008].

⁴¹ Leicestershire County Council, Harborough Community Profile (2005) [online]. Available from: http://www.leics.gov.uk/harboroughweb_ch2_demographic.pdf [Accessed: 23 October 2008]

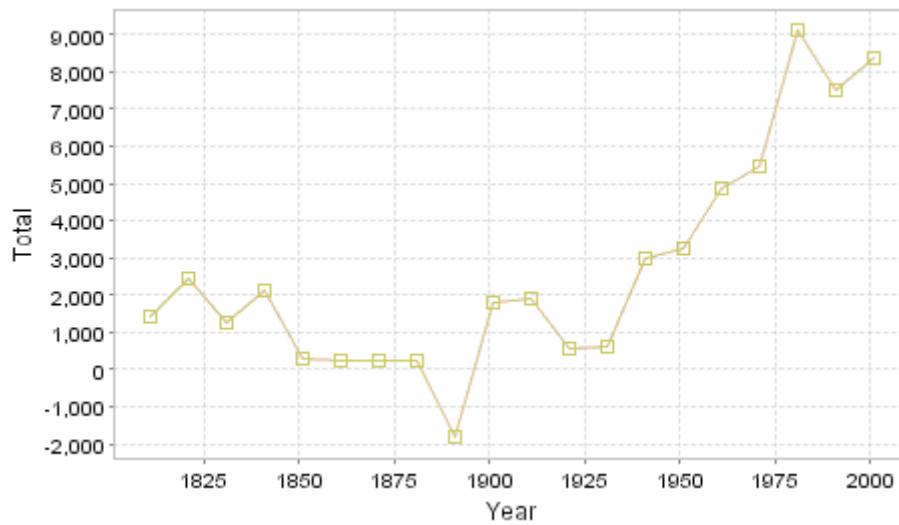


Figure 4.17: Harborough District population changes since 1800 (Source: www.visionofbritain.org.uk)⁴²

There are a number of variations from national population trends within Harborough's age structure. For example, based on Census 2001 figures, there are less people within the 15-29 age band compared to the UK average. This is particularly prominent in rural villages, and a large proportion of young people in the district are concentrated in the two market towns⁴³. In contrast there are higher than average numbers of people aged 35-59 living in Harborough. In total, 62.5% of the Harborough population are of working age, 18.9% of the population are aged under 16 years and 18.6% are of pension age⁴⁴. The decreasing number of children in lower age groups is likely to be compounded by low numbers in the main child-bearing age groups (20 to 34 years). The population pyramid in Figure 4.18 shows the age profile of the district's population.

⁴² Neighbourhood Statistics – Census 2001 Population Pyramid [online]
<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001/pyramids/pages/31ud.asp> .

⁴³ Vision of Britain Through Time [online]/ Available from:
http://www.visionofbritain.org.uk/data_rate_page.jsp?u_id=10056690&c_id=10168582&data_theme=T_POP&id=0
[Accessed: 23 October 2008].

⁴⁴ Leicestershire Statistics and Research Online [online] Available from: <http://www.lsr-online.org/stats/areas/31UD/D>
[Accessed:23 October 2008]

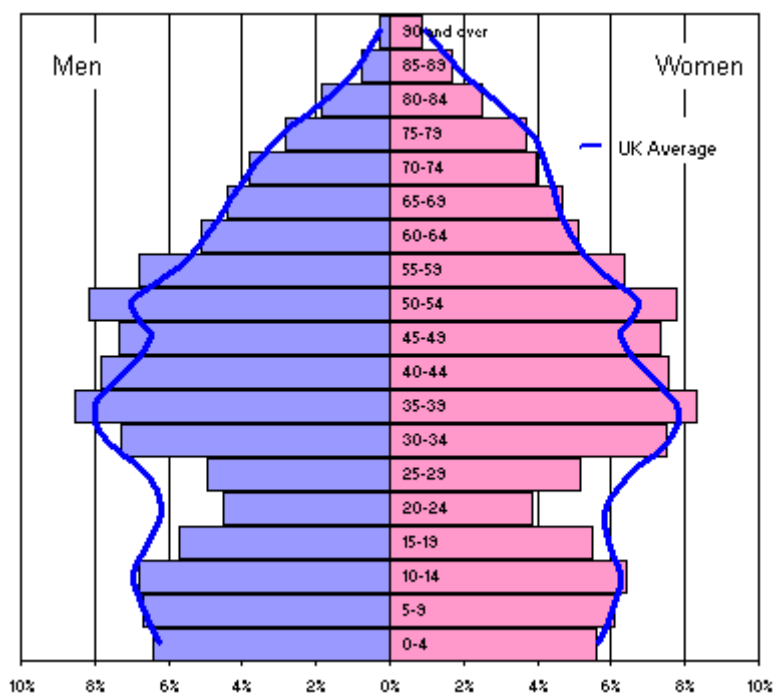


Figure 4.18: Harborough Population Pyramid against the UK average (Source: ONS, 2001 Census)⁴⁵.

The number of people in Harborough aged over 75 increased from 6.48% in 1991 to 7.25% in 2001; an ageing population pattern also seen regionally. There has also been a rise in life expectancy of 2.4 years for men and 1.5 years for women between the 1991 and 2001 Census, highlighting the importance of sufficient community services in Harborough to provide for an ageing population.

The population in Harborough is predominately white in ethnic origin (97.87% in 2001)⁴⁶. Harborough’s Black or Minority Ethnic background (BME) population is approximately 4.2% (3,257 people). This percentage is considerably lower than the East Midlands figure of 8.7%, the Leicestershire County figure of 7.3% and the national figure of 9.1%⁴⁷. The largest BME groups are Other White (1,131 people), Indian (631 people) and Irish (488 people)⁴⁸. In 2001, 96.2% of people living in Harborough were born in the UK, 1.4% were born in the EU, and 2.4% were born from outside the EU⁴⁹. Harborough’s Asian or Asian British population is

⁴⁵ Neighbourhood Statistics – Census 2001 Population Pyramid [online]
<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001/pyramids/pages/31ud.asp> .

⁴⁶ Harborough District Council, Annual Monitoring Report (2006-2007)

⁴⁷ Leicestershire County Council, Harborough Community Profile (2005) [online]. Available from:
http://www.leics.gov.uk/harboroughweb_ch2_demographic.pdf
 [Accessed: 23 October 2008]

⁴⁸ Leicestershire County Council, Harborough Community Profile (2005) [online]. Available from:
http://www.leics.gov.uk/harboroughweb_ch2_demographic.pdf
 [Accessed: 23 October 2008]

⁴⁹ Leicestershire Statistics and Research Online [online] Available from: <http://www.lsr-online.org/stats/areas/31UD/D>
 [Accessed:23 October 2008]

focused within the urban fringe areas of Leicester within the district, including Scraftoft, Thurnby, Stoughton and Great Glen⁵⁰.

Linked to its limited ethnic diversity, Harborough has a comparatively low level of religious diversity (Table 4.13) 78% of residents were of Christian religion, 0.1% stated they were Jewish and 0.2% Muslim.⁵¹

Table 4.13: Religious groups in Harborough District (Source: ONS)⁵²:

	Number of people in Harborough District	Percentage of Harborough District	Rank (out of 375 local authorities in England and Wales; a high rank indicates a high proportion of the indicator)	Rank (out of 48 regional local authorities)
Christian	59,700	77.95%	109	17
Buddhist	107	0.14%	255	19
Hindu	358	0.47%	116	12
Jewish	103	0.13%	142	7
Muslim	177	0.23%	269	22
Sikh	232	0.30%	80	13
Other	109	0.14%	342	40
No religion	10,747	20.60%	216	25
Religion not stated	5,026		325	32

⁵⁰ Harborough District Council, Annual Monitoring Report (2006-2007)

⁵¹ Heritage Counts Report (2004)

⁵² Neighbourhood Statistics – Census 2001 Ethnicity and Religion: Harborough [online]
<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census2001/profiles/31ud.asp#ethnic> [Accessed:23 October 2008]

Table 4.14: Population and equality in Harborough

POPULATION AND EQUALITY in Harborough					
Feature	Indicator	Quantified data	Regional/ National Comparator	Trends	Source
Pop. Size	Population estimates (millions)	2007 Harborough: 82,300	2007 (millions) Leicester- shire: 0.6 East Midlands: 4.1 England: 58.78	2001: 76,800 2007: 82,300 2011: 84,500 2016: 90,400	Leicestershire County Council, Harborough Community Profile (2005) [online]. Available from: http://www.leics.gov.uk/harboroughweb_ch2_demographic.pdf [Accessed: 23 October 2008] and Neighbourhood Statistics – Census 2001 Population [online] Available from: http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/ [Accessed:23 October 2008]
Pop. Density	Population Density (number of persons usually resident per hectare)	2001 Harborough: 1.29	2001 E. Mids: 2.67 England: 3.77	No data available	Neighbourhood Statistics – Census 2001 Population Density [online] Available from: http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/ [Accessed:23 October 2008]
Age Profile	Population in age band (%)	2001 Harborough 0-14: 19.0 15-29: 14.9 30-44: 23.6 45-59: 21.9 60-74: 13.5 75+: 7.2	2006 England: 0-14: 18.8 15-29: 19.9 30-44: 22.6 45-59: 18.8 60-74: 18.0 75+: 7.5	1991 Harborough 0-14: 19.3 15-29: 19.2 30-44: 23.3 45-59: 18.6 60-74: 13.0 75+: 6.6	ONS. Neighbourhood Statistics 1991-2001 [online]. Available from: http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/ [Accessed: 23 October 2008]

POPULATION AND EQUALITY in Harborough					
Feature	Indicator	Quantified data	Regional/ National Comparator	Trends	Source
Ethnicity	Ethnic groups as a percentage of total population	2001 Harborough: White: 97.87 Mixed: 0.64 Asian: 1.01 Black: 0.2 Chinese & Other: 0.26	2001 Leicestershire: White: 94.71 Mixed: 0.75 Asian: 3.7 Black: 2.3 Chinese & Other: 0.32	No data available	ONS. Neighbourhood Statistics [online]. Available from: http://neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/ [Accessed: 23 October 2008]

4.14 Water

4.14.1 Baseline Position; Water Quality and Quantity

The water environment of Harborough consists of a number of rivers, including the Avon, Chaser, Eye Brook, Gwash, Sense, Sour, Swift and Welland, part of the Grand Union Canal network and three reservoirs. In common with much of rural Leicestershire, chemical water quality in Harborough is fairly good and has seen considerable improvement since the 1990s.⁵³ Only 1% of rivers have been classed as of 'poor' chemical quality, with over two thirds being of 'good' quality (similar levels to water quality throughout the East Midlands and England). Harborough's biological water quality is excellent, and has steadily improved since 2000 to 82% of rivers being classed as good quality in 2006, and none as poor or bad. This is significantly better than elsewhere in Leicestershire, the East Midlands or England, where rivers determined to be of 'good' biological quality only represent 56%, 61% and 65% of the total respectively.

Table 4.15: Chemical Water Quality in Harborough.

⁵³ River Water Quality database for regional and local authority areas in England and Wales [online]. Available from: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/inlwater/iwriverquality.htm> [Accessed 20 October 2008].

CHEMICAL WATER QUALITY in Harborough					
Year	Type of water quality assessed	Watercourse Quality			
		GOOD %	FAIR %	POOR %	BAD %
1990	Chemical	17	78	4	1
1995	Chemical	38	39	23	0
2000	Chemical	57	42	1	0
2002	Chemical	60	39	1	0
2003	Chemical	57	42	1	0
2004	Chemical	63	36	1	0
2005	Chemical	68	31	1	0
2006	Chemical	68	31	1	0
Average for Leicestershire					
2006	Chemical	63	30	7	0
Average for East Midlands					
2006	Chemical	62	32	6	0
Average for England					
2006	Chemical	62	29	8	1

Table 4.16: Biological Water Quality in Harborough.

BIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY in Harborough					
Year	Type of water quality assessed	Watercourse Quality			
		GOOD %	FAIR %	POOR %	BAD %
1990	Biological	49	51	0	0
1995	Biological	66	34	0	0
2000	Biological	51	49	0	0
2002	Biological	54	46	0	0
2003	Biological	60	40	0	0
2004	Biological	71	29	0	0
2005	Biological	79	21	0	0
2006	Biological	82	18	0	0
Average for Leicestershire					

BIOLOGICAL WATER QUALITY in Harborough					
2006	Biological	56	43	1	0
Average for East Midlands					
2006	Biological	61	35	4	0
Average for England					
2006	Biological	65	29	5	1

Whilst improvements are still required to meet the target of all watercourses to reach ‘good’ water quality status by 2015 (as required by the Water Framework Directive⁵⁴), especially in terms of chemical quality, Harborough District’s 2006-07 Annual Monitoring Report highlighted that over the past two years, no consents were granted which would have adverse implications on watercourses or which were contrary to the advice of the Environment Agency on either water quality or flood defence grounds.

4.14.2 Flooding

A number of watercourses in Harborough are prone to flooding during extreme weather conditions. The River Welland, which flows through the centre of Market Harborough is a particularly vulnerable; according to the Environment Agency the section of the river which flows through Market Harborough has a significant risk of flooding (a greater than 1.3% chance each year). During the heavy rains in July 2002, the town was subject to extreme flash floods, with water reaching two feet deep in places⁵⁵. This was deemed to be a result of insufficient drainage systems in the town. This indicates that the risk of flash flooding here is likely to be exacerbated by climate change if drainage is not improved in the town.

Localised flooding also occurred in the north of the District during 2002, with the villages of Billesdon, Burton Overy, Great Glen, Kibworth, Newton Harcourt and Thurnby most affected.

⁵⁴ The Water Framework Directive, which came into force in December 2000, requires all inland and coastal water bodies to reach at least "good status" by 2015. More information on the WFD can be found on: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/water/wfd/index.htm>

⁵⁵ James, P. (2002). *Flash Flooding Harborough District (online)*. Available from <http://cmispublic.harborough.gov.uk/CMISWebPublic/Binary.ashx?Document=7762>. Accessed 21 October 2008.

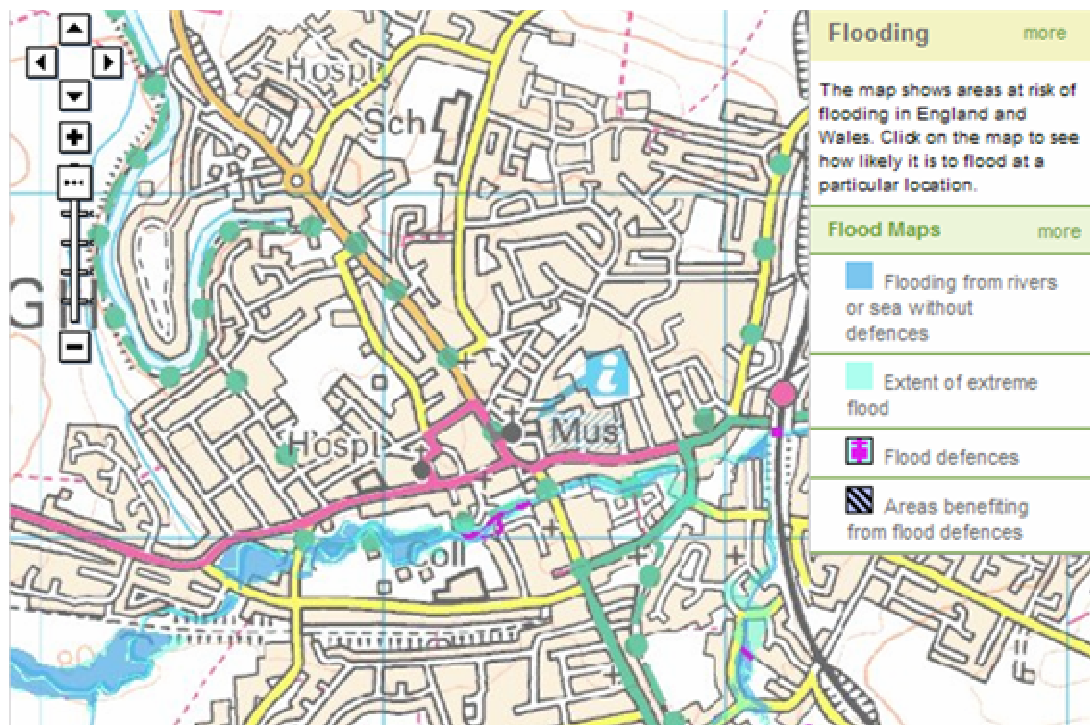
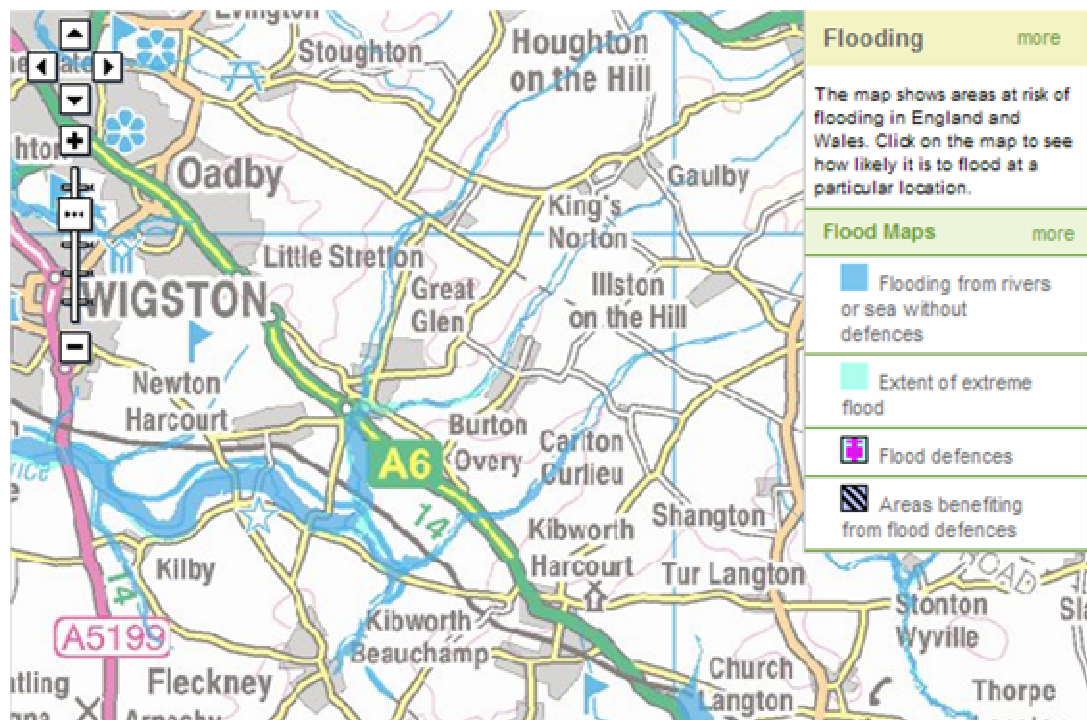


Figure 4.19: Flood risk in Market Harborough (Source: Environment Agency⁵⁶).

Further detail on flood risk in the district will become available when the various Strategic Flood Risk Assessments currently being developed for Leicestershire are completed; Harborough's Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Level 1 will be completed in February 2009.



⁵⁶ Environment Agency: Interactive Flood Map [online]. Available from: <http://maps.environment-agency.gov.uk/wiyby/mapController> [Accessed 21 October 2008].

Figure 4.20: Flood risk in the north of Harborough District (Source: Environment Agency).

4.15 The Inter-relationships between the Sustainability Topics

The above factors should not be considered in isolation. Policies that are implemented by the LDDs may impact upon different aspects of the environment in different ways. These impacts could in turn lead to secondary impacts that are often difficult to predict. These interrelationships have been highlighted in the relevant Part 2 Scoping Reports for each DPD.

4.16 Strategic Issues and Opportunities

4.16.1 Strategic Sustainability Issues

Several diverse and interlinked strategic sustainability issues which affect Harborough have been identified from the baseline data review and the PPP analysis.

The strategic sustainability issues set out below are district wide, general, and will be developed further for each LDD in the **Part 2 Scoping Reports**.

- ▶ Local accessibility issues, particularly from rural areas;
- ▶ High car dependency and environmental, economic and social impacts related to road traffic and congestion;
- ▶ High levels of out-commuting from the district;
- ▶ Vulnerability of biodiversity, both in rural and built up areas;
- ▶ An increasing proportion of the district's greenhouse gas emissions originating from transport;
- ▶ Limited business formation despite high skills levels and good accessibility to other areas of the country.
- ▶ The historic environment is at risk due to development pressures, modernisation and lack of management of conservation areas;
- ▶ Shortage of good quality affordable housing; and
- ▶ Ageing population.

For each LDD, the full range of key issues for each topic area have been set out in the respective **Part 2 Scoping Reports**.

5 Sustainability Objectives

5.1 SA Framework

The SA Framework for each LDD provides a way in which sustainability effects can be described, analysed and compared. The SA Framework consists of sustainability objectives which, where practicable, may be expressed in the form of targets, the achievement of which is measurable using indicators. Objectives and indicators can be revised as baseline information is collected and sustainability issues and challenges are identified, and can be used in monitoring the implementation of the LDDs.

To expand on the central focus of each Objective (as they are high-level and potentially open-ended) the SA Framework includes a series of questions or 'decision making criteria' for use when applying the SA Framework to the assessment of proposed policies.

The SA Framework for each LDD has been set out in the **Part 2 Scoping Reports**. **Appendix E** sets out the template for the SA Frameworks which will be used for each LDD. Included with this template is and an example of a 'decision making criteria' question, indicator and target for each SA Objective.

The development of the SA Framework is the main output of SA Stage A4 "See Table 2.1).

5.2 SA Objectives and their Purpose

The purpose of the sustainability objectives is to provide a way of ensuring the proposed LDD policies consider the sustainability needs of Harborough in terms of their social, environmental and economic effects. The SEA topics identified in Annex I (f) of the SEA Directive are one of the key determinants when considering which SA Objectives should be used for the environmental criteria. Consequently, the SA Objectives seek to reflect all subject areas to ensure the assessment process is robust and thorough.

The baseline information and other plans and programmes of particular interest (see **Chapters 3 and 4**) have been used to inform the SA Objectives.

The SA Objectives that will be used for the SAs of each LDD have been set out in Table 5.1 below.

Table 5.1: SA Objectives.

SA Objective		SA (and SEA) Topic
1	Protect, enhance and manage biodiversity and geodiversity.	Biodiversity and geodiversity (Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna)
2	Protect, enhance and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, maintaining and strengthening distinctiveness and its special qualities.	Historic environment and landscape (Cultural Heritage and Landscape)
3	Protect, enhance and manage sites, features and areas of archaeological, historical and cultural heritage importance.	Historic environment (Cultural Heritage and Landscape)
4	Improve accessibility in the district, particularly from rural areas.	Transportation and Accessibility (Population)
5	Provide affordable, environmentally sound and good quality housing for all.	Housing (Population)
6	Safeguard and improve community health, safety and well being.	Deprivation (Population, human health)
7	Encourage investment in order to grow the local economy.	Economic Development (Population)
8	Minimise Harborough's contribution to climate change.	Climate Change Mitigation (Climatic Factors)
9	Plan for the anticipated levels of climate change.	Climate Change Adaptation (Climatic Factors)
10	Reduce waste and maximise opportunities for innovative environmental technologies in waste management.	Waste (Material Assets)
11	Use and manage land, energy, soil, mineral and water resources prudently and efficiently, and increase energy generated from renewables.	Use of Resources (Material Assets, Soil, Water)
12	Maintain, and where necessary, improve, the overall quality of the natural and built environment.	Environmental Quality (Air, Soil, Water and Human Health)

As highlighted above, these SA Objectives will be developed into more detailed SA Frameworks for the **Part 2 Scoping Reports** in the format set out in **Appendix E**.

6 Consultation on the Scoping Reports

6.1 Purpose of Consultation

The SEA Regulations state that a Scoping Report shall be prepared which will be the subject of consultation with statutory consultation bodies for a minimum period of five weeks (see **Chapter 2** for more details of the scoping procedure). The statutory consultation bodies are English Heritage, the Environment Agency and Natural England.

The purpose of preparing a scoping report is for consultation. This Scoping Report has been prepared in such a way that future LDD scoping reports can be prepared in similar styles and be able to draw on information already presented in this Part 1 Scoping Report (rather than repeating it every time an LDD is produced for the Harborough Local Development Framework). Producing the Scoping Report in this way i.e. in two parts, helps make the overall process more efficient for the LDF in general.

6.2 Consultation Details

Full consultation details including who is being consulted and where the Scoping Report may be viewed are available in Part 2 of this Scoping Report for each LDD (see the relevant chapter for each LDD). Consultees will include the statutory consultation bodies.

This is only Part 1 of the Scoping Report for the Harborough Local Development Framework. It must be read in conjunction with the relevant chapter of Part 2 for each LDD to understand and see how the Scoping Report is compliant with the SEA and SA Regulations.

All comments received on the Scoping Reports will be reviewed and will influence the sustainability appraisal process for each LDD.

Both the Part 1 and Part 2 Scoping Reports are available to download at: <http://www.harborough.gov.uk>.

Alternatively hard copies can be viewed at:

Harborough District Council
Council Offices
Adam and Eve Street
Market Harborough
Leicestershire
LE16 7AG

Tel. no. 01858 821160

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Appendix A: Annex I of the SEA Directive

Statutory Instrument 2004 No. 1633

The Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004

INFORMATION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL REPORTS

1. An outline of the contents and main objectives of the plan or programme, and of its relationship with other relevant plans and programmes.
2. The relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and the likely evolution thereof without implementation of the plan or programme.
3. The environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected.
4. Any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or programme including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Council Directive 79/409/EEC on the conservation of wild birds [10] and the Habitats Directive.
5. The environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation.
6. The likely significant effects on the environment, including short, medium and long-term effects, permanent and temporary effects, positive and negative effects, and secondary, cumulative and synergistic effects, on issues such as –
 - (a) biodiversity;
 - (b) population;
 - (c) human health;
 - (d) fauna;
 - (e) flora;
 - (f) soil;
 - (g) water;
 - (h) air;
 - (i) climatic factors;
 - (j) material assets;
 - (k) cultural heritage, including architectural and archaeological heritage;
 - (l) landscape; and
 - (m) the inter-relationship between the issues referred to in sub-paragraphs (a) to (l).
7. The measures envisaged to prevent, reduce and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or programme.
8. An outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information.
9. A description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with regulation 17.
10. A non-technical summary of the information provided under paragraphs 1 to 9.

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APPENDIX B: Methodological Detail Adapted from the 2005 ODPM Sustainability Appraisal Guidance

The following information provides details about each stage of the SA process. All information is derived from the 2005 ODPM sustainability appraisal guidance for development plan documents. The text includes cross references to explain how the legal requirements of the SEA Directive will be covered.

1.1 DPD Pre-Production and the Scoping Report

1.1.1 Purpose

The purpose of the Scoping Report is to set the criteria for assessment (including the SA objectives), and establish the baseline data and other information, including a review of other policies, programmes and plans. The scoping process involves an overview of key issues, highlighting areas of potential conflict. These can then be investigated in greater detail in the appraisal.

1.1.2 Output

The key output is the Scoping Report which contains information detailed in Table 2.1. All stage numbers refer to ODPM SA guidance (see Table B.1 for a full list of SA stages).

Table B.1: Stage A of the SA process incorporating procedures for SEA

SA tasks	SEA tasks
A1: Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives.	In addition to a comprehensive review of plans, programmes and polices, identify any local or national consultation or research, which have already been undertaken in relation to environmental and sustainability issues.
A2: Collecting baseline information.	Work with existing evidence base.
A3: Identifying sustainability issues and problems.	Identify environmental issues and problems.
A4: Developing the SA Framework.	Ensure the SA Framework has SEA compatible environmental objectives.
A5: Consulting on the Scope of the SA.	Consult for minimum 5 weeks on Scoping Report.

1.1.3 Approach

PPP Review (Stage A1): This involves an extensive search of all data sources and working closely with partners to cover all the key sustainability issues. PPP information is presented by SA topic in a tabular format covering international, national, regional and local PPP categories (see Chapter 3 for more details).

Baseline (Stage A2): Baseline has been collated through a comprehensive internet search and liaison with key partners. All data has been referenced and the most recent available data used.

Where possible trend data and national and regional comparators have been used to aid interpretation of the data. Baseline data have been collated in relation to sustainability issues in Harborough (see **Chapter 4** for more details).

Key issues and opportunities (Stage A3): The baseline data and PPP Review have been used to determine the key issues and problems in Harborough and opportunities (see **Part 2 Scoping Reports** for more details).

SA objectives (Stage A4): SA objectives have been developed to reflect an appropriate Appraisal Framework for the Harborough LDF. Various documents with existing sustainability objectives have been used to draw up the Framework including the Integrated Regional Strategy¹ objectives and the Local Strategic Partnership Community Strategies. Objectives will be tested against each other to ensure compatibility. They will be used to provide a basis for assessment in Stages B and C.

Consulting on the scope of the SA (Stage A5): Consultation on the Scoping Report must last for a minimum period of five weeks. Statutory consultees and relevant stakeholders will be included in the consultation. Opinions will be sought on the proposed methodology and baseline information collated.

Scoping stage: Procedural compliance

SA and SEA: Article 5(4) of the SEA Directive sets out the requirement for scoping. The SEA Regulations do not require full consultation with the public at this stage but do require consultation with the statutory consultation bodies under Regulation 12(5). ODPM Guidance (2005b)² suggests that it may be desirable for other bodies to be consulted in addition to the statutory consultees, as Harborough DC considers appropriate, seeking a balance between those concerned with social, environmental and economic issues. Annex I of the SEA Directive provides information to be included in the Environmental Report; sub-section parts (a-e) relate to information to be produced and documented in the Scoping Report. Annex I of the SEA Directive is included in Appendix A of this Scoping Report for reference.

1.2 Production of the DPD

1.2.1 Purpose

To ensure a comprehensive assessment of policy options and aid SA integration into the DPD production process, an options assessment will be carried out at the Issues and Options stage, before the preferred options are selected.

1.2.2 Output

The key output is a review and assessment of Issues and Options which contains the information detailed in Table B.2 below. No consultation report will be produced for this stage of the SA process.

Table B.2: Stage B of the SA process incorporating procedures for SEA

¹ East Midlands Regional Assembly Integrated Regional Strategy.

² ODPM, 2005. *Sustainability Appraisal of Regional Spatial Strategies and Local Development Documents*.

SA tasks	SEA tasks
B1: Testing the DPD objectives against the SA Framework.	The assessment framework produced at Stage A4 will include all objectives to be tested against the DPD objectives.
B2: Developing the Strategy options.	Using evidence from Stage A work closely with Harborough DC to assess options as they arise. Publish Issues and Options SA report alongside Issues and Options consultation and ensure integration between the two.
B3: Predicting the effects of the Strategy.	
B4: Evaluating the effects of the plan.	
B5*: Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects of Preferred Options.	Consider the Issues and Options consultation findings. Assess all new alternatives.
B6*: Proposing measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the Preferred Options in the DPD.	Propose environmental monitoring measures.

* Stages B5 and B6 are key stages in the preparation of the Preferred Options SA Report.

1.2.3 Approach

Testing the DPD Objectives (Stage B1): The DPD objectives will be tested against the SA objectives using a compatibility matrix to identify, at an early stage, whether DPD objectives are likely to raise sustainability issues and problems.

Alternative Options (Stages B2-B4): The DPD options will be developed by Harborough DC in consultation with stakeholders and the public. At this stage, the policy options will be assessed, using the SA Framework, to identify their potential adverse or positive environmental and sustainability effects. The assessment will consider the duration, permanence, geographic significance and magnitude of effect, as well as whether the effect is positive or negative. Predicting the effects involves professional consideration, using empirical and objective baseline data wherever possible. Depending on the level of detail, assessment of options in the Issues and Options SA Report will be reported by commentary and/or using matrices.

Issues and Options: Procedural compliance

Publication of an Issues and Options SA Report is not required by the SEA Directive, SEA Regulations nor suggested by ODPM Guidance (2005b). PPS12 encourages assessment at this stage. It is carried out as a means by which the options can be assessed in terms of sustainability before the preferred options are selected.

1.3 The Preferred Options SA Report and Submission SA Report

1.3.1 Purpose

The Preferred Options SA Report documents the SA process, providing an audit trail of decision making and showing how environmental issues have been taken into account. It is also the point at which the preferred options are formally assessed and mitigation and monitoring proposals suggested.

1.3.2 Outputs

The key output is the Preferred Options SA Report which contains full coverage of all alternative options and the Preferred Options. The tasks involved at this stage are outlined in Tables B.3 and B.4.

Table B.3: Stage C of the SA process

SA tasks	SEA tasks
C1: Preparing the Sustainability Appraisal Report.	Assess all changes made during plan production since the Issues and Options Consultation. Further engagement with decision makers to encourage adaptation of the policies if necessary. Cross-reference with Government Office recommendations.

Table B.4: Stage D of the SA process

SA tasks	SEA tasks
D1: Public participation on the preferred options of the DPD and the SA Report.	Six week consultation period on Preferred Options. Revisit monitoring schedule whilst consultation takes place.
D2: Assessing Significant Changes	Incorporate and evaluate any changes made following SA Report consultation.
D3: Making decisions and providing information.	Provide information on the assessment process and results of consultation, and how they have affected the plan. Confirm which mitigation measures are to be adopted and why.

1.3.3 Approach

Assessment of Preferred Options (Stages B5-B6): The Preferred Options will be assessed using Detailed Assessment Matrices. Appendix C provides an example of a Detailed Assessment Matrix. Mitigation will be developed where appropriate. The report will also include monitoring proposals (see Stages B5-B6).

Monitoring Proposals (Stage B6 and Stage C): A relevant monitoring framework will be devised using baseline data, indicators and targets and relating to the Preferred Options selected by the Council.

Consultation on the Preferred Options (Stage D1): Consultation on the Preferred Options SA Report will be for a period to be determined by Harborough DC. The council's consultation programme will ensure a broad range of stakeholders and the public are involved, as well as the statutory consultees.

Appraising significant changes following consultation (Stages D2): Consultation responses will be evaluated and incorporated as appropriate. Any changes made to the DPD before adoption, whether as a result of public participation or otherwise, will be appraised. This may require either a new SA report or amendments to be annexed to the original Preferred Options SA report.

Making Decisions and Providing Information (Stage D3): Changes made to the DPD following SA Report consultation will be appraised at stage D2 and documented in a post-adoption statement.

Preferred Options: Procedural compliance

Article 5(2) of the SEA Directive provides an overview of information to be included in the SA Report (Environmental Report). More specifically, Annex I(f) of the SEA Directive stipulates the assessment criteria to be used in the SA Report. Other information to be included is outlined in Annex I(h) and Annex I(g). Articles 6(2) of the SEA Directive refers to the requirement for consultation.

1.4 Post Adoption Statement (Stages D3 and E)

1.4.1 Purpose

The Post-Adoption SA statement provides information about how the SA process has been undertaken; who was consulted and the changes to the plan as a result of the SA process. It is also where any monitoring proposals are finalised and consultation responses documented.

1.4.2 Outputs

The key output is the Post Adoption SA Statement which includes the information detailed in Stage D3 (shown in Table B.4 above) and in Stages E1 in Table B.5, below. Stage E2, the responsibility of Harborough DC, is continually addressed as the DPD is implemented.

Table B.5: Stage E of the SA process incorporating procedures for SEA

SA tasks	SEA tasks
E1: Finalising aims and methods for monitoring	Revisit the monitoring work to ensure all issues are covered appropriately.
E2: Responding to adverse effects	Monitor and evaluate to check recommendations were adopted and whether predicted effects have taken place.

1.4.3 Approach

Providing Information (Stage D3): Once the plan has been adopted a Post-Adoption Statement will be made public. Its purpose is to show why the DPD has been adopted in its

current form, how sustainability considerations and consultation responses have been taken into account, and why other alternatives have been rejected.

Monitoring Proposals (Stage E1): The Post-Adoption Statement will include finalised monitoring details based on the policies in the DPD, baseline information, and the SA Framework.

Responding to Adverse Effects (Stage E2): It will be the responsibility of Harborough DC to undertake monitoring, to check recommendations were adopted, to check whether or not the predicted effects have taken place and to ensure adverse effects are avoided.

Post-Adoption Statement: Legal compliance

The SEA Directive requires that certain information be made publicly available once the plan is adopted (Article 9(1)). Article 10(1) and Annex I(i) describe the requirement for monitoring proposals.

Appendix C: Example of a Detailed Assessment Matrix

DETAILED ASSESSMENT MATRIX

DPD Guidance Policy 8: Integrating Affordable Housing into the Design and Layout of New Development

No.	Description of SA Objective	Description of predicted effect	Duration			Frequency	Temporary or permanent	Geographic significance	Magnitude	Level of certainty	Severity of significance	Positive or adverse	Mitigation or other action required?	Supporting comments / Proposed mitigation
			Short term	Medium term	Long term									
1	To ensure that housing stock meets the needs of all communities in the District.													
2	To improve health and reduce health inequalities.													
3	To create sustainable communities.													
4	To protect and manage the cultural heritage of the District.													
5	To protect and enhance biodiversity.													
6	Protect and manage the landscape of North East Derbyshire.													
7	To manage prudently the natural resources of the region including water, air quality, soil and minerals.													
8	Plan for the anticipated different levels of climate change.													
9	Minimise the District's contribution to climate change.													
10	Minimise the environmental impacts of waste and pollution.													
11	Develop a strong culture of enterprise and innovation.													
12	Improve accessibility to jobs and services.													
Overall Effect														
Proposed Mitigation														

Key	
Major negative effect	--
Negative effect	-
Positive effect	+
Major positive effect	++
Neutral environmental effect	

The 'Duration' column is noted as:

Magnitude of significance is illustrated as:	
Adverse	Severe
	Major
	Moderate
	Minor
	Negligible

Beneficial	
Superior	
Major	
Moderate	
Minor	
Negligible	

Appendix D: Review of Policies, Plans and Programmes

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Review of Policies, Plans and Programmes

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Harborough LDF in terms of sustainability issues*
Accessibility and Transport		
EU Sustainable Development Strategy (2006)	This Strategy identifies key priorities for an enlarged Europe to focus on up to 2010. This includes climate change and clean energy, sustainable transport, sustainable protection and consumption, health, better use of natural resources, social inclusion and fighting global poverty. It aims to achieve better policy integration in addressing these challenges, and to ensure that Europe looks beyond its boundaries in making informed decisions about sustainability.	Sustainable development should be the key consideration for the LDF, which should aim to meet the EU's SD objectives.
EU European transport policy for 2010 : time to decide (2001)	Aims to strike a balance between economic development and the quality and safety demands made by society in order to develop a modern, sustainable transport system for 2010.	New development proposed as part of the LDF should take place in areas with good access to the public transport network and/or provision should be made where appropriate for new or improved public transport connections, as well as walking and cycling networks.
Department for Transport: Transport Ten Year Plan (2000)	The Government's aims are to tackle congestion and pollution by improving all types of transport - rail and road, public and private - in ways that increase choice; and to invest in the future to create prosperity and a better environment. Specific objectives include more integrated transport solutions; public and private partnership; and modernisation of the transport network.	New development proposed as part of the LDF should take place in areas with good access to the public transport network and/or provision should be made where appropriate for new or improved public transport connections, as well as walking and cycling networks.
ODPM PPG13: Transport (2001)	The objectives of this guidance are to integrate planning and transport at the national, regional, strategic and local level to: promote more sustainable transport choices for both people and for moving freight; promote accessibility to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services by public transport, walking and cycling, and reduce the need to travel, especially by car.	New development proposed as part of the LDF should take place in areas with good access to the public transport network and/or provision should be made where appropriate for new or improved public transport connections, as well as walking and cycling networks.
Department for Transport: Transport White Paper: The Future of Transport – A Network for 2030 (2004)	Sets out factors that will shape transport in the UK over the next thirty years. Also sets out how the Government will respond to the increasing demand for travel, while minimising the negative impact on people and the environment.	Increased housing provision, employment development and new services, facilities and amenities are likely to increase demand for travel in Harborough. The LDF should therefore take into account the objectives of the White Paper in order to minimise transport's effect on the environment.

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Harborough LDF in terms of sustainability issues*
Department for Transport: The Future of Rail White Paper (2004)	Sets out a blueprint for a new streamlined structure for Britain's Railway. The proposals aim to provide a single point of accountability for the network's performance, allow closer working between track and train and provide for greater devolution of decision making.	The Harborough LDF has the potential to stimulate increased usage of the railway network.
Department for Transport: An Evidence Base Review of Public Attitudes to Climate Change and Transport Behaviour (2006)	Summary report of the findings of an evidence base review investigating the research base on public attitudes towards climate change and transport behaviour.	The Harborough LDF has a role to play in influencing public behaviour in terms of promoting modal shift and encouraging the sustainable design and construction of new buildings.
Department for Transport: National Cycling Strategy and Review (1996, reviewed 2005)	The National Cycling Strategy aims to increase cycle use for all types of journey. The Review focuses on the mechanisms established for the delivery of cycling and the effect these have had on increasing cycling rates.	The Harborough LDF should take into account the objectives of the National Cycling Strategy by facilitating cycle friendly development, supporting the provision of new cycling routes within development areas and improving the public realm.

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Harborough LDF in terms of sustainability issues*
<p>Government Office for the East of England: East Midlands Regional Transport Strategy</p>	<p>The RTS, which is part of the RSS, states that Local authorities should have regard to the following general objectives when drawing up their Local Development Documents:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support sustainable development in the region's Principal Urban Areas and Sub-Regional Centres. 2. Promote accessibility and overcome peripherality in the region's rural areas. 3. Support the region's regeneration priorities. 4. Promote improvements to inter-regional and international linkages that will support sustainable development within the region. 5. Improve safety across the region and reduce congestion, particularly within the region's Principal Urban Areas and on major inter-urban corridors. 6. Promote opportunities for modal shift away from the private car and road based freight transport across the region. <p>It also sets out a number of sub-regional objectives for transport. Those relevant to Harborough are related to the designated "Southern" sub-area and the "Three Cities" sub-area.</p> <p>Southern Sub-area</p> <p>S1 Developing the transport infrastructure and services needed to accommodate major planned housing and employment growth consistent with the Milton Keynes and South Midlands Sub-Regional Spatial Strategy.</p> <p>S2 Developing the transport infrastructure and services needed to support Northampton's role as one of the region's five Principal Urban Areas.</p> <p>S3 Developing the transport infrastructure and services needed to support the regeneration of Corby as a place to both live and work.</p> <p>S4 Developing opportunities for modal switch away from road based transport in the nationally important freight distribution sector.</p> <p>S5 Improving access by all modes to the East Coast Ports of Felixstowe and Harwich.</p>	<p>The LDF should seek to support the RTS through facilitating development which reduces the need to travel, supports a reduction in congestion and encourages modal shift.</p> <p>In particular the LDF should support the sustainable transport proposals for the sub-areas relevant to the district.</p>

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Harborough LDF in terms of sustainability issues*
	<p>Three Cities Sub-area</p> <p>T1 Reducing the use of the car in and around Nottingham, Derby and Leicester and promoting a step change in the quality and quantity of local public transport provision.</p> <p>T2 Improving public transport linkages between Derby, Leicester and Nottingham and to London, the rest of the East Midlands, and other key national cities such as Birmingham, Leeds, Manchester and Sheffield.</p> <p>T3 Developing the transport infrastructure and services needed to improve access to jobs and services from deprived inner urban areas and outer estates, and also to identified Regeneration Zones.</p> <p>T4 Improving public transport surface access to Nottingham East Midlands Airport.</p> <p>T5 Developing opportunities for modal switch away from road based transport in the manufacturing, retail and freight distribution sectors.</p> <p>T6 Reducing congestion and improving safety along the M1 corridor and the highway network generally.</p>	

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Harborough LDF in terms of sustainability issues*
Leicestershire County Council: Leicestershire Local Transport Plan 2006-11 (2006)	<p>Setting out the local transport strategy for Leicestershire for the period 2006-11, the LTP's main objectives are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tackling congestion, by increasing the use of public transport, walking and cycling with less growth in car mileage and more effective use of congested roadspace. • Improving access to facilities including employment, education, health care and food shopping, particularly where analysis shows the greatest levels of social deprivation. • Reducing road casualties through local safety schemes and speed management activities as well as continuing road safety education, training and publicity campaigns. • Improving air quality in the traffic-related air quality management areas through action plans and robust monitoring of nitrogen dioxide levels against national target levels. • Reducing the impact of traffic through local communities, near schools and within town centres by reducing vehicle speeds and in exceptional cases re-routing the traffic. • Managing transport assets in the most cost-effective way through robust condition monitoring, timeliness of intervention and economies of scale in repairs and renewal. 	<p>The LDF should seek to support reductions in congestion and limit traffic flows by reducing the need to travel and supporting sustainable modes of transport. New development should be allocated to areas with good access to the public transport network. Provision should be made where appropriate for new or improved public transport connections, as well as walking and cycling networks.</p>

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Harbrough LDF in terms of sustainability issues*
<p>Leicestershire County Council and Leicester City Council: Central Leicestershire Local Transport Plan 2006-11 (2006)</p>	<p>Local Transport Plan for Central Leicestershire, focussing on Leicester and surrounding areas. Main focuses are:</p> <p>Delivering Accessibility: Improving existing and creating new walking and cycle links, including enhancing the Rights of Way network; improving orbital routes; raising awareness of alternatives to the car through promotion of work place travel plans, public transport and personal transport planning; ensuring transport influences the delivery of all services; improving interchange opportunities, particularly at bus and rail stations; improving direction signing; and ensuring highway maintenance works are prioritised to improve accessibility.</p> <p>Safer Roads: Providing Safer Routes, Traffic Calming and Local Safety schemes; providing Road Safety Education Training including child pedestrian and cycling training; continuing the Road Safety Auditing of all new highway schemes; safety Camera Scheme, including the speed awareness workshops, installing vehicle activated signs and safety promotion campaigns; developing further links with and influence highway maintenance strategies</p> <p>Better Air Quality: reducing vehicle-kilometres travelled; reducing emissions per vehicle-kilometre and/or; repositioning / changing traffic flows</p> <p>Quality of Life: Making it easier to walk and cycle; continuing and expanding good quality bus services; using recycled and reused materials wherever possible; continuing to monitor air quality throughout the city; and improving the quality of landscaping and open spaces in schemes</p>	<p>The LDF should seek to support reductions in congestion and limit traffic flows by reducing the need to travel and supporting sustainable modes of transport. New development should be allocated to areas with good access to the public transport network. Provision should be made where appropriate for new or improved public transport connections, as well as walking and cycling networks.</p> <p>The LDF should fully recognise the need to support the viability of sustainable transport linkages to Leicester.</p>
Air Quality		
<p>EC Air Quality Directive (1996)</p>	<p>Aims to improve air quality throughout Europe by controlling the level of certain pollutants and monitoring their concentrations. In particular the Directive aims to establish levels for different air pollutants; draw up common methods for assessing air quality; methods to improve air quality; and make sure that information on air quality is easily accessible to Member States and the public.</p>	<p>The Harbrough LDF may have impacts on air quality in the district as a result of increased housing and employment provision and the provision of new services, facilities and amenities.</p>

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Harbrough LDF in terms of sustainability issues*
DETR Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. Working Together for Clean Air (2000)	The Strategy provides specific UK targets for reducing air pollution and sets out local authority responsibilities for achieving most of these. It states that land use planning has a key role to play in contributing to these targets.	The LDF should seek to improve air quality in affected areas by promoting the layout of development which supports modal shift, clean technologies and the provision of open space.
ODPM PPS23: Planning and Pollution Control (2004)	PPS23 is intended to complement the new pollution control framework under the Pollution Prevention and Control Act 1999 and the PPC Regulations 2000.	The LDF should seek to improve air quality in affected areas by promoting the layout of development which supports modal shift, clean technologies and the provision of open space.
Biodiversity and Geodiversity		
EC Sixth Environmental Action Programme 2002-2012 (2002)	Nature and biodiversity (including soil communities) has been identified as one of four priority areas for Europe. The EAP requires specific action to counteract pressures arising notably from pollution, the introduction of non-native species, and potential risks from releasing genetically modified organisms.	The LDF should aim to promote development which improves environmental quality in Harbrough through the effective remediation of contaminated land and the improvement of water quality. The LDF should also avoid promoting high-polluting land uses near important biodiversity sites.
EC Biodiversity Strategy (1998)	Member states are required to develop national strategies, plans or programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, and integrate as far as possible and as appropriate, the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity into relevant sectoral or cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies.	The LDF should have due regard to national, regional and local biodiversity strategies.
The Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy (1995)	The strategy aims to stop and reverse the degradation of biological and landscape diversity values in Europe.	The LDDs should support the provision of green infrastructure and biodiversity-friendly design and layout to enhance biological and landscape diversity.
UN Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)	The aims of the Convention include the conservation of biological diversity (including a commitment to significantly reduce the current rate of biodiversity loss), the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources.	The LDDs should include provision which enhances biological diversity (e.g. provision of woodland and greenspace) where possible in order to meet the requirements of the UN Convention, whilst at the same time avoiding biodiversity loss through careful choice of development sites.
Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (1979)	The Convention seeks to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats, and to monitor and control endangered and vulnerable species.	Protected species are present throughout the district, so the LDF should ensure that where development is necessary in areas containing these species, adequate mitigation is carried out before development commences. Monitoring of such species will also be necessary.
DEFRA Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981, as amended)	The principle mechanism for the legislative protection of wildlife in Great Britain.	Protected species are present throughout the district, so LDDs should ensure that where development is necessary in areas containing these species, adequate mitigation is carried out before development commences. Monitoring of such species will also be necessary.

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Harbrough LDF in terms of sustainability issues*
DoE Biodiversity: The UK Action Plan (1994)	Government's strategy for protection and enhancement of biodiversity, from 1992 convention on Biodiversity commitments. Advises on opportunities and threats for biodiversity.	The LDF should support the provision of green infrastructure and biodiversity-friendly design and layout to support flora and fauna.
DEFRA Working with the Grain of Nature: A Biodiversity Strategy for England (2002)	Government's strategy for the integration of biodiversity into public, private and voluntary sector policies and programmes in England.	<p>The Harbrough LDF should seek to address the objectives of the regional biodiversity strategy by fully addressing biodiversity considerations through the LDF development process.</p> <p>In particular the LDF should support new development which avoids sensitive areas and seeks to support regional biodiversity networks.</p>
TCPA Biodiversity by Design: A Guide for Sustainable Communities (2004)	The development process should consider ecological potential of all areas including brownfield sites. Local authorities and developers have a responsibility to mitigate impacts of development on designated sites and priority habitats and species and avoid damage to ecosystems.	Brownfield biodiversity should be a key consideration of the Harbrough LDF, in addition to greenfield sites, with areas of particular importance avoided and appropriate mitigation implemented wherever necessary.
DCLG Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation (2005)	Sets out planning policies on protection of biodiversity and geological conservation through the planning system, replaces PPG 9 on nature conservation (published October 1994).	Biodiversity considerations must be fully considered by the LDF. In particular development should avoid sensitive areas and seek to increase provision of wildlife friendly areas such as green space within the district. Local geodiversity assets should also be recognised by the LDF.
English Nature: Climate Change - Space for Nature? (2006)	Scene setting information for the next 80 years in terms of climate change. Prescribes suggested actions to be taken now in preparation for change.	Provision of green space and green corridors in the district will have benefits for biodiversity networks.
DEFRA England's Trees, Woods and Forests - a Consultation Document (2006)	Government objectives include: to safeguard England's resource of trees, woods and forests for future generations; to protect the environmental resources of water, soil and air, and to protect and enhance biodiversity and landscapes, and cultural values; to ensure that woodlands and trees enhance the quality of life for those living in, working in, or visiting England; to encourage the development of new or improved market for sustainable woodland products and services where this will deliver identifiable public benefits, nationally or locally.	The LDF should aim to protect trees and woods and recognise their value to landscape, biodiversity, climate change mitigation and adaptation, environmental quality and for the public realm. Planting of trees within development sites should be encouraged.

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Harborough LDF in terms of sustainability issues*
DEFRA Guidance for Local Authorities on Implementing Biodiversity Duty (2007)	<p>The Duty is set out in Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC) 2006, and states that: "Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity". Particular areas of focus include: Policy, Strategy and Procurement; Management of Public Land and Buildings; Planning, Infrastructure and Development; and Education, Advice and Awareness.</p>	<p>Biodiversity considerations must be fully considered by the LDDs. In particular development should avoid sensitive areas and seek to increase provision of wildlife friendly areas such as green space within the district. Local geodiversity assets should also be recognised by the LDF.</p>
East Midlands Regional Assembly and East Midlands Biodiversity Forum: Putting Wildlife Back on the Map, A Biodiversity Strategy for the East Midlands (2007)	<p>The East Midlands Biodiversity Strategy provides a strategic framework for the conservation and enhancement of biodiversity in the region. The aim of the strategy is "to promote the creation of the policy, strategic and communications framework within which conservation and enhancement of biodiversity can best be achieved" through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying the strategic framework needed for conservation and enhancement of biodiversity to be achieved at a local level, through local biodiversity action plans (BAPs); • Informing other regional strategies and sectors of the role and relevance of biodiversity in delivering their objectives; and • Identifying key delivery partners, the role envisaged for them and the support available to them. <p>The strategy then aims to deliver this through setting out 26 objectives and accompanying actions.</p>	<p>The Harborough LDF should seek to address the objectives of the regional biodiversity strategy by fully addressing biodiversity considerations through the LDF development process.</p> <p>In particular the LDF should support new development which avoids sensitive areas and seeks to support regional biodiversity networks.</p>

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Forestry Commission & East Midlands Conservancy: Space4Trees: The Regional Forestry Framework for the East Midlands	<p>Space4trees has identified aims, objectives and guiding principles in four priority areas:</p> <p>Trees and People - delivering a wide range of public benefits to local communities and focusing on where the need is greatest.</p> <p>Trees and the Environment - addressing historic declines in habitats and species and ensuring that our woodland environment is robust and healthy enough to withstand future environmental pressures.</p> <p>Trees and the Economy - encouraging innovation, enterprise and growth in the woodland sector and supporting investment in a high quality natural environment to provide economic benefits for the region.</p> <p>Communication and Collaboration - making the most of our wealth of knowledge, skills and experience and sharing the benefits of best practice.</p>	<p>The LDF should aim to protect trees and woods and recognise their value to landscape, biodiversity, climate change mitigation and adaptation, environmental quality and for the public realm. Planting of trees within development sites should be encouraged.</p> <p>Alongside the value of woodland to the local economy should be recognised through the LDF (this is important due to the rural nature of the district).</p>
Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Biodiversity Action Plan	The Local Biodiversity Action Plan identifies priority habitats and species, setting targets for their conservation and outlining mechanisms for achieving these.	The Harborough LDF should support the objectives of the Biodiversity Action Plan through enhancing biodiversity networks and protecting and supporting both greenfield and brownfield biodiversity assets.
Climate Change		
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (1992)	Sets an overall framework for intergovernmental efforts to tackle the challenge posed by climate change.	The Harborough LDF should encourage efficient design of new development and redevelopment; support layout of development which reduces the need to travel and which encourages walking, cycling and public transport use; and support the growth renewable energy provision in the district. The LDF should also facilitate climate change adaptation, such as a presumption against development in flood risk areas, supporting a growth in green infrastructure and promoting the development of sustainable urban drainage systems.
IPCC Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (1997)	Commits member nations to reduce their emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, or engage in emissions trading if they maintain or increase emissions of these gases.	The Harborough LDF should encourage efficient design of new development and redevelopment; support layout of development which reduces the need to travel and which encourages walking, cycling and public transport use; and support the growth renewable energy provision in the district.

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EC Sixth Environmental Action Programme 2002-2012 (2002)	Climate change has been identified as one of four priority areas for Europe. The EAP's main objective is a reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases without a reduction in levels of growth and prosperity, as well as adaptation and preparation for the effects of climate change.	The Harborough LDF should encourage efficient design of new development and redevelopment; support layout of development which reduces the need to travel and which encourages walking, cycling and public transport use; and support the growth of renewable energy provision in the district. The LDF should also facilitate climate change adaptation, such as a presumption against development in flood risk areas, supporting a growth in green infrastructure and promoting the development of sustainable urban drainage systems.
EU Sustainable Development Strategy (2006)	This Strategy identifies key priorities for an enlarged Europe to focus on up to 2010, including climate change and clean energy, and sustainable transport.	The Harborough LDF should encourage efficient design of new development and redevelopment; support layout of development which reduces the need to travel and which encourages walking, cycling and public transport use; and support the growth of renewable energy provision in the district. The LDF should also facilitate climate change adaptation, such as a presumption against development in flood risk areas, supporting a growth in green infrastructure and promoting the development of sustainable urban drainage systems.
Climate Change: The UK Programme (HM Government, 2006)	The programme aims to deliver the UK's Kyoto Protocol target of reducing emissions of the basket of six greenhouse gases by 12.5% below base year (1990) levels over the commitment period 2008-2012, as well as a 20% reduction in CO2 emissions by 2010, by means of a balanced approach with all sectors and all parts of the UK playing their part. In addition, the programme sets a requirement to take actions that will help to reduce vulnerability to climate risks, or exploit opportunities.	The Harborough LDF should encourage efficient design of new development and redevelopment; support layout of development which reduces the need to travel and which encourages walking, cycling and public transport use; and support the growth of renewable energy provision in the district. The LDF should also facilitate climate change adaptation, such as a presumption against development in flood risk areas, supporting a growth in green infrastructure and promoting the development of sustainable urban drainage systems.
Planning and Climate Change: Supplement to PPS1 (2007)	<p>The PPS is a supplement to PPS1 and aims to focus on national policy and to provide clarity on what is required at regional and local levels. It also aims to ensure that decisions are made at the most appropriate level and in a timely fashion to deliver the action needed to address climate change.</p> <p>The Statement focuses on both mitigation and adaptation measures.</p>	The Harborough LDF should encourage efficient design of new development and redevelopment; support layout of development which reduces the need to travel and which encourages walking, cycling and public transport use; and support the growth of renewable energy provision in the district. The LDF should also facilitate climate change adaptation, such as a presumption against development in flood risk areas, supporting a growth in green infrastructure and promoting the development of sustainable urban drainage systems.

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<p>DfT An Evidence Base Review of Public Attitudes to Climate Change and Transport Behaviour (2006)</p>	<p>Summary report of the findings of an evidence base review investigating the research base on public attitudes towards climate change and transport behaviour.</p>	<p>The Harborough LDF has a role to play in influencing public behaviour in terms of facilitating the energy efficient design and construction of new buildings, changing travel patterns and reducing car use and improving green infrastructure.</p>
<p>East Midlands Regional Assembly: The East Midlands Energy Challenge The Regional Energy Strategy (Part 1)</p>	<p>Part 1 of the Regional Energy Strategy sets out the main aims of the strategy. The overall objective of the strategy is to “ensure a diverse and secure energy supply that is delivered in partnership with local communities and minimises adverse environmental impacts.”</p> <p>The main policies/aims of the strategy are as follows:</p> <p>Policy ENG1: To ensure that greenhouse gas emissions are significantly reduced to protect the Region from future impacts of climate change.</p> <p>Policy ENG2: To encourage high standards of building design and renovation, which allow for good indoor environment, whilst reducing the energy demands for heating lighting and cooling</p> <p>Policy ENG3: To improve the awareness and knowledge, amongst development professionals, of the opportunities to minimise energy use in buildings and for transport through careful siting and design of developments</p> <p>Policy ENG4: To encourage people, businesses and communities to reduce the impact that their use of energy has on their local and global environment, particularly in relation to climate change.</p> <p>Policy ENG5: To equip people with the skills and knowledge to respond to the changing energy market.</p> <p>Policy ENG6: To promote and support the improvement in energy efficiency as a means of improving the condition of homes and health.</p> <p>Policy ENG7: To promote and support the improvement in energy efficiency as a means of improving the competitiveness of the Region’s industrial base and of protecting valuable natural resources.</p> <p>Policy ENG8: To promote and support the development of energy service companies within the Region.</p> <p>Policy ENG9: To promote and support the development of markets for heat, recognising an important commodity for energy services in homes and businesses</p> <p>Policy ENG10: To ensure that an increasing amount of the electricity used is generated from renewable sources.</p>	<p>The LDF should seek to help achieve these aims by implementing policies which promote energy efficiency and carbon reductions in new and redevelopment, support new renewable energy provision (including community owned and neighbourhood facilities) and the use of alternative fuels.</p> <p>The LDF should also support the growth of the environmental sector and new environmental technologies in the district.</p>

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	<p>Policy ENG11: To promote and support a growing market in renewable energy electricity generation</p> <p>Policy ENG12: To ensure that renewable energy installations or developments are designed sensitively to take full account of their impact on the historic or natural environment.</p> <p>Policy ENG13: To encourage the uptake of domestic and small scale community owned or run renewable energy schemes.</p> <p>Policy ENG14: To promote and support the use of cleaner fossil fuel technologies in buildings and transport.</p> <p>Policy ENG15: To ensure that the energy infrastructure in the East Midlands is maintained and enhanced for a reliable and secure energy supply, that is accessible to new generation capacity.</p> <p>Policy ENG16: To support the energy generation and supply industries within the East Midlands and promote a shift to a low carbon economy.</p> <p>Policy ENG17: To encourage research into new and emerging technologies and support mechanisms for their deployment</p>	

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<p>East Midlands Regional Assembly: The East Midlands Energy Challenge The Regional Energy Strategy (Part 2)</p>	<p>Part 2 of the Regional Energy Strategy sets out how the aims highlighted in Part 1 of the strategy will be achieved. It seeks to achieve these aims through the following Priorities:</p> <p>Priority 1: Energy in Homes Ensuring that all homes use energy efficiently to provide sustainable and affordable warmth and power.</p> <p>Priority 2: Planning and Design Enabling a low carbon future through Planning and Design</p> <p>Priority 3: Business Performance Improving the productivity and performance of businesses in the region through more efficient use of energy and resources</p> <p>Priority 4: Economic Exploitation Enabling the Region to exploit new economic opportunities from new and emerging technologies, processes and services</p> <p>Priority 5: Energy Capacity Supporting an appropriate regional level of generation and supply of energy to meet future energy needs reliably, securely and sustainably</p> <p>Priority 6: Awareness Raising Engaging all stakeholders in the East Midlands in reducing the impact that their use of energy has on their local and global environment.</p> <p>Priority 7: Capacity Building Providing the tools and opportunities for stakeholders to take an active role in reducing their energy consumption and the effects that their use of energy has on the environment</p>	<p>The Harbrough LDF should seek to support these priorities by implementing policies which promote energy efficiency and carbon reductions in new and redevelopment, support new renewable energy provision (including community owned and neighbourhood facilities) and the use of alternative fuels.</p> <p>The LDF should also support the growth of the environmental sector and new environmental technologies in the district.</p>

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<p>East Midlands Sustainability Round Table: The Potential Impact of Climate Change in the East Midlands (2004)</p>	<p>Updates the Round Table's 2000 report on potential climate change impacts in the East Midlands.</p> <p>Based on updated climate change scenarios and modelling, sets out the likely effect of climate change on the region. This is based on a "low" and "high" emissions scenario.</p> <p>Likely effects include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase in temperatures could increase by up to 2°C depending on season – more than twice the change in the whole of the last century. • Increase in winter rainfall by about 15%. Decrease in summer rainfall by up to 30%. • Reduction in Autumn soil moisture contents by an additional 20 to 30%. • More extreme weather events, including related to both precipitation and temperature. <p>Particular risks highlighted as a result of climate change include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damage to infrastructure due to extreme temperatures. • Increased stress and risk of mortality from heat. • Increased risk of skin cancer. • Increased risk of flooding either by reducing the level of protection of existing defences or increasing the frequency and extent of flooding in unprotected areas. Urban areas will be at increased risk from sewers surcharging. Problems gaining insurance cover. • Reduced availability of water and increasing demand. • Pressure on agriculture and biodiversity. • Possible increase in the risk of storm damage. 	<p>The Harborough LDF should seek to mitigate greenhouse gas emissions and ensure that the district is well placed to adapt to these climate change scenarios.</p>

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Carbon Trust: The Climate Change Challenge: Scientific Evidence and Implications (2005)	This report summarises the nature of the problem. It explains the fundamental science and the accumulating evidence that climate change is real and needs to be addressed. It also explains the future potential impacts, including the outstanding uncertainties.	The Harbrough LDF should encourage efficient design of new development and redevelopment; support layout of development which reduces the need to travel and which encourages walking, cycling and public transport use; and support the growth of renewable energy provision in the district. The LDF should also facilitate climate change adaptation, such as a presumption against development in flood risk areas, supporting a growth in green infrastructure and promoting the development of sustainable urban drainage systems.
Energy Saving Trust: Renewable Energy Sources for Homes in Urban Environments (2005)	Provides information about the integration of renewable energy sources into new and existing dwellings in urban environments. It covers the basic principles, benefits, limitations, costs and suitability of various technologies.	The Harbrough LDF should encourage the incorporation of renewable energy provision into the design of new housing.
Deprivation		
EU Sustainable Development Strategy (2006)	This Strategy identifies key priorities for an enlarged Europe to focus on up to 2010, including social inclusion and fighting global poverty. It aims to achieve better policy integration in addressing these challenges, and to ensure that Europe looks beyond its boundaries in making informed decisions about sustainability.	Sustainable development should be the central consideration of the Harbrough LDF. The LDF should support a reduction of deprivation in the district by: promoting development location and layout which improves accessibility to services, facilities and amenities; enhancing the local environment through appropriate land use, design and layout and incorporation of green infrastructure; facilitating the provision of new educational and learning facilities to help improve skills and increase opportunities; and supporting social inclusion.
ODPM PPS1 Delivering Sustainable Development (2005)	Sets out the Government's planning policies on the delivery of sustainable development through the planning system. Specific aims are: social progress which recognises the needs of everyone; effective protection of the environment; the prudent use of natural resources; and the maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment.	The Harbrough LDF should support a reduction of deprivation in the district by: promoting development location and layout which improves accessibility to services, facilities and amenities; enhancing the local environment through appropriate land use, design and layout and incorporation of green infrastructure; facilitating the provision of new educational and learning facilities to help improve skills and increase opportunities; and supporting social inclusion.
ODPM Warm Homes and Energy Conservation Act (2000)	Requires the Government to develop and instigate a strategy to eradicate fuel poverty in England by 2016 and Wales by 2018.	The Harbrough LDF should help facilitate the provision of affordable, high quality and energy efficient housing.

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ODPM Sustainable Communities: Building for the Future (2003)	Sets out a long-term programme of action for delivering sustainable communities in both urban and rural areas. It aims to tackle housing supply issues in the South East, low demand in other parts of the country, and the quality of our public spaces.	The Harbrough LDF should support a reduction of deprivation in the district by: promoting development location and layout which improves accessibility to services, facilities and amenities; enhancing the local environment through appropriate land use, design and layout and incorporation of green infrastructure; facilitating the provision of new educational and learning facilities to help improve skills and increase opportunities; and supporting social inclusion.
ODPM & Home Office: Safer Places: The Planning System and Crime Prevention (2004)	Practical guide to designs and layouts that may help with crime prevention and community safety, including well-defined routes, places structured so that different uses do not cause conflict, places designed to include natural surveillance and places designed with management and maintenance in mind.	The LDF should draw on this guide by promoting design and layout which improves perceptions of security and reduces crime and the fear of crime.
Home Office: Youth Justice - The next steps - companion document to Every Child Matters (2000)	The key proposals are to: strengthen parenting interventions; improve understanding of trials and trial preparation; manage remandees better in the community; establish a simpler sentencing structure with more flexible interventions; run community intensive supervision and surveillance as the main response to repeat and serious offending while still having custody available; introduce a more graduated progression between secure, open and community facilities; and improve youth justice skills and organisation.	The provision of new educational, leisure and recreational facilities should be a key consideration for the Harbrough LDF. The LDF should also support development which improves the public realm, reduces the fear of crime and supports community cohesion.

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<p>East Midlands Development Agency: East Midlands Regional Economic Strategy (2006)</p>	<p>Part of the East Midlands Integrated Regional Strategy, there are three main themes for the Regional Economic Strategy, with associated priorities. These are as follows:</p> <p>Theme One: Raising Productivity Employment, learning and skills: Increase the proportion of adult employees gaining new skills. Enterprise and business support: Develop as a region of highly productive, globally competitive businesses. Innovation: Foster a dynamic environment with innovative and creative businesses at its heart, with a focus on four sectors - transport equipment, construction, food and drink, and healthcare.</p> <p>Theme Two: Ensuring Sustainability Transport and logistics: Improvement of infrastructure to enable better connectivity Energy and resources: Reduce impact on climate change and ensure a high quality environment where people want to live and work. Promotion of renewable technologies and support businesses to exploit new opportunities and encourage more efficient use of resources. Environmental protection: Protection and enhancement of the environment. Land and development: Ensuring an adequate supply of quality development land; and a good balance between competing land uses.</p> <p>Theme Three: Achieving Equality Cohesive communities: Creation of a dynamic society and stronger economy through supporting equality and diversity. Encouragement of neighbourhood renewal and develop the capacity of local groups to improve community cohesion. Economic renewal: Assist disadvantaged areas in economic renewal. Economic inclusion: Improve the opportunities available to disadvantaged groups by tackling the barriers to participating in, and benefiting from, the region's economic success.</p>	<p>The Harborough LDF should seek to ensure that the regional aims for sustainable economic development are reflected by the LDF to help reduce deprivation in the District.</p>

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<p>East Midlands Regional Housing Board: East Midlands Regional Housing Strategy 2004- 2010 (2004)</p>	<p>The Regional Housing Strategy (RHS) is part of the Integrated Regional Strategy (IRS), sitting alongside the Regional Economic Strategy (RES) and the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS).</p> <p>The main aims of the strategy are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help create neighbourhoods where people want to live; • Reflect the need for balanced mixed tenure communities; • Prioritise the use of previously developed land and buildings; • Provide high quality housing which incorporates sustainable construction and design (see Appendix One). • Enhance the quality of the local environment and support community safety. • Improve accessibility to jobs, recreation and services and reduces the need to travel. • Contribute to environmental infrastructure. 	<p>The Harborough LDF should seek to provide a range of housing types, including affordable housing.</p> <p>The LDF should support improvements to (and access to) green infrastructure, and support high quality, and energy efficient design. The location of new development should support accessibility by sustainable modes of transport.</p>
<p>East Midlands Rural Affairs Forum: East Midlands Rural Action Plan (2007)</p>	<p>This document is the regional rural framework and action plan for the East Midlands. It sets out a high level vision for the rural East Midlands to 2013 and identifies the following policy areas as requiring ongoing focus:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving access to affordable rural housing • Improving the quality of the region's green areas (Green Infrastructure) • Improving enterprise, innovation and employment • Improving accessibility to jobs and services • Developing active communities • Supporting land-based rural businesses • Adapting to climate change 	<p>As a largely rural district, the LDF should support the aims of the Rural Action Plan through appropriate location, design and nature of development. It should also seek to introduce policies which support the needs of rural communities.</p>

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<p>Harborough District Community Safety Partnership Harborough Community Safety Plan 2008-2011 (2008)</p>	<p>The Community Plan has five Priorities, with associated objectives. These are:</p> <p>Priority One- Violent Crime/Wounding/Domestic Abuse/Hate Crime: To prevent and reduce crimes of violence; reduce re offending; increase reporting of domestic abuse; to monitor the levels of hate Incidents.</p> <p>Priority Two- Anti Social Behaviour and Criminal damage: To prevent and reduce anti social behaviour; to re assure communities that effective action is being taken to address anti social behaviour; to increase levels of the social inclusion for young people; to ensure that actions of partners are both co-ordinated and information led.</p> <p>Priority Three - Acquisitive Crime; Domestic Burglary, Vehicle Crime and Thefts from Person: To maintain the levels of burglary to at least to the low levels of 2007; to promote and involve Neighbourhood Watch in burglary prevention initiatives; to reduce the rate of vehicle crime offences in line with current Police Targets; to reduce the low rate of thefts from person (purse snatching); develop joint initiatives with the other three Partnerships based in South Leicestershire – Hinckley and Bosworth, Blaby and Oadby and Wigston.</p> <p>Priority Four - Business Crime, Burglary at commercial premises, thefts from shops, arson, criminal damage, business related vehicle crime/plant sites: To prevent and reduce the levels of criminal damage; to reassure business communities that effective action is being taken to address business related crime; to establish Business Against Crime schemes to ensure collective action; to enhance consultation and engagement with business communities; to identify key strands within business crime for targeting; to reduce the level of repeat victimisation where achievable are taken by everyone as part of a business partnership approach.</p> <p>Priority Five- Drugs Misuse:</p>	<p>The LDF should also support design and layout of development which enhances the public realm, improves perceptions of security and supports community cohesion.</p>

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	Reduce drug related acquisitive crime; further develop the drugs and alcohol litter finds reporting system; contribute to the county wide increase in the number of drug users in effective treatment; promote the Crime stoppers telephone number to encourage the community to report suspected illegal drugs suppliers and routes thereby increasing the opportunity to seize class A drugs.	
Economic Factors		
EU European Employment Strategy (1997, revised 2005)	The EES is designed as the main tool to give direction to and ensure co-ordination of the employment policy priorities to which Member States should subscribe at EU level.	The Harbrough LDF should support the growth of jobs and employment in the district across a range of sectors and should support existing jobs. The LDF should facilitate the provision of new educational and learning facilities to help improve skills, improve community cohesion and increase opportunities in the district.
EU The Lisbon Strategy (2000, revised 2005)	The Lisbon Strategy was adopted in March 2000 and aims to make the EU the most dynamic and competitive economy by 2010. This strategy involves a range of policy areas, from research and education to environment and employment.	The Harbrough LDF should facilitate the provision of new educational and learning facilities to help improve skills, improve community cohesion and increase opportunities in the district. The LDF also has the potential to help deliver urban renaissance through improvements to the vitality and vibrancy of the district and enhancing the local environment through appropriate land use, design and layout.
ODPM PPS1 Delivering Sustainable Development (2005)	Sets out the Government's planning policies on the delivery of sustainable development through the planning system. Specific aims are: social progress which recognises the needs of everyone; effective protection of the environment; the prudent use of natural resources; and the maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment.	Sustainable economic development which supports environmental improvements, improves community cohesion and the enhances vitality and vibrancy of the district should be a central aim of the Harbrough LDF.
DETR The Urban White Paper Our Towns and Cities: the Future: Delivering an urban renaissance (2000)	Sets out the Government's aims to provide jobs, a healthy economy, decent homes, good public services and an attractive and safe environment.	The Harbrough LDF should facilitate the provision of new educational and learning facilities to help improve skills, improve community cohesion and increase opportunities in the district. The LDF also has the potential to help deliver urban renaissance through improvements to the vitality and vibrancy of the district and enhancing the local environment through appropriate land use, design and layout.

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DfES Education and Skills: Delivering Results, A Strategy to 2006 (2002)	Objectives are to: give children an excellent start in education so that they have a better foundation for future learning; enable all young people to develop and to equip themselves with the skills, knowledge and personal qualities needed for life and work; and encourage and enable adults to learn, improve their skills and enrich their lives.	The Harborough LDF should encourage the provision of new educational and learning facilities to help improve skills and increase opportunities in the district.
DTI UK Manufacturing Strategy (2002)	Sets out a strategy for helping manufacturing companies fulfil their potential in the UK by moving up the value chain to high skilled, knowledge intensive operations. The major aim of the strategy is to close the productivity gap with major competitors.	The Harborough LDF should facilitate the provision of new educational and learning facilities to help improve skills and improve the quality of the workforce in Harborough.
Department of Work and Pensions: UK National Action Plan for Employment (2004)	This Employment Action Plan sets out the UK Government's response to the Employment Guidelines under the three overarching objectives of full employment, quality & productivity, and cohesion & social inclusion.	The LDF should facilitate the provision of new educational and learning facilities to help improve skills and increase opportunities in the district.
HM Treasury: Science & innovation investment framework 2004-2014 (2004)	Describes how the UK should attract the highest-skilled people and companies which have the potential to innovate turn innovation into a commercial opportunity.	The Harborough LDF should facilitate the provision of new educational and learning facilities to help improve skills, improve community cohesion and increase opportunities in the district. The LDF also has the potential to attract new companies and higher skilled people through improvements to the vitality and vibrancy of the district and enhancing the local environment through appropriate land use, design and layout.
DEFRA Securing the Future - UK Government sustainable development strategy (2005)	Sets a broad-ranging policy agenda for achieving sustainable development in the UK. This includes topics related to helping people make better choices; sustainable consumption and production; climate change and energy; protecting natural resources and enhancing the environment; and creating sustainable communities.	The Harborough LDF, in addition to securing the provision of high quality employment land in Harborough, should facilitate the provision of new educational and learning facilities to help improve skills, improve community cohesion and increase opportunities in the district. The LDF also has the potential to help facilitate community cohesion through improvements to the vitality and vibrancy of the district and enhancing the local environment through appropriate land use, design and layout.
DfES 14-19 Education and Skills White Paper (2005)	Sets out proposals, which build on the strengths of the existing education system, designed to ensure that every young person masters functional English and maths before they leave education.	The Harborough LDF should encourage the provision of new educational and learning facilities to help improve skills and increase opportunities in the district.
DfES Five Year Strategy for Children and Learners (2005)	Sets out the DfES skills and education strategy, seeking to address historic weaknesses and put a clear focus on children, learners, parents and employers, promoting personalisation and choice.	The LDF should encourage the provision of new educational and learning facilities to help improve skills and increase opportunities in the district.

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DfES Further Education: Raising Skills, Improving Life Chances (2005)	Set out a commitment to develop a new approach to funding for 14-19 year-olds and to move to a position where more funding is driven directly by employer and learner choice.	The LDF should encourage the provision of new educational and learning facilities to help improve skills and increase opportunities in the district.
DTI Technology Strategy - Developing UK Capability (2006)	Key goals are to: help leading sectors and businesses maintain their position in the face of global competition; stimulate those sectors and businesses with the capacity to be among the best in the world to fulfil their potential; ensure that the emerging technologies of today become the growth sectors of tomorrow; and combine all these elements in such a way that the UK becomes a centre for investment by world-leading companies.	The Harborough LDF should support the growth of Information & Communications Technology by encouraging and facilitating the expansion of high speed ITC networks across the district.
East Midlands Tourism: Building the Visitor Economy. Maximising the Impact of Tourism and the Visitor Economy in the East Midlands (2008)	<p>A regional strategic plan covering the 3 year period from April 2008 with the aim of the realising the full potential of the visitor economy.</p> <p>The plan has three main objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase the current numbers of visitors to the region and their levels of expenditure; • Improve the competitiveness, productivity and quality of the offer for all types of visitors to the region; • Plan and facilitate the investment needed to reinvigorate the region's tourism and visitor offer. <p>Also proposes measures to help improve skills and workforce development, together with a focus to encourage strategic development opportunities.</p>	The Harborough LDF has the potential to support the district's visitor economy by supporting the quality of the local environment through appropriate land use, design and layout. This should draw on Harborough's assets, including its high quality environment, attractive countryside, good connections and cultural heritage resource. The LDF should also has the potential to support the provision of sustainably located and appropriate visitor attractions in the district.
Business support in the East Midlands - A strategy for 2005-2008	<p>Aims to improve the business prospects of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in the region through the following three aims:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase the number of SMEs trading in the East Midlands. 2. Improve the survival rate of new businesses. 3. Increase the growth rate and profitability of existing SMEs. 	The LDF for Harborough should seek to support the growth and survival of SMEs by appropriate land provision in accessible locations, and

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<p>East Midlands Development Agency: East Midlands Regional Economic Strategy (2006)</p>	<p>Part of the East Midlands Integrated Regional Strategy, there are three main themes for the Regional Economic Strategy, with associated priorities. These are as follows:</p> <p>Theme One: Raising Productivity Employment, learning and skills: Increase the proportion of adult employees gaining new skills. Enterprise and business support: Develop as a region of highly productive, globally competitive businesses. Innovation: Foster a dynamic environment with innovative and creative businesses at its heart, with a focus on four sectors - transport equipment, construction, food and drink, and healthcare.</p> <p>Theme Two: Ensuring Sustainability Transport and logistics: Improvement of infrastructure to enable better connectivity Energy and resources: Reduce impact on climate change and ensure a high quality environment where people want to live and work. Promotion of renewable technologies and support businesses to exploit new opportunities and encourage more efficient use of resources. Environmental protection: Protection and enhancement of the environment. Land and development: Ensuring an adequate supply of quality development land; and a good balance between competing land uses.</p> <p>Theme Three: Achieving Equality Cohesive communities: Creation of a dynamic society and stronger economy through supporting equality and diversity. Encouragement of neighbourhood renewal and develop the capacity of local groups to improve community cohesion. Economic renewal: Assist disadvantaged areas in economic renewal. Economic inclusion: Improve the opportunities available to disadvantaged groups by tackling the barriers to participating in, and benefiting from, the region's economic success.</p>	<p>The Harborough LDF should seek to ensure that the regional aims for sustainable economic development are reflected by the LDF.</p>

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<p>East Midlands Rural Affairs Forum and East Midlands Development Agency: Think Farming and Food, Action Plan for the East Midlands (2006)</p>	<p>The Regional Delivery Plan for Farming and Food is a framework for action to achieve a sustainable future for the farming and food industries in the East Midlands. The Plan sets out a range of priorities and proposed actions to assist development and influence and direct change within the industry. The objectives of the plan include the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Influence and take forward the East Midlands farming and food sector to achieve a sustainable future for our farming and food industries • Achieve environmental, social and economic benefits from sustainable land management • Encourage businesses and individuals to develop a skills base that supports innovation, market drive, forward looking and sustainable activities • Facilitate and encourage supply chain development and connection across the food chain 	<p>The LDF should support the needs of farming and agriculture and associated industries. This is important for Harborough due to the rural nature of the district.</p>

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<p>Harbrough District Council: Harbrough Economic Development Strategy 2008-2013 (2008)</p>	<p>The Economic Development Strategy has been prepared by Harbrough District Council to explain its commitment, approach and the activities it intends to undertake or encourage to enable it to realise its economic potential and to encourage prosperity over the period 2008 – 2013.</p> <p>The strategy sets out six themes and strategic aims each with a series of related objectives to achieve this vision. These themes/aims are as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A diverse economy with a strong entrepreneurial culture and successful, competitive & innovative businesses that contribute to above average levels of long term economic growth. 2. An improved and more cohesive tourism product & profile, focussed around 'quintessential England' which is supported by high quality visitor services, skills and effective use of ICT, promotion & marketing. 3. To strengthen the economic role of Lutterworth and Market Harbrough town centres, and to support with the economic objectives of Broughton Astley and other rural centres supported. 4. A range (quantity and quality) of readily available employment sites and premises within the district, in sustainable locations and with appropriate infrastructure to meet the needs of local businesses and to provide choice for appropriate inward investments. 5. An increasingly highly educated and vocationally skilled resident population and workforce, committed to lifelong learning, whose higher skills are more appropriately matched with the employment requirements of local companies to help to reduce net commuting levels. 6. Improved information, intelligence and relationships with key partners & partnership and local businesses to enable the Council to; make informed decisions, undertake its place shaping role in terms of economic development, and to advocate for infrastructure and transport improvements to support economic development. 	<p>The LDF should facilitate development which will support sustainable economic growth through appropriate provision of development, improving accessibility within the district, supporting the growth of skills and education and protecting and utilising the district's high quality environment.</p>

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Green Infrastructure		
Council of Europe: European Landscape Convention (2006)	Signatories of the Convention are required to recognise landscapes in law as an essential component of people's surroundings; establish and implement landscape policies aimed at landscape protection and management; establish procedures for the participation of the general public, local and regional authorities; and integrate landscape into their cultural, environmental, agricultural, and any other policies with possible direct or indirect impact on landscape.	The Harborough LDF should promote development which supports and where possible, improves landscape quality in the district.
ODPM PPG17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation (2002)	Sets out open space, sport and recreation considerations for regional and local planning bodies. These include an assessment of needs and opportunities; setting local standards; maintaining an adequate supply of open space and sports and recreational facilities; planning for new open space and sports and recreational facilities; and planning obligations.	Increased provision of green infrastructure and improvements to existing networks should be key aims for the Harborough LDF. This should support Green Infrastructure work already being carried out in the district.
DEFRA England's Trees, Woods and Forests - a Consultation Document (2006)	Government objectives include: to safeguard England's resource of trees, woods and forests for future generations; to protect the environmental resources of water, soil and air, and to protect and enhance biodiversity and landscapes, and cultural values; to ensure that woodlands and trees enhance the quality of life for those living in, working in, or visiting England; to encourage the development of new or improved market for sustainable woodland products and services where this will deliver identifiable public benefits, nationally or locally.	Appropriate planting and management of trees as part of a wider and improved green infrastructure network should be supported by the LDF.
Countryside Agency: The Countryside in and Around Towns – A vision for connecting town and country in the pursuit of sustainable development (2005)	A vision for the landscape of urban/rural fringe environments and how to better manage these areas and make improvements. Key functions for the environment include: a bridge to the country; a gateway to the town; a health centre; a classroom; a recycling and renewable energy centre; a productive landscape; a cultural legacy; a place for sustainable living; an engine for regeneration; and a nature reserve.	Increased provision of green infrastructure and improvements to existing networks should be key aims for the Harborough LDF. This should support work already being carried out at the regional level.
English Nature: Accessible Natural Green Space Standards in Towns and Cities: A Review and Toolkit for their Implementation (2003)	Aims to help Local Authorities develop policies which acknowledge, protect and enhance the contribution natural spaces make to local sustainability. Three aspects of natural space in cities and towns are discussed: their biodiversity; their ability to cope with urban pollution; ensuring natural spaces are accessible to everyone. The report aims to show how size and distance criteria can be used to identify the natural spaces which contribute most to local sustainability.	The Harborough LDF should seek to support the expansion of Accessible Natural Green Space and improve the quality of existing areas.

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East Midlands Regional Assembly: East Midlands Green Infrastructure - Phase 1 Scoping Study - Final Report (2006)	Investigates the current underinvestment in green infrastructure in the region, identifies drivers for change and recommends actions for organisations in the region to collectively overcome impediments and improve the delivery of Green Infrastructure.	Increased provision of green infrastructure and improvements to existing networks should be key aims for the Harborough LDF. This should support work already being carried out at the regional level.
Space4Trees: The Regional Forestry Framework for the East Midlands (2005)	<p>Space4Trees aims to promote and highlight the growing contribution that trees and woodlands make to the health of the environment, the vitality of the economy and the quality of life of the people who live and work in the region.</p> <p>The Framework has four main aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide and promote more opportunities for everyone to enjoy the social, health and educational benefits of trees and woodlands. • To maximise the contribution of trees and woodlands to the region's natural, cultural and historic environment and ensure that trees and woodlands are better able to withstand external environmental pressures. • To encourage innovation, enterprise and growth of woodland related businesses and to enhance their contribution to the regional economy. • To create a better understanding of the roles and benefits of trees, woodlands and wooded environments and support the sharing of information, innovation and good practice. <p>These priorities have been consolidated in a Space4Trees Action Plan.</p>	The Harborough LDF should support the aims of the Forestry Framework by recognising the benefits and role of trees and woodland for the district. In particular the LDF should support the growth of Green Infrastructure to complement new and redevelopment.
Health		
EC Together for Health: A Strategic Approach for the EU 2008-2013 (2007)	Building on current work, this Strategy aims to provide an overarching strategic framework spanning core issues in health as well as health in all policies and global health issues.	The Harborough LDF should support the provision of new health, sporting, leisure and recreational facilities in the district and support layouts which encourages walking, cycling and more active lifestyles. The LDF should also ensure the provision of high quality, well located and affordable housing appropriate for local residents' needs.

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ODPM PPG17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation (2002)	Sets out open space, sport and recreation considerations for regional and local planning bodies. These include an assessment of needs and opportunities; setting local standards; maintaining an adequate supply of open space and sports and recreational facilities; planning for new open space and sports and recreational facilities; and planning obligations.	The Harborough LDF should support the provision of new sporting, leisure and recreational facilities in the district and help facilitate an improvement in open space provision.
DCMS & Strategy Unit: Game Plan: A Strategy for delivering Government's sport and physical activity objectives (2002)	The Government's long term vision for sport and physical activity by 2020 is to increase significantly levels of sport and physical activity, particularly among disadvantaged groups; and to achieve sustained levels of success in international competition.	The Harborough LDF should support the provision of new sporting, leisure and recreational facilities in the district.
DoH Tackling Health Inequalities: A Programme for Action (2003)	Lays the foundation for meeting the government's targets to reduce the health gap on infant mortality and life expectancy by 2010. The Programme emphasises the need to improve health and the factors that contribute to health faster in disadvantaged areas than elsewhere.	The Harborough LDF should support the provision of new health, sporting, leisure and recreational facilities in the district and support layouts which encourages walking, cycling and more active lifestyles. The LDF should also ensure the provision of high quality, well located and affordable housing appropriate for local residents' needs.
DoH Choosing Health: Making Healthy Choices Easier, White Paper (2004)	Sets out the key principles for supporting the public to make healthier and more informed choices in regards to their health. There is a particular focus on children and young people, and people from poorer communities.	The Harborough LDF should support the provision of new health, sporting, leisure and recreational facilities in the district and support layouts which encourages walking, cycling and more active lifestyles. The LDF should also ensure the provision of high quality, well located and affordable housing appropriate for local residents' needs.
DoH & Department for Work and Pensions Health and Safety Executive: Health, work and well-being - Caring for our future (2005)	Lays out a 'blueprint for change', so that work related illness and accidents can be avoided, but if not ensures people get fast treatment and that they can access occupational health when it is needed. It also puts the emphasis on creating healthy working environments.	The Harborough LDF should support the provision of new health, sporting, leisure and recreational facilities in the district and support layouts which encourages walking, cycling and more active lifestyles. The LDF should also ensure the provision of high quality, well located and affordable housing appropriate for local residents' needs.
DoH Our health, our care, our say: a new direction for community services (2005)	Puts emphasis on moving healthcare into the community and will therefore have an impact on sustainable development considerations, including supporting local economies and how people travel to healthcare facilities.	The Harborough LDF should support the provision of new health, sporting, leisure and recreational facilities in the district and support layouts which encourages walking, cycling and more active lifestyles. The LDF should also ensure the provision of high quality, well located and affordable housing appropriate for local residents' needs.
Forestry Commission: Trees and Woodlands - Nature's Health Service (2005)	Provides detailed examples of how the Woodland Sector (trees, woodlands and green spaces) can significantly contribute to people's health, well-being (physical, psychological and social) and quality of life. Increasing levels of physical activity is a particular priority.	The LDDs should support the provision of open space and green networks within new and redevelopment.

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<p>Sport England: Change 4 Sport in England's East Midlands: A Regional Plan for Sport 2004 to 2008</p>	<p>Setting out the regional action plan for sport, the plan aims to achieve the following eight outcomes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4% increase in sports participation. • The most successful sporting region. • Reduced inequalities. • Improved health. • Stronger and safer communities. • Improved education and lifelong learning. • Strengthened local economy. • Better sports 'system'. <p>These outcomes are supported in the plan by a variety of strategic aims.</p>	<p>The Harborough LDF should support the provision of new sporting, leisure and recreational facilities in the district and encourage increased activity levels through appropriate design and layout of development.</p>
<p>East Midlands Regional Assembly: Investment for Health: A Public Health Strategy for the East Midlands (2003)</p>	<p>The strategy aims to improve the health of East Midlands' residents by reducing health inequalities year-on-year through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Addressing the social, economic and environmental determinants of health, • Supporting healthy lifestyles, • Protecting health, • Improving access to and provision of local health and health related services. 	<p>The Harborough LDF should support the provision of new health, sporting, leisure and recreational facilities in the district and support layouts which encourages walking, cycling and more active lifestyles. The LDF should also ensure the provision of high quality, well located and affordable housing appropriate for local residents' needs.</p>

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<p>East Midlands Regional Public Health Group: East Midlands Affordable Warmth Action Plan</p>	<p>The Affordable Warmth Action Plan sets out the strategic approach to tackling fuel poverty</p> <p>The six key aims of the Strategy are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1: Ensure that Affordable Warmth work is integrated into the operations of relevant regional, sub-regional and statutory organisations. 2: Ensure that Affordable Warmth is integrated into other regional, sub-regional and local strategies and action plans as these are developed or reviewed. 3: Ensure the effective co-ordination and implementation of the East Midlands Affordable Warmth Action Plan. 4: Ensure that the delivery of Affordable Warmth includes work to maximise the income of vulnerable householders and to help regenerate local economies 5: Support and influence relevant regional and local housing organisations in their work to deliver affordably warm homes. 6: Encourage and support the use of new and renewable technologies for individual households and communities; particularly where these can provide solutions to the particular problems of rural fuel poverty and hard to heat homes. 	<p>The Harborough LDF should support energy efficiency in new development and redevelopment and support the use of renewable energy provision at the neighbourhood and community level.</p>

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<p>Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland NHS: Excellence for All: Ensuring excellence for all by involving and working with the people of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland to improve health and the quality of health services (Consultation document, 2008)</p>	<p>This consultation document sets out the healthcare vision for future healthcare in the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland area, and was launched at the beginning of June 2008 for a 16 week consultation period.</p> <p>The vision is based on the following broad principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involve patients, the public and communities fully in their healthcare, and in improving local health services. • Make sure health services are as fair and as safe as they can be. • Make sure services are personalised, and make a difference to people's lives as far as possible. • Encourage local people to make healthy choices, and to enjoy a fit and healthy lifestyle. • Make sure all the services provided by family doctors (GPs), hospitals, the ambulance service and local councils work well together. • Make sure services are delivered locally wherever possible, so that more care is available closer to home. • Provide specialist care in high quality centres, which are among the best in their field. • Give people more choices about their care. 	<p>The Harborough LDF should support the provision of new health, sporting, leisure and recreational facilities in the district and support layout which encourages walking, cycling and more active lifestyles.</p>

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Harborough District Council: Harborough Play Strategy 2007-2012 (2007)	<p>This document sets out the strategy to improve children and young people's play opportunities in the district.</p> <p>The overall vision of the Play Strategy is: "To support the children and young people of Harborough District, and to improve and develop the opportunity for play. To enable a choice of where, when and how to play in a safe and secure environment"</p> <p>The objectives of the strategy are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise the profile of play • Ensure that all children and young people, regardless of their ability, have equal access and inclusive approach and opportunities for play • Ensure that decisionmakers plan and resource play to support the outcomes of the five year Play Strategy • Work in partnership to improve play provision • Commit to developing a wider child-friendly environment, which will increase children's opportunities for play whenever, and wherever they choose • Identify opportunities that contribute to the overall vision of a child-friendly District 	In addition to supporting the provision of play areas, the Harborough LDF should support the provision of formal and informal open space and green infrastructure.
Historic Environment and Townscape		
UNESCO World Heritage Convention (1972)	Aims of the Convention are: defining cultural and natural heritage; recognising the protection and conservation; understanding the value; and establishing 'the World Heritage fund'.	The protection and enhancement of cultural heritage assets and their settings should be a key consideration for the Harborough LDF.
Council of Europe: Convention on the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (1985)	Aims for signatories to protect their architectural heritage by means of identifying monuments, buildings and sites to be protected; preventing the disfigurement, dilapidation or demolition of protected properties; providing financial support by the public authorities for maintaining and restoring the architectural heritage on its territory; and supporting scientific research for identifying and analysing the harmful effects of pollution and for defining ways and means to reduce or eradicate these effects.	The protection and enhancement of cultural heritage assets and their settings should be a key consideration for the Harborough LDF. LDDs should support high quality design and appropriate layout of new development.

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Council of Europe: The Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (Revised) (Valetta Convention) (1992)	The convention defines archaeological heritage and identifies measures for its protection. Aims include integrated conservation of the archaeological heritage, and financing of archaeological research and conservation.	Archaeological assets, both potential and realised should be provided with full consideration through the Harbrough LDF.
Council of Europe: European Landscape Convention (2006)	Aims to promote the protection, management and planning (including active design and creation of Europe's landscapes, both rural and urban, and to foster European co-operation on landscape issues.	The Harbrough LDF should support development which protects, and where possible improves the landscape character of the district. This should include augmenting historic landscapes.
DCMS Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979)	An act to consolidate and amend the law retain to ancient monuments, to make provision of matters of archaeological or historic interest, and to provide grants by secretary of state to the Architectural Heritage fund.	Development affecting areas of archaeological resource will need to have due regard to this Act.
DoE PPG16: Archaeology and Planning (1990)	Sets out the Secretary of State's policy on archaeological remains on land, and how they should be preserved or recorded both in an urban setting and in the countryside. It gives advice on the handling of archaeological remains and discoveries under the development plan and control systems, including the weight to be given to them in planning decisions and the use of planning conditions.	Archaeological assets, both potential and realised should be provided with full consideration by the Harbrough LDF.
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act (1990)	An act to consolidate certain enactments relating to special controls in respect of buildings and areas of special architectural or historic interest with amendments to give effect to recommendations to give effect to recommendations of the Law Commissions.	Development affecting listed buildings and conservation areas will need to have due regard to this Act.
Heritage Protection for the 21 st Century: White Paper (2007) and Heritage Protection Bill (2008)	Sets out a vision of a unified and simpler heritage protection system, which is easier to understand and use, and is more efficient, accountable and transparent. Also aims to increase the opportunities for public involvement and community engagement within the heritage protection system.	The LDF should aim to increase awareness and understanding of the historic environment through facilitating the protection of assets, enhancing their settings and encouraging walking, cycling and improvements to the public realm. The LDF should also aim to facilitate greater public engagement with the heritage protection system.
DCMS The Historic Environment: A Force for Our Future (2001)	Sets out how the historic environment holds the key to: an inspiring education resource; more attractive towns and cities; a prosperous and sustainable countryside; world class tourist attractions; and new jobs.	The protection and enhancement of cultural heritage assets and their settings should be a key consideration for the Harbrough LDF.
English Heritage and CABE: Buildings in Context: New Development in Historic Areas (2002)	Aims to stimulate a high standard of design when development takes place in historically sensitive contexts by showing 15 case studies in which achievement is far above the ordinary and trying to draw some lessons both about design and about the development and planning process, particularly regarding building in sensitive locations.	Development in areas of sensitivity for their historic environment value should have due regard to this document.

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English Heritage and CABE: Guidance on Tall Buildings (2003)	Provides advice and guidance on good practice in relation to tall buildings in the planning process and to highlight other related issues which need to be taken into account, i.e. where tall buildings would and would not be appropriate.	Provision for tall buildings in the district (if they are proposed) should have regard to this guidance document.
ODPM Secure and Sustainable Buildings Act (2004)	Amends the Building act, and others, with regard to sustainable construction practices and conservation of historic buildings. Also states the general nature of security provisions which should be in place at the construction stage and beyond.	The protection and enhancement of cultural heritage assets and settings should be a key consideration for the Harbrough LDF.
Viewpoints on the Historic Environment of the East Midlands (East Midlands Regional Heritage Forum)	<p>The stated aim the report is to “provide the basis for informed discussion and the development of new policies designed to sustain the historic environment for the benefit of future generations.”</p> <p>The report emphasises the need to recognise the characteristics of the region’s historic environment and their inter-relationship with the natural environment. It highlights the ways in which the historic environment contributes to people’s quality of life and economic and social well being. It develops the Regional Assembly’s Integrated Regional Strategy theme of “conserving and enhancing the diverse and attractive natural and built environment and cultural heritage of the region and ensuring prudent management of resources now and for future generations”. The recommendations included in the report (which also seek to respond to the conclusions of the Regional Environment Strategy) include as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that regional planning systems properly identify, recognise, value and protect the region’s historic environment; • Facilitate the conservation of the historic environment and the creative use of historic places; • Widen public understanding and enjoyment of the historic environment; and • Better represent the needs of the region’s historic environment. 	<p>The protection and enhancement of the historic environment should be a key consideration for the Harbrough LDF.</p> <p>The LDF should support high quality design and appropriate layout of new development, and seek to improve both cultural heritage features and their settings.</p>

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Housing and Previously Developed Land		
EU Sustainable Development Strategy (2006)	This Strategy identifies key priorities for an enlarged Europe to focus on up to 2010. This includes climate change and clean energy, sustainable transport, sustainable protection and consumption, health, better use of natural resources, social inclusion and fighting global poverty. It aims to achieve better policy integration in addressing these challenges, and to ensure that Europe looks beyond its boundaries in making informed decisions about sustainability.	Housing should be allocated on previously developed land where possible, and in areas with good accessibility to employment and services. Energy efficiency and the use of natural resources should be considered at the construction stage.
DTI Draft Strategy for Sustainable Construction (2006)	"Themes for Action" include: re-use existing built assets; design for minimum waste; aim for lean construction; minimise energy in construction; minimise energy in building use; avoid polluting the environment; preserve and enhance bio-diversity; conserve water resources; respect people and their local environment; and set targets (benchmarks & performance indicators).	The Harbrough LDF should support the development of energy efficient, environmentally sustainable housing which both limits short term impacts during construction and limits longer term impacts on a range of environmental receptors. New development should also support community cohesion and residents' wellbeing.
HM Treasury: Barker Review of Housing Supply, Delivering Stability: Securing our Future Housing Needs (2004)	Government objectives include: to achieve improvements in housing affordability in the market sector; a more stable housing market; location of housing supply which supports patterns of economic development; and an adequate supply of publicly-funded housing for those who need it.	The Harbrough LDF should ensure the provision of high quality, well located and affordable housing appropriate for local residents' needs.
ODPM Previously-Developed Land that may be available for Development (2003)	Shows the amount of brownfield land reported by local authorities as available for development.	New development should take place on previously developed land wherever possible.
DCLG Code for Sustainable Homes: A Step Change in Sustainable Home Building Practice (2006)	Aims to measure sustainability of new homes according to a set of criteria which have been developed from the Building Research Establishment (BRE) EcoHomes Standard; the Code has six levels set by a scoring system, whereby points are given for achieving certain levels of sustainability. Compliance requires meeting minimum standards for water efficiency, with additional points awarded for meeting standards relating to surface water run-off and pollution.	The Harbrough LDF should support as high Code for Sustainable Homes ratings as possible for new housing development.
DCLG PPS3 Housing (2006)	Objectives include: high quality housing; a mix of housing, both market and affordable; a sufficient quantity of housing taking into account need and demand and seeking to improve choice; housing developments in suitable (accessible) locations; and efficient and effective use of land, including re-use of previously-developed land where appropriate.	The Harbrough LDF should ensure the provision of high quality, well located and affordable housing appropriate for local residents' needs. It should also where possible, promote new development on previously developed land.

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DCLG Homes for the future: more affordable, more sustainable (2007)	The Housing Green Paper outlines plans for delivering homes; new ways of identifying and using land for development; more social housing- ensuring that a decent home at an affordable price is for the many; building homes more quickly; more affordable homes; and greener homes - with high environmental standards and flagship developments leading the way.	The Harbrough LDF should ensure the provision of high quality, well located and affordable housing appropriate for local residents' needs, whilst promoting high environmental standards and development on previously developed land.
DCLG Building a Greener Future: Policy Statement (2007)	This policy statement confirms the Government's intention for all new homes to be zero carbon by 2016 with a major progressive tightening of the energy efficiency building regulations - by 25% in 2010 and by 44% in 2013 - up to the zero carbon target in 2016.	The Harbrough LDF should support as high Code for Sustainable Homes ratings as possible for new housing development.
East Midlands Regional Housing Board: East Midlands Regional Housing Strategy 2004- 2010 (2004)	<p>The Regional Housing Strategy (RHS) is part of the Integrated Regional Strategy (IRS), sitting alongside the Regional Economic Strategy (RES) and the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS).</p> <p>The main aims of the strategy are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Help create neighbourhoods where people want to live; • Reflect the need for balanced mixed tenure communities; • Prioritise the use of previously developed land and buildings; • Provide high quality housing which incorporates sustainable construction and design (see Appendix One). • Enhance the quality of the local environment and support community safety. • Improve accessibility to jobs, recreation and services and reduces the need to travel. • Contribute to environmental infrastructure. 	<p>The Harbrough LDF should ensure the provision of high quality, well located and affordable housing appropriate for local residents' needs.</p> <p>The LDF should support improvements to (and access to) green infrastructure, and support high quality, and energy efficient design. The location of new development should support accessibility by sustainable modes of transport.</p>
East Midlands Regional Assembly: East Midlands Regional Housing Investment Strategy 2008-11 (2007)	<p>She strategy sets out the investment priorities for housing in the region. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i) Renewing and revitalising the private sector ii) Decent homes in the social sector iii) Affordable homes and market renewal iv) Gypsies and travellers accommodation v) Investment in housing research and sub-regional development 	The Harbrough LDF should support these investment priorities by the provision of appropriate new development opportunities and policies.

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Harbrough District Council: Homelessness Strategy 2008-2013 (2008)	Against the background of high rents, and a lack of affordable housing and social rented housing in the district, the strategy aims to deliver a strategic framework and vision which will assist in the implementation of quality services for people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness within Harbrough.	The Harbrough LDF should ensure the provision of a wide range of high quality, well located and affordable housing appropriate for local residents' needs.
Harbrough District Council: A Home for All, Housing Strategy Harbrough District 2008-2013 Draft for Consultation (2008)	<p>The 2007 Housing Strategy is being "refreshed" following changes in housing/ planning policy at national, regional and sub-regional level, the transfer of Council owned homes to a new landlord (Seven Locks Housing) in December 2007 and the impact of the "credit crunch" on housing markets. Setting out a five year plan for housing in the district, the Housing Strategy's priorities are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Access to affordable housing for all members of the community ▶ Meeting the Decent Homes Standard ▶ Meeting needs of vulnerable people ▶ Promoting community engagement ▶ Improving services 	The Harbrough LDF should reflect the priorities of the housing strategy by supporting the development of high quality, well located and affordable housing appropriate for local residents' needs.
Material Assets (including energy and waste)		
EC Sixth Environmental Action Programme 2002-2012 (2002)	Natural resources and waste (in particular recycling) has been identified as one of four priority areas for Europe. The EAP requires member states to achieve 22% of electricity production from renewable energies by 2010; to significantly reduce the volumes of waste generated and the quantity going to disposal; and to give preference to waste recovery and especially to recycling.	European renewables targets should be considered by the Harbrough LDF with sustainable use of energy for new developments a priority. There may also be implications related to localised waste management and the provision of local waste facilities within new developments.
EC Waste Framework Directive (1975, updated 2006)	Objective is the protection of human health and the environment against harmful effects caused by the collection, transport, treatment, storage and tipping of waste. Particular focus is placed on the re-use of recovered materials as raw materials; restricting the production of waste; promoting clean technologies; and the drawing up of waste management plans.	Sustainable waste management, including the provision of sites for localised recycling and reuse facilities, should be a key consideration for the LDF.
EC Landfill Directive (1999)	Aims to prevent or reduce as far as possible negative effects on the environment, in particular the pollution of surface water, groundwater, soil and air, and on the global environment, including the greenhouse effect, as well as any resulting risk to human health, from the landfilling of waste, during the whole lifecycle of the landfill.	Sustainable waste management, including the provision of sites for localised recycling and reuse facilities, should be a key consideration for the LDDs. The LDF should present a presumption against allocations for new landfill capacity.

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Harborough LDF in terms of sustainability issues*
MPS1 Planning and Minerals	Sets out the principles and the key planning policy objectives against which plans for minerals and decisions on individual applications should be made. These cover the areas of exploration, survey, safeguarding, protection of heritage and countryside, supply, bulk transportation, environmental protection, efficient use, and restoration.	The Harborough LDF should recognise the potential of former minerals sites for landscape and biodiversity/geodiversity-led restoration. It should also, where appropriate, aim to safeguard against the sterilisation of certain minerals resources.
Cabinet Office: Waste Not, Want Not, A Strategy for tackling the waste problem (2002)	A study into how England's current waste management practices could be improved to reduce the current, and growing, waste problem.	Sustainable waste management, including the provision of sites for localised recycling and reuse facilities, should be a key consideration for the LDDs.
DEFRA Waste and Emissions Trading Act (2003)	Sets out legislative provisions for waste (including waste sent to landfill, waste management in England and Wales, and recycling plans), and about penalties for non-compliance with schemes for the trading of emissions quotas.	Sustainable waste management, including the provision of sites for localised recycling and reuse facilities, should be a key consideration for the LDDs.
DTI Energy White Paper: Our Energy Future – Creating a Low Carbon Economy (2003)	Sets out Government's long term energy policy, including requirements for cleaner, smarter energy; improved energy efficiency; reduced carbon emissions; and reliable, competitive and affordable supplies.	The Harborough LDF should support energy efficient layout and design in development and help facilitate the provision of localised renewable energy facilities.
DTI Sustainable Energy Act (2003)	Aims include increasing the use of renewable energy; cutting the UK's carbon emissions; maintaining the reliability of the UK's energy supplies; promoting competitive energy markets in the UK; and reducing the number of people living in fuel poverty.	The Harborough LDF should support energy efficient layout and design in development and help facilitate the provision of localised renewable energy facilities.
ODPM PPS22: Renewable Energy (2004)	Provides advice to planning authorities on how and where to develop renewable energy, and what types.	The LDF should have due regard to PPS22 in siting new renewable energy facilities.
ODPM PPS10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management (2005)	Planning authorities are encouraged to deliver sustainable waste management through the development of appropriate strategies for growth, regeneration and the prudent use of resources; and by providing sufficient opportunities for new waste management facilities of the right type, in the right place and at the right time.	Sustainable waste management, including the provision of sites for localised recycling and reuse facilities, should be a key consideration for the LDF.
DEFRA Waste Strategy for England (2007)	Aims are to reduce waste by making products with fewer natural resources; break the link between economic growth and waste growth; re-use products or recycle their materials; and recover energy from other wastes where possible. Notes that for a small amount of residual material, landfill will be necessary.	Sustainable waste management, including the provision of sites for localised recycling and reuse facilities, should be a key consideration for the LDF.
DTI Micro Generation Strategy (2006)	Acknowledges that local authorities can be pro-active in promoting small-scale, local renewable energy generation schemes through "sensible use of planning policies".	The Harborough LDF should help facilitate the provision of localised renewable energy facilities.

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Harbrough LDF in terms of sustainability issues*
<p>East Midlands Regional Assembly: East Midlands Regional Waste Strategy (2006)</p>	<p>Provides guidance to waste planning authorities, and waste collection/disposal authorities in the region for their land use and waste management planning, for the period to 2016 and beyond. The strategy sets out a number of priorities and actions to help achieve the following aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To work towards zero growth in waste at the Regional level by 2016 • To reduce the amount of waste landfilled in accordance with the EU • Landfill Directive • To exceed Government targets for recycling and composting • To take a flexible approach to other forms of waste recovery <p>These priorities relate to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning future waste management infrastructure • Education, behavioural change and promotion of best practice • Improving the efficiency of our resource use and reducing commercial and industrial wastes • Prevention and improving management of hazardous wastes • Prevention and improved management of Municipal Solid Wastes • Procurement and market development • Reduction and management of construction and demolition waste • Managing the impacts of Regional and sub-Regional growth • Addressing agricultural and rural waste management • Reducing Fly-Tipping 	<p>Sustainable waste management, including the provision of sites for localised recycling and reuse facilities, should be a key consideration for the LDF.</p>

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Harborough LDF in terms of sustainability issues*
<p>East Midlands Regional Assembly: The East Midlands Energy Challenge The Regional Energy Strategy: Part 1 and Part 2</p>	<p>See under "climate change"</p>	
<p>Leicestershire County Council: Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy</p>	<p>Leicestershire County Council, in partnership with the District Councils, have developed a strategy to manage Leicestershire's waste for the next 20 years. The priorities of the county-wide Waste Management Strategy are as follows:</p> <p>Policy 1: Reduce waste growth: Raise awareness of waste issues and the importance of waste reduction in order to slow the future growth in waste arisings.</p> <p>Policy 2: Meet the Statutory Recycling Targets: All partner authorities to strive to meet their individual performance targets in 2003/04 and 2005/06.</p> <p>Policy 3: Meet the Landfill Directive Targets of diverting waste from landfill By focusing initially on increasing recycling and composting whilst keeping under review alternative treatment technologies that will enable the longer term targets to be met.</p> <p>Policy 4: Deliver Best Value Ensure the delivery of services to a high standard consistent with the principles of best value whilst considering the best practicable environmental solution.</p> <p>Policy 5 Local Sustainability Local sustainability issues will be considered, including opportunities to enhance the local economy and employment and minimise environmental and traffic impacts.</p> <p>Policy 6: Education and Awareness Develop a waste management awareness campaign to support the provision of new services and investment in new facilities and to ensure public involvement at all stages.</p>	<p>Sustainable waste management, including the provision of sites for localised recycling and reuse facilities, should be a key consideration for the LDF.</p>

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Harbrough LDF in terms of sustainability issues*
Population and Equality		
EU Sustainable Development Strategy (2006)	This Strategy identifies key priorities for an enlarged Europe to focus on up to 2010. This includes health, social inclusion and fighting global poverty. It aims to achieve better policy integration in addressing these challenges, and to ensure that Europe looks beyond its boundaries in making informed decisions about sustainability.	The Harbrough LDF should support community cohesion through the provision of new educational, health, leisure and recreational facilities and by facilitating development which improves the public realm, promotes social inclusion and accessibility.
UN The Aarhus Convention (1998)	Links environmental rights and human rights. It establishes that sustainable development can be achieved only through the involvement of all stakeholders and links government accountability and environmental protection.	The Harbrough LDF has the potential to promote development which improves community cohesion, enhances environmental quality and facilitates stakeholder involvement.
Social Exclusion Unit: Preventing Social Exclusion (2001)	The primary aims are to prevent social exclusion, and reintegrate people who have become excluded. Improvement is required in the areas of truancy, rough sleeping, teenage pregnancy, youth at risk and deprived neighbourhoods.	The Harbrough LDF should support community cohesion through the provision of new educational, health, leisure and recreational facilities and by facilitating development which improves the public realm, promotes social inclusion and accessibility.
DCLG: Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Spatial Planning (2008)	PPS12 sets out the Government's policy on local spatial planning. Explaining what local spatial planning is, and how it benefits communities it also sets out what the key ingredients of local spatial plans are and the key government policies on how they should be prepared. It should be taken into account by local planning authorities in preparing development plan documents and other local development documents. <i>The document replaces Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Development Frameworks.</i>	A key aspect of PPS12 is the integration of Local Development Frameworks with Sustainable Community Strategies (SCSs). The LDF should therefore achieve a large degree of integration with the developing Harbrough SCS.
Cabinet Office: Reaching Out: An Action Plan on Social Exclusion (2006)	Sets out an action plan to improve the life chances of those who suffer, or may suffer in the future, from disadvantage. Guiding principles for action include: better identification and earlier intervention; systematically identifying 'what works'; promoting multi-agency working; personalisation, rights and responsibilities; and supporting achievement and managing underperformance.	The Harbrough LDF should support community cohesion through the provision of new educational, leisure and recreational facilities and by facilitating development which improves the public realm, promotes social inclusion and accessibility.
Chief Secretary to the Treasury: Every Child Matters - Change for Children - Green Paper (2003)	Aims to ensure that every child has the chance to fulfil their potential by reducing levels of education failure, ill health, substance misuse, crime and anti-social behaviour.	The provision of new educational, leisure and recreational facilities should be a key consideration for the LDF. The LDF should also support development which improves the public realm, reduces crime and the fear of crime and supports community cohesion.

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Harbrough LDF in terms of sustainability issues*
<p>Culture East Midlands: The Place of Choice: A Cultural Strategy for the East Midlands 2006-2011 (2006)</p>	<p>The Strategy aims to strengthen culture in the East Midlands through four key themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supporting cultural opportunities for people and communities • Fulfilling the potential of culture • Getting culture valued in regional policy and planning • Achieving sector sustainability <p>The strategy aims to support and encourage: Participation, volunteering, social enterprise and access; leadership, skills development, and the attraction and retention of talented people; the potential of culture to enhance economic development, sustainable communities, regeneration, and health and well being; greater investment in cultural infrastructure, in enhancing culture in rural provision, and to maximise the impact of the 2012 Olympics in the region; people and organisations to value culture; and partnerships and networks to build the sustainability of culture.</p>	<p>The Harbrough LDF should support cultural activities in the district through the appropriate provision of new and improved facilities, and improved accessibility to existing and new facilities.</p>
<p>Harbrough District Local Strategic Partnership: Harbrough District Sustainable Community Strategy 2nd Draft (June 2008)</p>	<p>Consultation draft of the district's developing Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS). Once completed it will set out the overarching vision for the district- It is a framework for key agencies such as the District Council, County Council, Police, health services and the voluntary and community sector to work within in order to promote the social, environmental and economic wellbeing of the people of Harbrough. It will set out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A long-term vision for the area focusing on the outcomes that are to be achieved; • An action plan identifying shorter-term priorities and activities that will contribute to the achievement of long-term outcomes; • A shared commitment to implement the action plan and proposals for doing so; • Arrangements for monitoring the implementation of the action plan, for periodically reviewing the community strategy, and for reporting progress to local communities. 	<p>The Harbrough SCS should be central to the development of the LDF: The LDF should achieve a large degree of integration with the SCS to address the requirements of the recently updated Planning Policy Statement12 (Local Spatial Planning)</p>

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Harbrough LDF in terms of sustainability issues*
Harbrough District Council: Harbrough Play Strategy 2007-2012 (2007)	<p>This document sets out the strategy to improve children and young people's play opportunities in the district.</p> <p>The overall vision of the Play Strategy is: "To support the children and young people of Harbrough District, and to improve and develop the opportunity for play. To enable a choice of where, when and how to play in a safe and secure environment"</p> <p>The objectives of the strategy are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise the profile of play • Ensure that all children and young people, regardless of their ability, have equal access and inclusive approach and opportunities for play • Ensure that decision makers plan and resource play to support the outcomes of the five year Play Strategy • Work in partnership to improve play provision • Commit to developing a wider child-friendly environment, which will increase children's opportunities for play whenever, and wherever they choose • Identify opportunities that contribute to the overall vision of a child-friendly District 	In addition to supporting the provision of play areas, the Harbrough LDF should support the provision of formal and informal open space and green infrastructure.
Water		
Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC	This provides an overarching strategy, including a requirement for EU Member States to ensure that they achieve 'good ecological status' by 2015. River Basin Management Plans were defined as the key means of achieving this.	The Harbrough LDF should seek to ensure that water quality in the district is not negatively affected by planned developments, particularly regarding surface run-off during and after construction which could lead to a deterioration in quality of rivers and canals.
DTI Building a Better Quality of Life: A Strategy for More Sustainable Construction (2000, currently under review)	Encourages construction industry to adopt a more sustainable approach towards development; identifies ten Themes for Action, which include conserving water resources.	The Harbrough LDF should support water efficiency, the use of sustainable urban drainage systems and appropriate layout to support water quality and quantity.

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Harborough LDF in terms of sustainability issues*
ODPM PPS23: Planning and Pollution Control (2004)	<p>Planning should aim to reduce the impacts of pollution through new and redevelopment and realise opportunities for new development to remediate areas of contaminated land. Potential effects of new development on environmental quality through pollution should be viewed as a “material consideration.”</p> <p>For new development and redevelopment, the precautionary principle should be invoked where uncertainties occur.</p> <p>Local Development Documents should set out the criteria against which applications for potentially polluting developments will be considered.</p>	<p>The LDF should treat potential pollution from new development as a material consideration, help realise opportunities for the remediation of contaminated land and promote the precautionary principle where uncertainties occur.</p> <p>Local Development Documents should set out the criteria against which applications for potentially polluting developments will be considered in accordance with Appendix 1 of PPS23.</p>
ODPM PPS25: Development and Flood Risk (2006)	Explains how flood risk should be considered at all stages of the plan and development process in order to reduce future damage to property and loss of life.	The Harborough LDF should avoid development in existing or potential (due to climate change) flood risk areas. The LDF should also promote development which reduces the risk of flooding from surface run off.
DEFRA The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations (2003)	Requires all inland and coastal waters to reach “good status” by 2015. This is being done by establishing a river basin district structure within which demanding environmental objectives are being set, including ecological targets for surface waters.	The Harborough LDF should support development which reduces the frequency and severity of pollution events, limits the risk of flooding, improves water quality and facilitates water conservation and reuse.
Environment Agency: Water Resources for the Future: A Strategy for England and Wales (2001, reviewed 2005)	Looks at the steps needed to manage water resources to the 2020s and beyond, with the overall aim of improving the environment while allowing enough water for human uses.	The Harborough LDF should support development which limits the risk of flooding, improves water quality and facilitates water conservation and reuse.
Environment Agency: Building a Better Environment: A Guide for Developers (2006)	Guidance on addressing key environmental issues through the development process (focusing mainly on the issues dealt with by the Agency), including managing flood risk, surface water management, use of water resources, preventing pollution.	The Harborough LDF should support development which reduces the frequency and severity of pollution events, limits the risk of flooding, improves water quality and facilitates water conservation and reuse.
POS, LGA: Planning Policies for Sustainable Building: Guidance for Local Development Frameworks (2006)	Recommends ways of integrating benchmarks for sustainable building into Local Development Frameworks. Includes a definition of sustainable building, covering design and construction practice, and water conservation techniques. These include water efficiency measures such as dual flush WCs, rainwater collection and greywater recycling, and a maximum standard for water use in hotels and offices.	The Harborough LDF should support water efficiency, the use of sustainable urban drainage systems and appropriate layout to support water quality and quantity.

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Harbrough LDF in terms of sustainability issues*
<p>Environment Agency: A Water Resources Strategy for the East Midlands (2001)</p>	<p>The strategy sets out a 25 year framework for water management in the region. Focussing on water quantity, it concludes that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water is becoming a scarce resource and should not be taken for granted • Future developments in the East Midlands should recognise the limited availability of water as an influence on their location and timing, and should incorporate water efficiency measures and sustainable drainage systems at the feasibility or planning stage • Water abstraction cut-backs are necessary in some areas to improve the environment • A 'twin-track' approach to meeting future demands should be followed, combining further water resource developments and improvements with sensible management of our demands through efficient use • The River Trent has the potential to provide a sustainable source for public water supplies in the East Midlands • Water companies should maintain the good progress made in recent years to reduce mains leakage, and further attention to leakage control may also be necessary over the next 25 years, household water metering will become more widespread, providing a greater incentive for sensible use of water in the home, with appropriate tariffs to protect vulnerable households • Industry should strive to use water efficiently and realise the economic and environmental benefits • Farmers should strive to use water efficiently and consider opportunities to work with others to develop new sources of water and consider the development of winter storage to ensure reliable supplies • Climate change studies suggest summers could become drier and winters wetter. Water resource options that are flexible to the possible impacts of climate change are preferred • Mineral and aggregate companies should take steps to minimise the impact of their extraction operations on the local water environment. 	<p>The Harbrough LDF should support development which promotes water conservation and reuse and improves water quality.</p>

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP	How it affects, or is affected by the Harborough LDF in terms of sustainability issues*
Environment Agency: Water Resources for the Future: A summary strategy for the Midlands (2001)	Considers the present and future needs of both society and the environment and the potential effects of climate change and changing social values.	The Harborough LDF should support water efficiency, the use of sustainable urban drainage systems and appropriate layout to support water quality and quantity.
Environment Agency: Strategic Flood Risk Assessments	A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment has not yet been completed for Harborough.	The Harborough LDF should have due regard to the outcome of the SFRA for the district when it becomes available. This will be a vital document to help the district adapt to increases in flood risk brought about by the effects of climate change.

* This includes the environmental issues as set out in the SEA Directive - biodiversity, flora, fauna, population, human health, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage (including architectural and archaeological heritage) and landscape - as well as socio-economic issues such as deprivation, economic factors and housing.

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Appendix E: SA Framework Template

	SA Topic (SEA in brackets)	SA Objective	Decision making criteria: Will the option/proposal... (e.g)	
1	Biodiversity (Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna)	Protect, enhance and manage biodiversity and geodiversity.	Q1a	Will it lead to habitat creation, matching BAP priorities?
2	Historic environment and landscape (Cultural heritage and Landscape)	Protect, enhance and manage the character and appearance of the landscape, maintaining and strengthening distinctiveness and its special qualities.	Q2a	Will it safeguard and enhance the character of the landscape and local distinctiveness and identity?
3	Heritage (Cultural Heritage and Landscape)	Protect, enhance and manage sites, features and areas of archaeological, historical and cultural heritage importance.	Q3a	Will it preserve buildings of architectural or historic interest and, where necessary, encourage their conservation and renewal?
4	Health (Human Health and Population)	Safeguard and improve community health, safety and well being.	Q4a	Will it improve access to services and facilities from rural areas?
5	Transportation and accessibility (Material Assets)	Improve accessibility in the district, particularly from rural areas.	Q5a	Will it reduce the need to travel?
6	Waste (Material Assets)	Reduce waste and maximise opportunities for innovative environmental technologies in waste management.	Q6a	Will it provide an increased variety and capacity of recycling facilities?
7	Climate change adaptation (Climatic Factors)	Plan for the anticipated levels of climate change.	Q7a	Will it increase the risk of flooding?
8	Climate change mitigation (Climatic Factors)	Minimise Harborough's contribution to climate change.	Q8a	Will it help reduce Harborough's carbon footprint?

	SA Topic (SEA in brackets)	SA Objective	Decision making criteria: Will the option/proposal... (e.g)	
9	Housing (Material Assets and Population)	Provide affordable, environmentally sound and good quality housing for all.	Q9a	Will it ensure all groups have access to decent, appropriate and affordable housing?
10	Economic development (Population)	Encourage investment in order to grow the local economy.	Q10a	Will it ensure that new employment, office, retail and leisure developments are in locations that are accessible to those who will use them by a choice of transport modes?
11	Use of resources (Material assets, Soil, Water)	Use and manage land, energy, soil, mineral and water resources prudently and efficiently, and increase energy generated from renewables.	Q11a	Will it exacerbate water abstraction levels?
12	Environmental Quality (Air, Soil, Water and Human Health)	Maintain, and where necessary, improve, the overall quality of the natural and built environment.	Q12a	Will it lead to improved water quality?

UE Associates

2 Compton Road, Brighton, BN1 5AN

T: 01273 543 905 E: enquiries@ue-a.co.uk

W: <http://www.ue-a.co.uk>

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