

Strategic Environmental Assessment for the Plaistow and Ifold Parish - Neighbourhood Plan

Scoping Report

Plaistow and Ifold Parish - Neighbourhood Plan Steering
Group

May 2017

Quality information

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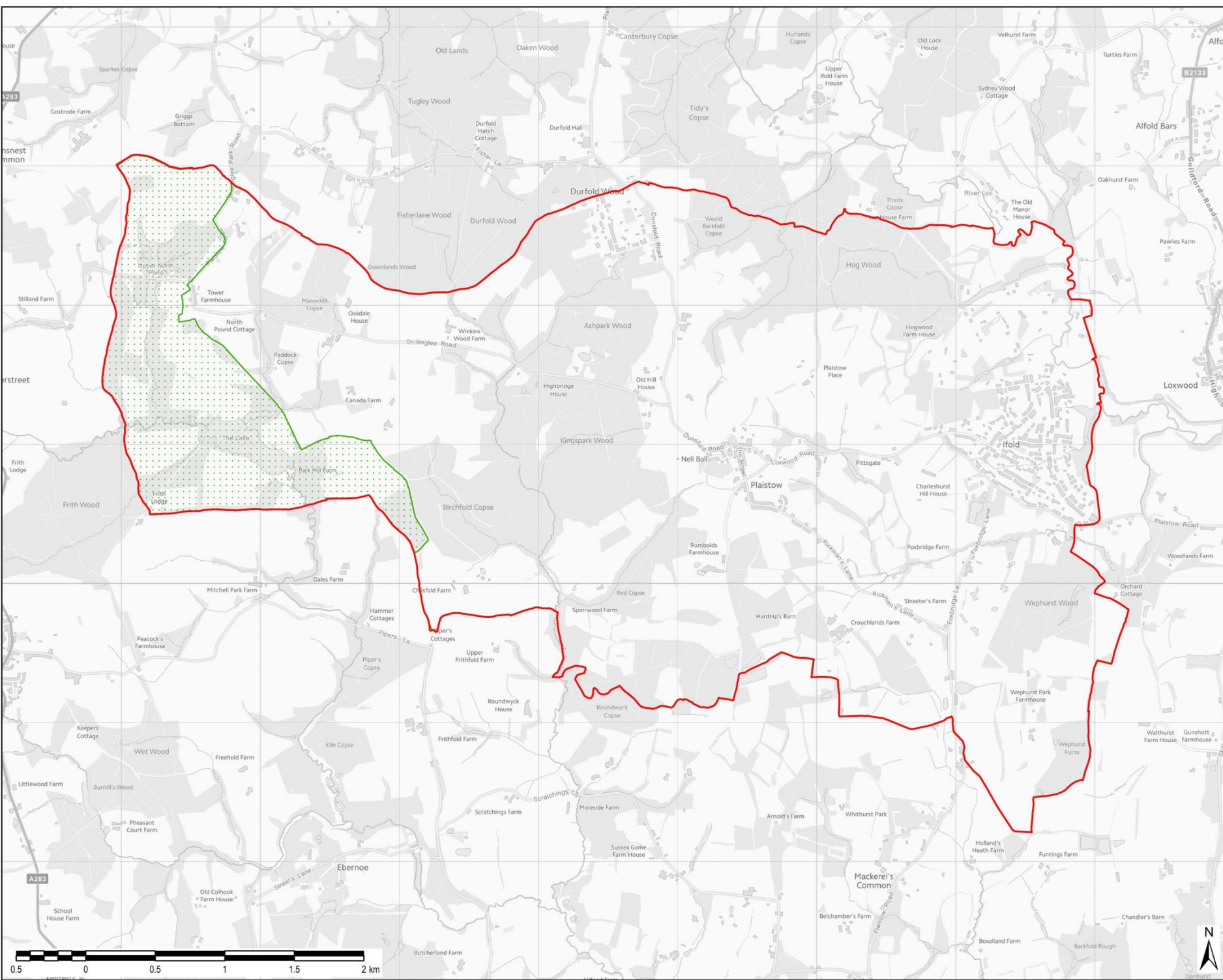
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File Name: I:\004 - Information Systems\6538603_Neighbourhood_Plan_LoB_Year02_Maps\Plaistow and Ifold Parish NE Steering Group\Figure 1.1 - Plaistow and Ifold Neighbourhood Plan Area.mxd



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LEGEND

- Plaistow and Ifold Parish Neighbourhood Plan Area
- Area of the Parish Covered by South Downs National Park

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Purpose of Issue **DRAFT**

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PLAISTOW AND IFOLD PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP

Project Title
PLAISTOW AND IFOLD PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Drawing Title
PLAISTOW AND IFOLD PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN AREA

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1. Introduction

1.1 Background

AECOM has been commissioned to undertake an independent Strategic Environmental Assessment in support of the emerging Plaistow and Ifold Parish - Neighbourhood Plan.

The Plaistow and Ifold Parish - Neighbourhood Plan (PIPNP) is currently being prepared as a Neighbourhood Development Plan under the Localism Act 2011 and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The PIPNP is being prepared in the context of Chichester District Council's Local Plan and the emerging South Downs National Park Local Plan.

It is currently anticipated that the PIPNP will be submitted to Chichester District Council and the South Downs National Park Authority in 2017.

Key information relating to the PIPNP is presented in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1: Key facts relating to Plaistow and Ifold Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Name of Responsible Authority	Plaistow and Ifold Parish Council
Title of Plan	Plaistow and Ifold Parish - Neighbourhood Plan
Subject	Neighbourhood Planning
Purpose	<p>The Plaistow and Ifold Parish - Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared as a Neighbourhood Development Plan under the Localism Act 2011 and Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012. The plan will be in general conformity with Chichester District Council's Local Plan 2014-2029 and the South Downs National Park Authority's emerging Local Plan.</p> <p>The emerging Plaistow and Ifold Parish - Neighbourhood Plan will be used to guide and shape development within the Plaistow and Ifold Parish Neighbourhood Plan area.</p>
Timescale	To 2029
Area covered by the plan	The Neighbourhood Plan area covers the parish of Plaistow and Ifold in Chichester District in West Sussex. The western part of the Neighbourhood Plan area is covered by the South Downs National Park. (Figure 1.1)
Summary of content	The Plaistow and Ifold Parish - Neighbourhood Plan will set out a vision, strategy and range of policies for the Neighbourhood Plan area.
Plan contact point	<p>Beverley Weddell, Parish Clerk</p> <p>Plaistow and Ifold Parish - Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group</p> <p>Email address: clerk@plaistowandifold.org.uk</p>

1.2 Relationship of the Neighbourhood Plan with the Adopted Chichester Local Plan and the South Downs Local Plan

The Plaistow and Ifold Parish Neighbourhood Plan is being prepared in the context of the Adopted Chichester Local Plan (2014-2029) and the emerging South Downs Local Plan.

Adopted Chichester Local Plan (2014-2029)

The Chichester Local Plan was adopted in 2015 and provides a broad policy framework and a long term strategy to manage development, protect the environment, deliver infrastructure and promote sustainable communities within Chichester District, excluding the area of the district which lies within the South Downs National park.

Plaistow/Ifold together is designated as a Service Village in the Local Plan. Outside of Chichester city and the 'Settlement Hubs' of East Wittering/Bracklesham, Selsey, Southbourne and Tangmere, the Service Villages will be the focus for new development and facilities in the district. In this context the Local Plan sets out that the following will be appropriate in the Service Villages:

- Small scale housing developments;
- Local community facilities, including village shops, that meet identified needs within the village, neighbouring villages and surrounding smaller communities, and will help make the settlement more self-sufficient; and
- Small scale employment, tourism or leisure proposals.

In terms of housing numbers, Policy 5 of the Local Plan suggests that ten dwellings should be delivered in Plaistow & Ifold Parish in the period 2014 to 2029. It also highlights that suitable sites should be identified through the Neighbourhood Plan.

South Downs Local Plan

The South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) was established on 1 April 2011 and is the statutory Local Planning Authority (LPA) for the National Park area. National Park Authorities are independent authorities operating within the local government framework. They have two statutory purposes:

Purpose 1: To conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area; and

Purpose 2: To promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of National Parks by the public.

If there is a conflict between the two, conservation takes precedence.¹

In addition, SDNPA has a **duty** under Section 62 of the Environment Act 1995 to work in partnership with other organisations to foster the socio-economic well-being of local communities within the National Park, in support of the above purposes. Section 62 also requires all relevant authorities, including statutory undertakers and other public bodies, to have regard to these Purposes. Where there is an irreconcilable conflict between the statutory Purposes, the Sandford² Principle is statutorily required to be applied and the first Purpose of the National Park will be given priority.

The South Downs Local Plan is currently being prepared by the South Downs National Park Authority and the Pre-Submission version of the Local Plan will be released in September 2017. The latest version of the South Downs Local Plan does not include allocations or housing numbers for the part of the Neighbourhood Plan area within the National Park.

¹ Defra (2010) English National Parks and the Broads UK Government Vision and Circular 2010

² The Sandford Principle – a statement first made by Lord Sandford in his committees report on possible changes to the management and legislation governing National Parks and now in the Environment Act 1995 which states that: 'if it appears that there is a conflict between those two Purposes, any relevant Authority shall attach greater weight to the first [Purpose]'.

Overall, the Neighbourhood Plan is required to be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plans and can develop policies and proposals to address local place-based issues. In this way it is intended for the two Local Plans covering the Neighbourhood plan area to provide a clear overall strategic direction for development in the parish, whilst enabling finer detail to be determined through the neighbourhood planning process where appropriate.

1.3 Vision for the Plaistow and Ifold Parish Neighbourhood Plan

The vision for the Plaistow and Ifold Parish Neighbourhood Plan is as follows;

'We care about where we live. We want to protect our sense of community, the safety and rural tranquillity that we value. It's why we live here and why we choose to raise our families here, amongst generations of friends and familiar faces.'

'Our four unique settlements will grow naturally; sympathetically blending new with old; respecting the character, natural boundaries and vistas of this special part of West Sussex; protecting our environment and quality of life for those living and working here today and for the generations to come.'

1.4 SEA explained

The PIPNP has been screened in by Chichester District Council and the South Downs National Park Authority as requiring a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). SEA is a mechanism for considering and communicating the potential impacts of an emerging plan, and potential alternatives in terms of key environmental issues. The aim of SEA is to inform and influence the plan-making process with a view to avoiding and mitigating potential negative impacts. Through this approach, the SEA for the PIPNP seeks to maximise the emerging plan's contribution to sustainable development.

SEA is undertaken to meet specific requirements prescribed by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the SEA Regulations).

Two key procedural requirements of the SEA Regulations are that:

1. When deciding on 'the scope and level of detail of the information' which must be included in the Environmental Report there is a consultation with nationally designated authorities concerned with environmental issues; and
2. A report (the 'Environmental Report') is published for consultation alongside the Draft Plan (i.e. the draft Plaistow and Ifold Parish Neighbourhood Plan) that presents outcomes from the environmental assessment (i.e. discusses 'likely significant effects' that would result from plan implementation) and reasonable alternatives.

This scoping report

This 'Scoping Report' is concerned with item 1 above. It presents a suggested scope for the SEA so that the designated authorities (Historic England, Natural England and the Environment Agency, as well as Chichester District Council and the South Downs National Park Authority) can provide timely comment.

1.5 SEA 'scoping' explained

Developing the draft scope for the SEA as presented in this report has involved the following steps:

1. Defining the broader context for the PIPNP and associated SEA (i.e. EU, UK Government and local policy and commitments), to summarise the regulatory and legislative landscape;
2. Establishing the baseline for the SEA, (i.e. the current and future situation in the area in the absence of the PIPNP, in order to help identify the plan's likely significant effects;
3. Identifying particular problems or opportunities ('issues') that should be a particular focus of the SEA; and
4. Developing a SEA Framework comprising objectives and appraisal questions on the basis of these issues which can then be used to appraise the draft plan.

1.6 Structure of this report

Key sustainability issues

The outcomes of the scoping elements introduced through steps 1–4 above have been presented under a series of key environmental themes, as follows:

- Air Quality
- Biodiversity
- Climatic Factors (including flood risk)
- Landscape and Historic Environment
- Land, Soil and Water Resources
- Population and Community
- Health and Wellbeing
- Transportation

The selected environmental themes incorporate the 'SEA topics' suggested by Annex I(f) of the SEA Directive³. These were refined to reflect a broad understanding of the anticipated scope of plan effects.

It is intended that presenting the scoping information under these themes will help enable the reader to easily locate the information of greatest interest to them. Once agreed (i.e. subsequent to consultation on this Scoping Report), the suggested scope presented under eight themes will provide a methodological 'framework' for the environmental assessment of the draft plan and reasonable alternatives. The discussion of the scoping information each theme is presented in Sections 2 to 9.

SEA Framework to assess policy proposals

The SEA Framework provides a way in which environmental effects can be defined and subsequently analysed based on standard 'tests'. Each proposal within the emerging PIPNP will be assessed consistently using the framework.

The SEA objectives and appraisal questions proposed for the PIPNP SEA are presented under each of the themes in Sections 2 to 9.

³ The SEA Directive is 'of a procedural nature' (para 9 of the Directive preamble) and does not set out to prescribe particular issues that should and should not be a focus, beyond requiring a focus on 'the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors' [our emphasis]

2. Air Quality

Focus of Theme:

- Air pollution sources
- Air quality hotspots
- Air quality management

2.1 Headline Sustainability Issues

- Air quality in the PIPNP is good, with no significant issues identified.
- There are no Air Quality Management Areas within the Neighbourhood Plan area.
- The biogas plant located at Crouchland Farm, Rickmans Lane, Plaistow is likely to have some contribution to air pollutants in the Neighbourhood Plan area.
- Housing and employment growth may impact on traffic and congestion in the PIPNP area, which has the potential to increase emissions and reduce air quality.

As no significant or tangible air quality issues have been identified in the Neighbourhood Plan area, **air quality has been scoped out for the purposes of the SEA process.**

2.2 Policy Context

Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) include:

- 'Planning policies should sustain compliance with and contribute towards EU limit values or national objectives for pollutants, taking into account the presence of Air Quality Management Areas and the cumulative impacts on air quality from individual sites in local areas. Planning decisions should ensure that any new development in Air Quality Management Areas is consistent with the local air quality action plan'.
- New and existing developments should be prevented from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of air pollution.

In terms of the local context, Chichester District Council is required to monitor air quality across the county under Section 82 of the Environment Act (1995), report regularly to Defra and take action where nationally set levels are likely to be exceeded. Monitoring is undertaken to assess levels of nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), sulphur dioxide, ozone, benzene and particulates. Where exceedances exist, areas are declared as Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs) and local authorities are required to produce an Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP) to improve air quality in the area. As such the Chichester District AQAP; Towards Better Air Quality, An Air Quality Action Plan for Chichester District 2015-2020⁴ was created for the three AQMAs within Chichester District. All three of the AQMAs were designated for exceeding annual mean Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂). The AQAP sets out actions to positively impact the local air quality, including measuring, model and reporting on air quality, to encourage low emission technology and encourage and foster behavioural change/modal shift.

2.3 Baseline Summary

2.3.1 Summary of Current Baseline

No AQMAs are located within the PIPNP area, and only three have been designated within Chichester District, as follows:

- Stockbridge roundabout at the junction with the A27 and A286;

⁴ Chichester District Council Air quality review and assessment – Air Quality Action Plan for Chichester District 2015-2020

- Orchard Street, Chichester; and
- St Pancras, Chichester.

These three areas are all located within Chichester city centre, and are c.25 – 30km from the PIPNP. These are all designated due to exceedances in annual NO₂, which is attributable to road traffic and congestion in the area. The 2016 Chichester District Council Air Quality Annual Status Report states that air quality with regard to NO₂ in Chichester District is improving or staying the same in all monitored locations, which meant it was not necessary to declare any further AQMAs, however the status of the pre-existing AQMAs could not be updated as levels were still above the air quality objective.

In terms of key installations present locally with the potential to affect air quality, the biogas plant located at Crouchland Farm, Rickmans Lane, Plaistow is likely to have some contribution to air pollutants in the Neighbourhood Plan area, both from the installation itself and traffic movements.

Overall however, air quality within the Neighbourhood Plan area itself is generally very good.

2.3.2 Summary of Future Baseline

Whilst no significant air quality issues currently exist within the PIPNP area, new employment and or housing provision within the Neighbourhood Plan has the potential for adverse effects on air quality through increasing traffic flows and associated levels of pollutants such as NO₂.

Areas of particular sensitivity to increased traffic flows are likely to be the village centres and the routes with largest congestion issues. However these effects may be offset in part by factors such as measures implemented through the Chichester District Council Local Plan and the West Sussex Local Transport Plan, which may alter traffic flows and encourage public transport use.

It should be noted though that the existing baseline for air pollutants is very low in Plaistow and Ifold Parish, and significant air quality issues are unlikely to arise with moderate increases in traffic flows.

3. Biodiversity

Focus of Theme:

- Nature conservation designations
- Habitats
- Species
- Geodiversity

3.1 Headline Sustainability Issues

- Two SSSIs are located within or partially within the PIPNP area.
- The majority of the Neighbourhood Plan area lies within an IRZ for one or more SSSI, with areas around Plaistow and Ifold villages lying within an IRZ for 'Residential development of 100 units or more'. This denotes that development sites of over 100 houses or more in size may have the potential to have impacts on SSSIs present locally.
- Biodiversity Action Plan Habitats are present throughout the Neighbourhood Plan area, supporting a range of species.

3.2 Policy Context

At the European level, the EU Biodiversity Strategy⁵ was adopted in May 2011 in order to deliver an established new Europe-wide target to '*halt the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystem services in the EU by 2020*'.

Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) include:

- Contribute to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity by minimising impacts and achieving net gains in biodiversity wherever possible.
- Promote the 'preservation, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats, ecological networks' and the 'protection and recovery of priority species'. Plan for biodiversity at a landscape-scale across local authority boundaries.
- Set criteria based policies for the protection of internationally, nationally and locally designated sites, giving weight to their importance not just individually but as a part of a wider ecological network.
- Take account of the effects of climate change in the long term. Adopt proactive strategies to adaptation and manage risks through adaptation measures including green infrastructure (i.e. 'a network of multi-functional green space, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities').
- Plan positively for 'green infrastructure' as part of planning for 'ecological networks'.
- High quality open spaces should be protected or their loss mitigated, unless a lack of need is established.

The Natural Environment White Paper (NEWP)⁶ sets out the importance of a healthy, functioning natural environment to sustained economic growth, prospering communities and personal well-being. It was in part a response to the UK's failure to halt and reverse the decline in biodiversity by 2010 and it signalled a move away from the traditional approach of protecting biodiversity in nature reserves to

⁵ European Commission (2011) Our life insurance, our natural capital: an EU biodiversity strategy to 2020 [online] available at: <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/nature/biodiversity/comm2006/pdf/EP_resolution_april2012.pdf> last accessed [15/05/17]

⁶ Defra (2012) The Natural Choice: securing the value of nature (Natural Environment White Paper) [online] available at: <<http://www.official-documents.gov.uk/document/cm80/8082/8082.pdf>> last accessed [15/05/17]

adopting a landscape approach to protecting and enhancing biodiversity. The NEWP also aims to create a green economy in which economic growth and the health of our natural resources sustain each other and markets, business and Government better reflect the value of nature. It includes commitments to:

- Halt biodiversity loss, support functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks by 2020;
- Establish a new voluntary approach to biodiversity offsetting to be tested in pilot areas;
- Enable partnerships of local authorities, local communities and landowners, the private sector and conservation organisations to establish new Nature Improvement Areas; and
- Address barriers to using green infrastructure to promote sustainable growth.

Reflecting the commitments within the Natural Environment White Paper and the EU Biodiversity Strategy, 'Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services' aims to '*halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people*'⁷.

Policy 49: Biodiversity of the Adopted Chichester Local Plan states that planning permission will be granted for development where it can be demonstrated that all the following criteria have been met:

1. The biodiversity value of the site is safeguarded;
2. Demonstrate harm to habitats or species which are protected or which are of importance to biodiversity is avoided or mitigated;
3. The proposal has incorporated features that enhance biodiversity as part of good design and sustainable development;
4. The proposal protects, manages and enhances the District's network of ecology, biodiversity and geological sites, including the international, national and local designated sites (statutory and non-statutory), priority habitats, wildlife corridors and stepping stones that connect them;
5. Any individual or cumulative adverse impacts on sites are avoided; and
6. The benefits of development outweigh any adverse impact on the biodiversity on the site. Exceptions will only be made where no reasonable alternatives are available; and planning conditions and/or planning obligations may be imposed to mitigate or compensate for the harmful effects of the development.

This policy has a close focus on preventing disturbance of birds in Special Protection Areas.

3.3 Baseline Summary

3.3.1 Summary of Current Baseline

European Designated Sites (Ramsar Sites/SPA/SAC)

The Ebernoe Common Special Area of Conservation (SAC) lies less than 1km south of the Neighbourhood Plan area and about 3km south west of Plaistow village. The SAC is 235ha, which consists entirely of woodland, the majority of which is broadleaved deciduous. The area was designated primarily for the presence of Annex I habitat; '*9120 Atlantic acidophilous beech forests with Ilex and sometimes also Taxus in the shrublayer (Quercion robori-petraeae or Ilici-Fagenion)*'. There are also two Annex II species which were a primary reason for the selection of the site; these are *1308 Barbastelle* and *1323 Bechstein's bat*.

⁷ DEFRA (2011): 'Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services', [online] Available to download from: <<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/biodiversity-2020-a-strategy-for-england-s-wildlife-and-ecosystem-services>> last accessed [03/04/17]

Additionally, the Neighbourhood Plan area contains nationally designated sites and a variety of BAP Priority habitats and species, as discussed below.

Nationally Designated Sites (SSSIs/NNRs)

Shillinglee Lake SSSI

Shillinglee Lake SSSI is located within the north western corner of the Neighbourhood Plan area, within the South Downs National Park boundary. The SSSI is 17ha and was designated in 1985 under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. The area is characterised by The Lake which covers the majority of the SSSI. The SSSI was notified for the important flora which the lake supports, four species of which are nationally uncommon. The citation states⁸:

'Stands of marginal fen vegetation fringe the lake and include reed canary grass Phalaris arundinacea, reed-mace Typha latifolia, bulrush Schoenoplectus lacustris, branched bur-reed Sparganium erectum, water mint Mentha aquatica and marsh woundwort Stachys palustris. This marginal fen grades into variable woodland in which pedunculate oak Quercus robur, ash Fraxinus excelsior, hazel Corylus avellana, downy birch Betula pubescens, alder Alnus glutinosa and white willow Salix alba are all present. The ground flora of these woods varies from one with the typical fen plants noted above to a drier type in which bramble Rubus fruticosus and bracken Pteridium aquilinum are dominant.

Four nationally rare plants occur in the lake making the site nationally significant for its flora. The rarest of the four is the cut grass Leersia oryzoides which is confined to ten UK sites – two of them in West Sussex. The mudwort Limosella aquatica has its only Sussex location here whilst needle spike rush Eleocharis acicularis and 6 stamened water-wort Elatine hexandra also occur. The latter three plants are found on muds exposed during periods of drought or on other occasions when the water level of the lake is low.'

The latest condition assessment of Shillinglee Lake SSSI was undertaken in 2012, with all of the area classified as unfavourable – recovering.

Chiddingfold Forest SSSI

Chiddingfold Forest covers an area of 543.9ha, in the majority covering an area north of the PIPNP, some of which lies within the Surrey Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The SSSI was notified in 1991 under Section 28 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. The site lies within the Low Weald Natural Area. The Chiddingfold SSSI consists of a number of areas of woodland which together form a large continuous network. It consists of a mixture of woodland types ranging from ancient oak woodland to coniferous plantation, including many semi-natural types of woodland. The woodland habitats support habitats for a rich variety of insects and invertebrates, as well as breeding birds. The citation for Chiddingfold Forest SSSI states⁹:

'The forest lies mainly on the Weald Clay which gives rise to neutral to slightly acidic soils, but there are parts, particularly in the gills, which are more basic (lime rich) with local outcrops of Paludina Limestone. Some of the higher parts are more acidic; these tend to have more silty or sandy soils, and heathland species occur on rides in these areas. The site is linked to other woodland areas and forms part of a much larger, but discontinuous, area of forest.

The importance of the site principally rests on the variety of woodland types present which provide a complex mosaic of habitats. The oldest semi-natural broadleaf areas are dominated by sessile oak Quercus petraea and hornbeam Carpinus betulus, with hazel Corylus avellana forming the bulk of the shrub layer with occasional holly Ilex aquifolium, and hawthorn Crataegus monogyna. Silver birch Betula pendula is found in dryer areas. The herb layer is composed of such species as bluebell Hyacinthoides non-scriptus, enchanter's nightshade Circaea lutetiana and honeysuckle Lonicera periclymenum.'

⁸ Natural England (no date): Shillinglee Lake SSSI [online] available to access via:
<<https://necmsi.esdm.co.uk/PDFsForWeb/Citation/1000734.pdf>> last accessed [05/05/17]

⁹ Natural England (no date): Chiddingfold Forest SSSI [online] available to access via:
<<https://necmsi.esdm.co.uk/PDFsForWeb/Citation/1005561.pdf>> last accessed [05/05/17]

The SSSI is split into 21 units, four of which lie within the PIPNP, a condition assessment was last undertaken for these sites in 2009 the results were as follows;

- Unit 01: broadleaved, mixed and yew woodland – lowland. This site is 98.7ha, and was classified as unfavourable – recovering.
- Unit 02: broadleaved, mixed and yew woodland – lowland. This site is 19.5ha, and was classified as unfavourable – recovering.
- Unit 03: broadleaved, mixed and yew woodland – lowland. This site is 12.9ha, and was classified as unfavourable – recovering.
- Unit 13: broadleaved, mixed and yew woodland – lowland. This site is 17.9ha, and was classified as unfavourable – recovering.

Overall five of the 21 units across the SSSI were favourable, with the rest classified as unfavourable – recovering.

SSSI Impact Risk Zones (IRZ) are a GIS tool/dataset which maps zones around each SSSI according to the particular sensitivities of the features for which it is notified. They specify the types of development that have the potential to have adverse impacts at a given location. Natural England is a statutory consultee on development proposals that might impact on SSSIs.

The majority of the Neighbourhood Plan area lies within an IRZ for one or more SSSI, with areas around Plaistow village and the settlement of Ifold, lying within an IRZ for 'Residential development of 100 units or more'.

Biodiversity Action Plan habitats

The Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) habitats¹⁰ located within the Neighbourhood Plan include:

- Good Quality Semi – Improved Grassland (non-priority) – Sparwood Farm
- Lowland Fen – Small areas surrounding The Lake within the South Downs National Park.
- Ancient and semi-natural woodland – A variety of areas at locations such as:
 - Wephurst
 - Roundwych Copse
 - Sparwood Hangar
 - Limekiln Wood
 - Hardnips Copse
 - Hog Copse
 - Barn Wood
 - East of Ifold next to the River Lox
 - Little Headfoldswood Copse
 - Copse Corner, Ifold
 - Ancient Woodland found in the centre of Ifold to the rear of houses in The Ride, Chalk Road and The Close.
- Ancient replanted woodland – at a variety of locations such as:
 - Ashpark Wood
 - Kingspark Wood

¹⁰ MAGIC (2017): 'Interactive Mapping Tool' [online] available to access via: <<http://www.magic.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx>> last accessed [05/05/17]

- Birchfield Copse
- Hog Wood
- Manorhill Copse
- Wephurst Wood
- Deciduous woodland – Covers large areas of the PIPNP area, including Kingspark Wood
- Traditional Orchards – found in three areas:
 - Lanelands at the south of the PIPNP area;
 - A small area in the centre of Plaistow; and
 - A small area further north of Plaistow, east of Ashpark Wood.
- Woodpasture and Parkland – a large area to the north–west of the parish, with almost the same boundary as the National Park.

Figure 3.1 shows the designated biodiversity sites located within the Neighbourhood Plan area.

3.3.2 Summary of Future Baseline

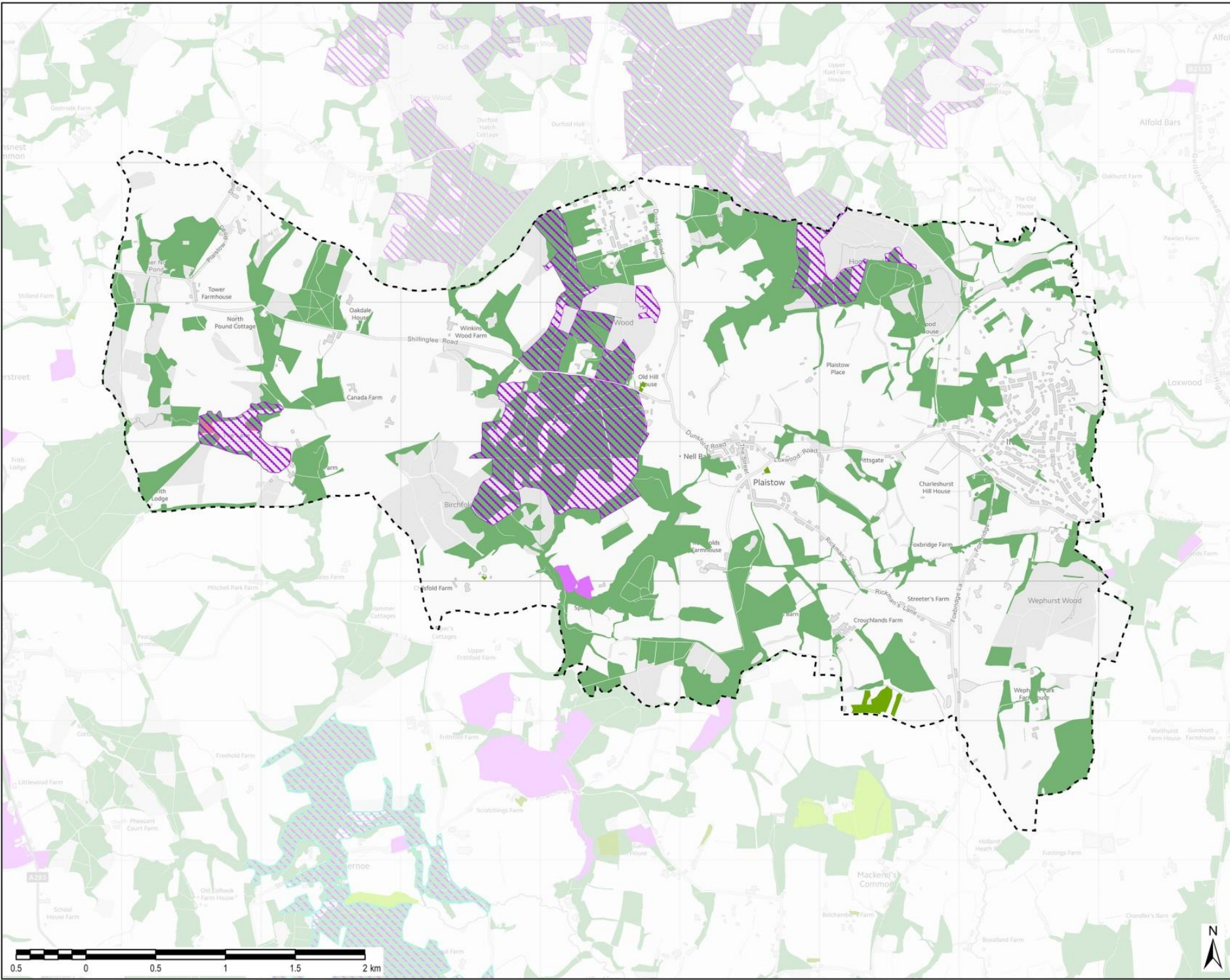
Habitats and species have the potential to come under increasing pressures from housing and infrastructure development in the Neighbourhood Plan area, including nationally and locally designated sites. This includes a loss of habitats and impacts on biodiversity networks. This may be exacerbated by the effects of climate change, which has the potential to lead to changes in the distribution and abundance of species and changes to the composition and character of habitats.

Benefits for biodiversity have the potential to arise from the increasing integration of biodiversity considerations within decision making, including sub-regional green infrastructure work being undertaken by Natural England, Chichester District Council, West Sussex County Council, the South Downs National Park Authority and other organisations.

3.4 What are the SEA objectives and appraisal questions for the Biodiversity SEA theme?

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Protect and enhance all biodiversity and geological features.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the status of the nationally designated sites within and/or in the vicinity of the Neighbourhood Plan area boundary, including: The Shillinglee Lake SSSI and the Chiddingfold Forest SSSI? • Support the status of the locally designated sites of significance within and/or adjacent to the Neighbourhood Plan area boundary? • Protect and enhance semi-natural habitats? • Protect and enhance priority habitats, and the habitat of priority species? • Achieve a net gain in biodiversity? • Support enhancements to multifunctional green infrastructure networks? • Support access to, interpretation and understanding of biodiversity and geodiversity?

File Name: I:\004 - Information Systems\60538603_Neighbourhood_Plan_L04_V0402_Maps\Plaisow and Ifold Parish NP Steering Group\Figures 3-1 - Biodiversity Designations and Habitats.mxd



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LEGEND

- Plaisow and Ifold Parish Neighbourhood Plan Area
- Special Area of Conservation (SAC)
- Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

Biodiversity Action Plan Priority Habitats

- Deciduous Woodland
- Good Quality Semi-improved Grassland
- Lowland Fens
- Lowland Meadows
- Traditional Orchard

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Purpose of Issue **DRAFT**

Client
PLAISOW AND IFOLD PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP

Project Title
PLAISOW AND IFOLD PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Drawing Title
BIODIVERSITY DESIGNATIONS AND HABITATS

Drawn CN	Checked JW	Approved NCB	Date 15/05/2017
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4. Climate Change

Focus of Theme:

- Contribution to climate change
- Effects of climate change
- Climate change adaptation
- Flood risk

4.1 Headline Sustainability Issues

- An increase in the built footprint of the Neighbourhood Plan area (associated with the delivery of new housing and employment land) has the potential to increase overall greenhouse gas emissions.
- Chichester District Council has a higher per capita emissions total than both the South East and England as a whole since 2005.
- Several residential properties and areas of the local road network are within Flood Risk 3.
- The potential effects of climate change on the PIPNP are varied. As such there is a need to improve the resilience of the Neighbourhood Plan area by supporting and encouraging adaptation strategies.

4.2 Policy Context

The UK Climate Change Risk Assessment is published on a 5-yearly cycle in accordance with the requirements of the Climate Change Act 2008. It required the Government to compile an assessment of the risks for the UK arising from climate change, and then to develop an adaptation programme to address those risks and deliver resilience to climate change on the ground. For both the 2012 and the 2017 UK Climate Change Risk Assessment, the Adaptation Sub-Committee commissioned an evidence report to achieve the following:

- *'Based on the latest understanding of current, and future, climate risks and opportunities, vulnerability and adaptation, what should the priorities be for the next UK National Adaptation Programme?'*¹¹

The evidence report contains six priority risk areas requiring additional action in the next five years, see below:

1. Flooding and coastal change risks to communities, businesses and infrastructure;
2. Risks to health, well-being and productivity from high temperatures;
3. Risk of shortages in the public water supply, and for agriculture, energy generation and industry;
4. Risks to natural capital, including terrestrial, coastal, marine and freshwater ecosystems, soils and biodiversity;
5. Risks to domestic and international food production and trade; and
6. New and emerging pests and diseases, and invasive non-native species, affecting people, plants and animals

¹¹ GOV UK: 'UK Climate Change Risk Assessment Report January 2017', [online] available to download from: <<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-climate-change-risk-assessment-2017>> last accessed [27/01/17]

The UK Climate Change Act¹² was passed in 2008 and established a framework to develop an economically credible emissions reduction path. It also highlighted the role it would take in contributing to collective action to tackle climate change under the Kyoto Protocol, and more recently as part of the UN-led Paris Agreement.

The Climate Change Act includes the following:

- 2050 Target. The Act commits the UK to reducing emissions by at least 80% in 2050 from 1990 levels.
- Carbon Budgets. The Act requires the Government to set legally binding 'carbon budgets'. A carbon budget is a cap on the amount of greenhouse gases emitted in the UK over a five-year period. The carbon budgets are designed to reflect the cost-effective path to achieving the UK's long-term objectives. The first five carbon budgets have been put into legislation and run up to 2032.
- The Committee on Climate Change was set up to advise the Government on emissions targets, and report to Parliament on progress made in reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- The National Adaptation Programme requires the Government to assess the risks to the UK from climate change, prepare a strategy to address them, and encourage key organisations to do the same. For more detail, visit the UK adaptation policy page¹³.

Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) include:

- Support the transition to a low carbon future in a changing climate as a 'core planning principle'.
- There is a key role for planning in securing radical reductions in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, including in terms of meeting the targets set out in the Climate Change Act 2008¹⁴. Specifically, planning policy should support the move to a low carbon future through:
 - Planning for new development in locations and ways which reduce GHG emissions;
 - Actively supporting energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings;
 - Setting local requirements for building's sustainability in a way that is consistent with the Government's zero carbon buildings policy;
 - Positively promoting renewable energy technologies and considering identifying suitable areas for their construction; and
 - Encouraging those transport solutions that support reductions in GHG emissions and reduce congestion.
- Direct development away from areas highest at risk of flooding, with development 'not to be allocated if there are reasonably available sites appropriate for the proposed development in areas with a lower probability of flooding'. Where development is necessary, it should be made safe without increasing levels of flood risk elsewhere.
- Take account of the effects of climate change in the long term, taking into account a range of factors including flooding. Adopt proactive strategies to adaptation and manage risks through adaptation measures including well planned green infrastructure.

The Flood and Water Management Act¹⁵ highlights that alternatives to traditional engineering approaches to flood risk management include:

¹² GOV.UK (2008): 'Climate Change Act 2008', [online] accessible via <<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/27/contents>> last accessed [21/02/17]

¹³ Committee on Climate Change (2017): 'UK Adaptation Policy' [online] accessible via <<https://www.theccc.org.uk/tackling-climate-change/preparing-for-climate-change/uk-adaptation-policy/>> last accessed [21/02/17]

¹⁴ The Climate Change Act 2008 sets targets for greenhouse gas (GHG) emission reductions through action in the UK of at least 80% by 2050, and reductions in CO₂ emissions of at least 26% by 2020, against a 1990 baseline.

¹⁵ Flood and Water Management Act (2010) [online] available at: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/29/contents>

- Incorporating greater resilience measures into the design of new buildings, and retro-fitting properties at risk (including historic buildings);
- Utilising the environment in order to reduce flooding, for example through the management of land to reduce runoff and through harnessing the ability of wetlands to store water;
- Identifying areas suitable for inundation and water storage to reduce the risk of flooding elsewhere;
- Planning to roll back development in coastal areas to avoid damage from flooding or coastal erosion; and
- Creating sustainable drainage systems (SuDS)¹⁶

Further guidance is provided in the document 'Planning for SuDs'.¹⁷ This report calls for greater recognition of the multiple benefits that water management can present. It suggests that successful SuDS are capable of 'contributing to local quality of life and green infrastructure'.

A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA)¹⁸ was undertaken in 2008 for Chichester District Council. This SFRA creates a framework for the consideration of flood risk when making planning decisions, and was developed as part of the Local Development Framework. Flood risk across the District is discussed alongside information regarding flood defences and flood warning. Flooding is also considered in the future, aiming to predict likely impacts of climate change on flooding in the district.

Policy 42 Flood Risk and Water Management, of the Adopted Chichester Local Plan states that:

'Flood and erosion risk will be taken into account at all stages in the planning process to avoid inappropriate development in areas at current or future risk, and to direct development away from areas of highest risk'.

The policy also discusses the future risks of flooding with regard to climate change, with the importance of avoiding inappropriate development in areas which are likely to be at risk of flooding as a result of climate change.

Chichester District Council's Surface Water & Foul Drainage Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) was adopted in September 2016. It seeks to guide developers, consultants and decisions makers and help them ensure that the necessary surface water and foul drainage infrastructure can be provided to accompany new development in the district. The SPD is a material consideration for CDC when assessing planning applications or appeals for any net new dwelling(s) and will be reviewed and updated periodically as necessary.

¹⁶ N.B. The provision of Schedule 3 to the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 came into force on the 1st of October 2012 and makes it mandatory for any development in England or Wales to incorporate SuDs.

¹⁷ CIRIA (2010) 'Planning for SuDs – making it happen' [online] available to access via http://www.ciria.org/Resources/Free_publications/Planning_for_SuDS_ma.aspx last accessed [04/04/17]

¹⁸ Chichester District County Council (2008) Strategic Flood Risk Assessment [online] available to access via <http://www.chichester.gov.uk/studies#flood> last accessed [08/05/17]

4.3 Baseline Summary

4.3.1 Summary of Current Baseline

Contribution to Climate Change

In relation to GhG emissions, source data from the Department of Energy and Climate Change suggests that Chichester District has had consistently higher per capita emissions total than that of both the South East of England and England as a whole since 2005 (see Table 4.1). Chichester District has seen a 13.8% reduction in the percentage of total emissions per capita between 2005 and 2012, lower than the reductions for the South East (15.9%) and England (16.7%).

Table 4.1: Carbon dioxide emissions and sources, plus emissions per capita, 2005-2012¹⁹

	Industrial and Commercial (t CO ₂)	Domestic (t CO ₂)	Transport (t CO ₂)	Total (t CO ₂)
Chichester District				
2005	3.3	3.0	3.2	9.4
2006	3.0	3.0	3.1	9.1
2007	2.9	2.8	3.2	8.9
2008	3.0	2.8	2.9	8.7
2009	2.8	2.6	2.8	8.2
2010	3.0	2.8	2.7	8.5
2011	2.7	2.4	2.7	7.8
2012	2.8	2.7	2.6	8.1
South East				
2005	2.5	2.6	1.8	6.9
2006	2.5	2.6	1.8	6.9
2007	2.4	2.5	1.8	6.7
2008	2.4	2.4	1.7	6.5
2009	2.1	2.2	1.6	5.9
2010	2.2	2.3	1.6	6.1
2011	2.0	2.0	1.5	5.6
2012	2.1	2.2	1.5	5.8
England				

¹⁹ Department of Energy and Climate Change (2011) Official statistics: Local Authority carbon dioxide emissions, UK local and regional CO₂ emissions: subset dataset (emissions within the scope of influence of local authorities) available at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/local-authority-emissions-estimates> 2005 to 2012 accessed on [28/03/17]

	Industrial and Commercial (t CO ₂)	Domestic (t CO ₂)	Transport (t CO ₂)	Total (t CO ₂)
2005	3.0	2.5	1.7	7.2
2006	3.0	2.5	1.7	7.2
2007	2.8	2.4	1.7	6.9
2008	2.7	2.4	1.6	6.7
2009	2.4	2.2	1.5	6.1
2010	2.5	2.3	1.5	6.3
2011	2.3	2.0	1.5	5.7
2012	2.4	2.2	1.4	6.0

Potential effects of climate change

The outcome of research on the probable effects of climate change in the UK was released in 2009 by the UK Climate Projections (UKCP09) team²⁰. UKCP09 gives climate information for the UK up to the end of this century and projections of future changes to the climate are provided, based on simulations from climate models. Projections are broken down to a regional level across the UK and are shown in probabilistic form, which illustrate the potential range of changes and the level of confidence in each prediction.

As highlighted by the research, the effects of climate change for the South East of England by 2050 for a medium emissions scenario²¹ are likely to be as follows:

- The central estimate of increase in winter mean temperature is 2.2°C and an increase in summer mean temperature of 2.8°C; and
- The central estimate of change in winter mean precipitation is 16% and summer mean precipitation is –19%.

Resulting from these changes, a range of risks may exist for the Neighbourhood Plan area. These include:

- Effects on water resources from climate change;
- Reduction in availability of groundwater for abstraction;
- Adverse effect on water quality from low stream levels and turbulent stream flow after heavy rain;
- Increased risk of flooding, including increased vulnerability to 1:100 year floods;
- A need to increase the capacity of wastewater treatment plants and sewers;
- A need to upgrade flood defences;
- Soil erosion due to flash flooding;
- Loss of species that are at the edge of their southerly distribution;
- Spread of species at the northern edge of their distribution;
- Increased demand for air-conditioning;

²⁰ The data was released on 18th June 2009: See: <<http://ukclimateprojections.metoffice.gov.uk/>> last accessed [04/02/17]

²¹ UK Climate Projections (2009) South East 2050s Medium Emissions Scenario [online] available at: <<http://ukclimateprojections.metoffice.gov.uk/23907?emission=medium>> last accessed [28/03/17]

- Increased drought and flood related problems such as soil shrinkages and subsidence;
- Risk of road surfaces melting more frequently due to increased temperature; and
- Flooding of roads.

Flood Risk

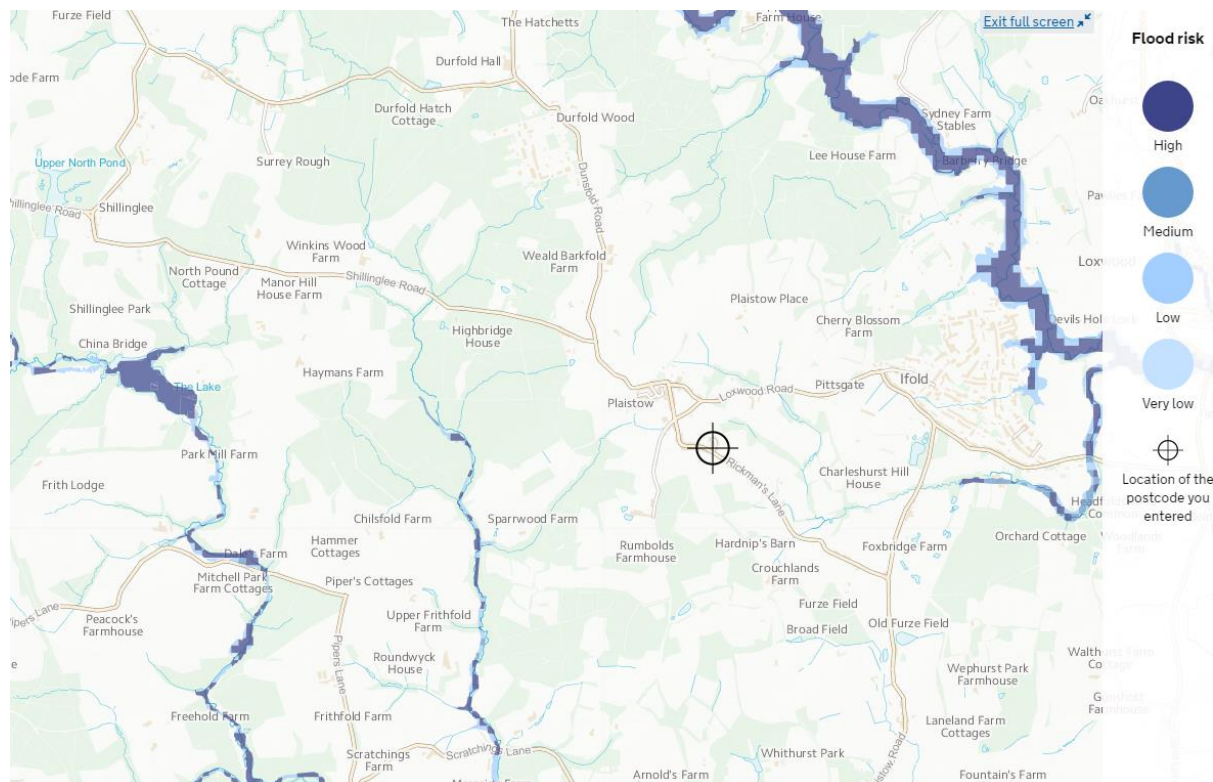


Figure 4.1: Fluvial flood risk within the Neighbourhood Plan area²²

Figure 4.1 displays the fluvial flood risk areas in the Neighbourhood Plan area. In this context there are several areas which are in Flood Zone 3. These areas include those surrounding The Lake, with some properties to the south lying within the high risk flood zone. The area to the north-east of Ifold also has areas which lie within Flood Zone 3, particularly surrounding the Wey and Arun Canal. Some roads in the parish, including Plaistow Road, are also located within Flood Zone 3 with a high risk of flooding.

²² GOV UK (2017); 'Long term flood risk assessment for locations in England', [online] available to access from: <<https://flood-warning-information.service.gov.uk/long-term-flood-risk/>> last accessed [28/02/17]

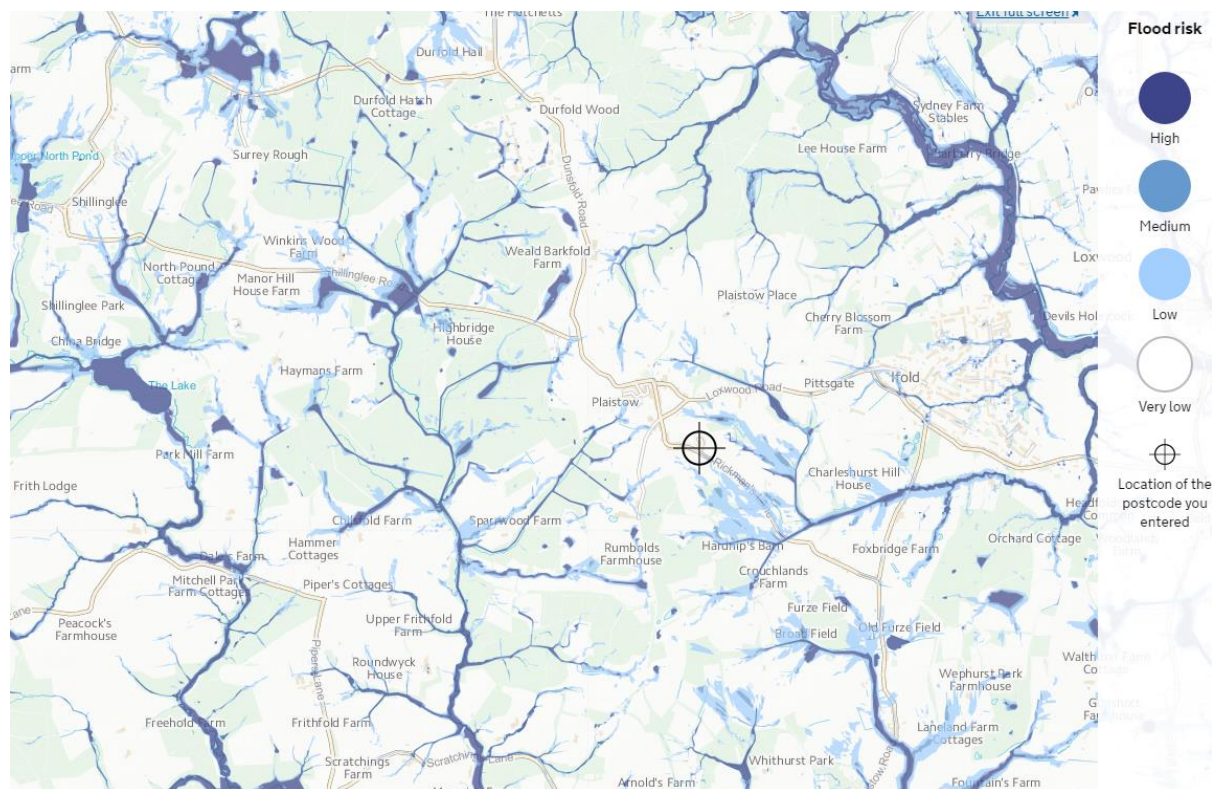


Figure 4.2: Surface water flood risk within the Neighbourhood Plan area

The main areas which are in Flood Zone 3 are those surrounding waterbodies, such as Loxwoodhills Pond, Ifold, the Wey and Arun Canal, along with several unnamed watercourses. These areas of Flood Zone 3 cover several roads, including include Foxbridge Lane, Loxwood Road, large areas of Plaistow road and Shillinglee Road.

4.3.2 Summary of Future Baseline

Climate change has the potential to increase the occurrence of extreme weather events in the PIPNP area. This is likely to increase risks associated with climate change (including fluvial, coastal and drainage related flooding) with an increased need for resilience and adaptation. Additional future development has the potential to exacerbate flood risks.

A Critical Drainage Area (CDA) is a discrete geographic area where multiple and interlinked sources of flood risk causes flooding in one or more Local Flood Risk Zones (LFRZ) during severe weather, impacting people, property and/or local infrastructure. Chichester District Council may wish to designate their own CDAs (in the absence of any designations from the Environment Agency)²³ within the Neighbourhood Plan area within the future, for reasons such as surface water capacity issues.

In terms of climate change mitigation, GhG emissions generated in the Neighbourhood Plan area may decrease with wider adoption of energy efficiency measures, renewable energy production and new technologies. However, an increase in the built footprint of the PIPNP area has the potential to contribute to increases in absolute levels of GhG emissions.

²³ GOV.UK (2017); 'Flood Risk Assessment in Flood Zone 1 and Critical Drainage Areas', [online] available to view via: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/flood-risk-assessment-in-flood-zone-1-and-critical-drainage-areas> last accessed [06/04/17]

4.4 What are the SEA objectives and appraisal questions for the Climate Change SEA theme?

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Reduce the level of contribution to climate change made by activities within the Neighbourhood Plan area	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the number of journeys made? • Reduce the need to travel? • Promote the use of sustainable modes of transport, including walking, cycling and public transport? • Increase the number of new developments meeting or exceeding sustainable design criteria? • Generate energy from low or zero carbon sources? • Reduce energy consumption from non-renewable resources?
Support the resilience of the Neighbourhood Plan area to the potential effects of climate change, including flooding	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that inappropriate development takes place in areas at higher risk of flooding, taking into account the likely future effects of climate change? • Improve and extend green infrastructure networks in the plan area to support adaptation to the potential effects of climate change? • Sustainably manage water run-off, reducing surface water runoff (either within the plan area or downstream)? • Ensure the potential risks associated with climate change are considered through new development in the Neighbourhood Plan area? • Increase the resilience of biodiversity in the plan area to the effects of climate change, including enhancements to ecological networks?

5. Landscape and Historic Environment

Focus of Theme:

- Landscape and townscape character and quality
- Designated and non-designated sites and areas
- Setting of cultural heritage assets
- Archaeological assets

5.1 Headline Sustainability Issues

- The western part of the Neighbourhood Plan area lies within the South Downs National Park.
- There are 72 Grade II listed buildings within the Neighbourhood Plan area.
- The Plaistow Conservation Area lies within the Neighbourhood Plan area. It was extended in May 2013, after the Neighbourhood Plan area was designated.
- Whilst there is a greater concentration of listed buildings in Plaistow than Ifold, Ifold also has significant historic environment interest. For example there are buildings of historic and local importance in Ifold that are not listed; some of these date from the 1800s, including Butlers formerly Alpine Cottage, Hogwood House, Ifold Cottage, Keepers Cottage, Trelayne and The Lodge.
- New development has the potential to lead to beneficial and adverse effects on the historic environment, including through affecting the setting of cultural heritage assets and landscape/townscape quality.
- New development could lead to pressures on non-designated sites and villagescapes, including from the loss of key built and natural features.
- Improvement in access to and enhancement of, historic environment assets and enhancements to local distinctiveness through high quality development has potential for positive benefits for tourism.

5.2 Policy Context

Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) include:

- Protect and enhance valued landscapes, giving particular weight to those identified as being of national importance.
- Heritage assets should be recognised as an 'irreplaceable resource' that should be conserved in a 'manner appropriate to their significance', taking account of 'the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits' of conservation, whilst also recognising the positive contribution new development can make to local character and distinctiveness.
- Set out a 'positive strategy' for the 'conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment', including those heritage assets that are most at risk.
- Develop 'robust and comprehensive policies that set out the quality of development that will be expected for the area. Such policies should be based on stated objectives for the future of the area and an understanding and evaluation of its defining characteristics'.
- Consider the effects of climate change in the long term, including in terms of landscape. Adopt 'proactive strategies' to adaptation and manage risks through adaptation measures including well planned green infrastructure.

The Government's Statement on the Historic Environment for England²⁴ sets out its vision for the historic environment. It calls for those who have the power to shape the historic environment to recognise its value and to manage it in an intelligent manner in light of the contribution that it can make to social, economic and cultural life.

Policy 47: Heritage and Design of the Adopted Chichester Local Plan states that planning permission for new developments will be granted where it can be demonstrated that the following criteria have been met, with supporting guidance followed;

- The proposal conserves and enhances the special interest and settings of designated and non-designated heritage assets including:
 - Monuments, sites and areas of archaeological potential or importance;
 - Listed buildings including buildings or structures forming part of the curtilage of the listed building; - Buildings of local importance, including locally listed and positive buildings;
 - Historic buildings or structures/features of local distinctiveness and character;
 - Conservation Areas; and
 - Historic Parks or Gardens, both registered or of local importance and historic landscapes.
- Development respects distinctive local character and sensitively contributes to creating places of a high architectural and built quality;
- Development respects existing designed or natural landscapes; and
- The individual identity of settlements is maintained, and the integrity of predominantly open and undeveloped character of the area, including the openness of the views in and around the South Downs National Park is not undermined.

The South Downs National Park Authority has produced the Partnership Management Plan (PMP), Shaping the Future of your South Downs National Park 2014– 2019²⁵. The PMP provides a framework for the emerging National Park-wide local plan which is estimated for submission and adoption in 2018. The PMP will consider impacts on the National Park's special qualities from outside its boundary as well as from inside. This could be through water flows or use, species migration, traffic, economic activity or views to and from the area. The key aims/outcomes of the National Park PMP are as follows;

- A thriving living landscape „
 - Outcome 1: The landscape character of the National Park, its special qualities and local distinctiveness have been conserved and enhanced by effectively managing land and the negative impacts of development and cumulative change. „
 - Outcome 2: There is increased capacity within the landscape for its natural resources, habitats and species to adapt to the impacts of climate change and other pressures. „
 - Outcome 3: A well-managed and better connected network of habitats and increased population and distribution of priority species now exist in the National Park. „
 - Outcome 4: The condition and status of cultural heritage assets and their settings is significantly enhanced, many more have been discovered and they contribute positively to local distinctiveness and sense of place.
- People connected with places
 - Outcome 5: Outstanding visitor experiences are underpinned by a high quality access and sustainable transport network providing benefits such as improved health and wellbeing.

²⁴ HM Government (2010) The Government's Statement on the Historic Environment for England [online] available at: <http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/+/http://www.culture.gov.uk/reference_library/publications/6763.aspx> last accessed [30/03/17]

²⁵ South Downs National Park Authority (2017) Partnership Management Plan, Shaping the future of your South Downs National Park 2014 -2019. [online] available at: <<https://www.southdowns.gov.uk/national-park-authority/our-work/key-documents/partnership-management-plan/>> last accessed [09/05/17]

- Outcome 6: There is widespread understanding of the special qualities of the National Park and the benefits it provides.
- Outcome 7: The range and diversity of traditional culture and skills has been protected and there is an increase in contemporary arts and crafts that are inspired by the special qualities of the National Park.
- Outcome 8: More responsibility and action is taken by visitors, residents and businesses to conserve and enhance the special qualities and use resources more wisely.
- Towards a sustainable future
 - Outcome 9: Communities and businesses in the National Park are more sustainable with an appropriate provision of housing to meet local needs and improved access to essential services and facilities.
 - Outcome 10: A diverse and sustainable economy has developed which provides a range of business and employment opportunities, many of which are positively linked with the special qualities of the National Park.
 - Outcome 11: Local people have access to skilled employment and training opportunities.

5.3 Baseline Summary

5.3.1 Summary of Current Baseline

Landscape

The western part of the Neighbourhood Plan area including The Lake lies within the South Downs National Park. The South Downs National Park was designated in 2010 and covers an area of 1,600km². The following seven Special Qualities were agreed by the South Downs National Park Authority in 2011:

- Diverse, inspirational landscapes and breath-taking views;
- A rich variety of wildlife and habitats including rare and internationally important species;
- Tranquil and unspoilt places;
- An environment shaped by centuries of farming and embracing new enterprise;
- Great opportunities for recreational activities and learning experiences;
- Well-conserved historical features and a rich cultural heritage;
- Distinctive towns and villages, and communities with real pride in their area.

National Character Areas (NCAs) are landscape areas which share similar characteristics, following natural lines in the landscape rather than administrative boundaries. Developed by Natural England, NCA profiles describe the natural and cultural features that shape each of these landscapes, providing a broad context to its character. The Neighbourhood Plan area is located within NCA 121: Low Weald. The Low Weald NCA is a broad, low lying clay valley, which is predominantly agricultural, supporting in the majority pastoral farming due to the heavy clay soils. The NCA also supports many densely wooded areas with a high proportion of ancient woodland; it is also rated among the most important for richness of bat species, bullfinch and woodpecker as well as rare plants and lichens.

A Landscape Character Assessment was undertaken for West Sussex, with 42 unique areas identified. The PIPNP lies within LW2 North Western Low Weald²⁶. The area is characterised as;

'A scenic, undulating pastoral landscape of mixed geology, extending from the Arun Valley in the east and Petworth and Northchapel in the west and represents the western extent of the Low Weald. It comprises a gentle, rolling, enclosed rural landscape, with a sense of unity conferred by strong patterns of woodland, streams and rolling pasture interspersed with more open arable fields. Natural colours and textures of mature semi-natural woodland and pasture predominate. Many pastures contain field oak trees and are enclosed by sometimes dense networks of hedgerows, hedgerow trees, shaws, and frequent small and medium sized woodlands. Overall, the area has a remote and tranquil character.'

In the Chichester District Landscape Capacity Study Extension for Chichester District Council, Plaistow and Ifold are within Zone 17²⁷. The Landscape Capacity Study states;

'The village of Plaistow is located in Zone 17 on relatively high ground within the locality. The land to the south and east falls towards watercourses. The settlement is surrounded by pastoral fields contained by woodland to the north, west and south. A minor valley feature and watercourse runs through the area to the east of the settlement. The landscape then rises to form minor ridges to the east of the valley.

On lower ground, Ifold (Zone 17) is separated from Plaistow to the west by the minor ridges along the settlements western edge. Ifold is on gently sloping land which falls towards the Wey and Arun Canal to the east, which in turns leads to the wider Arun Valley to the east.'

Historic Environment

Historic England is the statutory consultee for certain categories of listed building consent and all applications for scheduled monument consent. The historic environment is protected through the planning system, via conditions imposed on developers and other mechanisms. The Neighbourhood Plan area contains no Grade I or Grade II* listed buildings; however there are 72 Grade II listed buildings within the Neighbourhood Plan area.

There is one scheduled monument within the Neighbourhood Plan area, the Site of the Wephurst Glass House, which is located on Wisborough Green Road in Plaistow. The monument was scheduled under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 as amended as it appears to the Secretary of State to be of national importance.

There are no nationally registered battlefields or registered historic parks and gardens within the Neighbourhood Plan area.

Conservation areas are designated because of their special architectural and historic interest²⁸. Conservation area appraisals are a tool to demonstrate the area's special interest, explaining the reasons for designation and providing a greater understanding and articulation of its character - mentioned within the 'Conservation Area Designation, Appraisal and Management' advice note by Historic England²⁹. Ideally, appraisals should be regularly reviewed as part of the management of the Conservation Area, and can be developed into a management plan. The Plaistow Conservation area covers much of the east of Plaistow village.

²⁶West Sussex County Council (No Date) Landscape Character Assessment of West Sussex. [online] available at <<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/land-waste-and-housing/landscape-and-environment/landscape-character-assessment-of-west-sussex/>> last accessed [09/05/17]

²⁷ Chichester District Council (2011) Chichester District Landscape Capacity Study Extension. [online] available to access via: <<http://www.chichester.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=15651>> last accessed [09/05/17]

²⁸ Historic England (2017): 'Conservation Areas', [online] available to access via: <<https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/what-is-designation/local/conservation-areas/>> last accessed [27/03/17]

²⁹ Historic England (2016): 'Conservation Area Designation, Appraisal and Management Advice Note 1', [online] available to download from: <<https://www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/conservation-area-designation-appraisal-management-advice-note-1/>> last accessed [27/03/17]

A Character Appraisal and Management Proposal³⁰ was created in 2013 for the Plaistow Conservation Area (which was also extended in 2013). The Character Appraisal summarised a number of significant features of the Plaistow Conservation Area, which include;

- Small tranquil village located in countryside with an attractive setting of undulating woodland and fields;
- Triangular street layout encompasses areas of open green space used as a village common and a children's playground;
- The village pond forms a focal point in the middle of the village;
- Informal low density layout of houses and small cottages, many with visible gardens;
- Areas of woodland within the village reinforce its rural character;
- The junction of Loxwood Road, The Street, Dunsfold Road and the private lane which leads northwards towards Plaistow Place is the centre of the village;
- The three most important buildings in Plaistow, Holy Trinity Church, The Sun Public House, and the village Primary School, are all located close to this junction;
- Holy Trinity Church is unlisted and dates to the 1860s - it is notable for its sandstone elevations, clock tower, and tall lancet windows; and
- The Primary School was built in 1869 and retains a well detailed front elevation to Loxwood Road, although there have been sizeable additions to the rear.

The Management Proposals identified measures to maximise the positive features and minimise negative features within the conservation area, such as poorly detailed modern extensions, speeding traffic, issues with the conservation area boundary, and visible overhead cables. This will be done through a review of the boundary, with the view to extend the boundary to cover a range of extra buildings. Methods of improving pedestrian safety and reducing traffic speeds in Plaistow will be sought, whilst keeping the special character of the conservation area. Another recommended action is that the Chichester District Council will ensure that all new development within or bordering the conservation area is carefully designed so sympathetic to its surroundings.

Since 2008, Historic England has released an annual Heritage at Risk Register. The Heritage at Risk Register highlights the Grade I, Grade II and Grade II* listed buildings, scheduled monuments, historic parks and gardens, registered battlefields, wreck sites and conservation areas deemed to be 'at risk'. The 2016 Heritage at Risk Register for South East England³¹ only highlights Grade I and Grade II* listed buildings which are at risk outside of London, unless they are Grade II listed places of worship. This means that no information is available regarding the level of risk facing the majority of listed buildings in the Neighbourhood Plan area. The scheduled monument in the Neighbourhood Plan area is not listed and therefore not been evaluated.

It should be noted that not all of the area's historic environment features are 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. Although not designated, many buildings and areas are of historic interest and are seen as important by local communities. For example, open spaces and key distinctive buildings in the area are likely to be of value for local people. Alongside, there are buildings of historic and local importance in Ifold that are not listed; some of these date from the 1800s, including Butlers formerly Alpine Cottage, Hogwood House, Ifold Cottage, Keepers Cottage, Trelayne and The Lodge.

³⁰ Chichester District Council (2013) Plaistow Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Management Proposals [online] available to access via <<http://www.chichester.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=16939&p=0>> last accessed [09/05/17]

³¹ Historic England (2016): 'Heritage at Risk 2016 Register – South East', [online] available to download via: <<https://www.historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/har-2016-registers/>> last accessed [15/05/17]

The Chichester District Historic Environment Record (HER) is a publicly available resource used for the purposes of planning, conservation, research, education and general interest. The HER database provides an index of archaeological sites, monuments, landscapes, listed buildings and other information regarding the historic environment. 24 records within the parish are on the West Sussex HER database, incorporating a wide range of features, including the Wey and Arun Canal, parks, glass furnaces, quarries, brickworks, lime kilns and others.

Figure 5.1 shows the designated landscapes and historic sites located within the Neighbourhood Plan area.

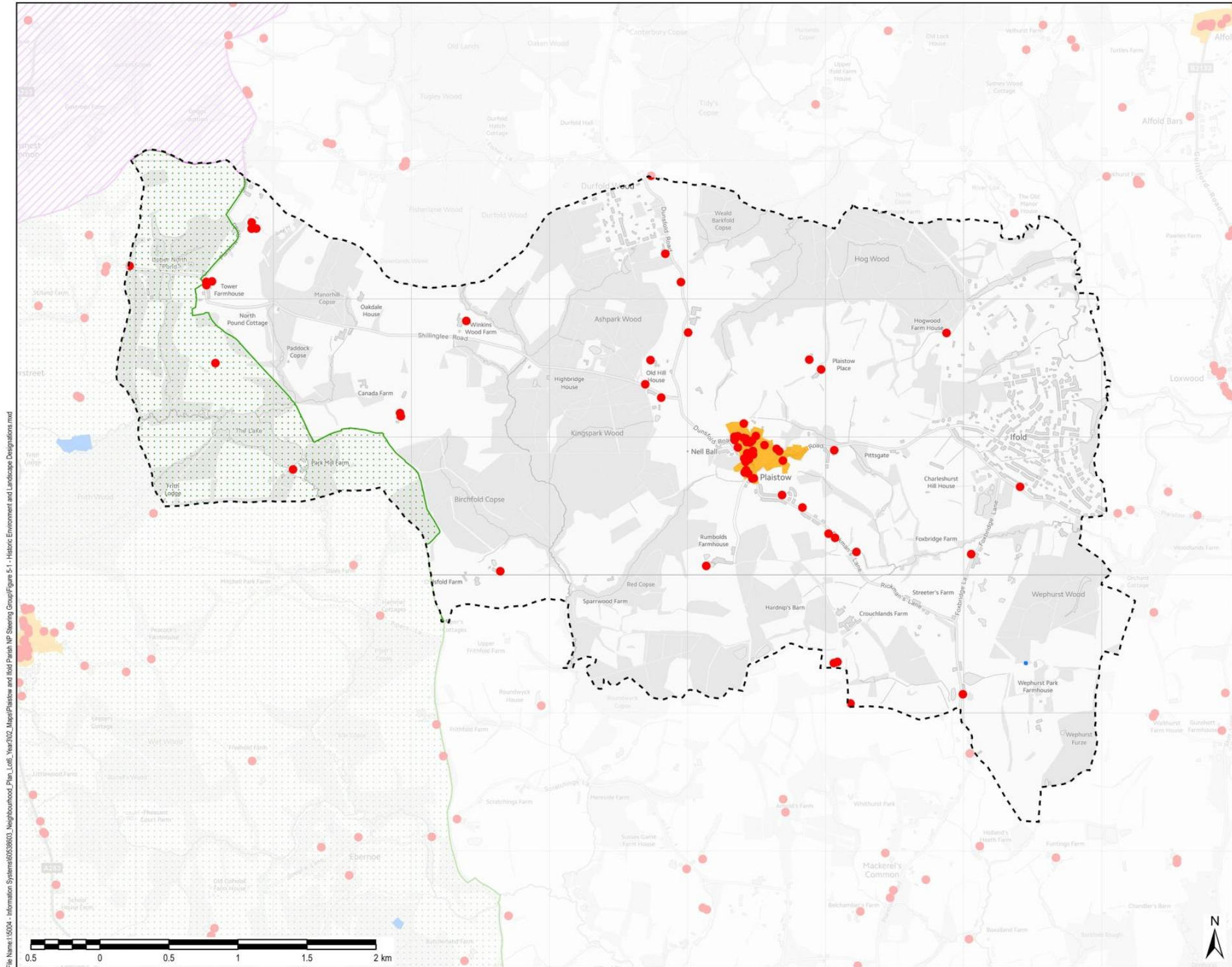
5.3.2 Summary of Future Baseline

New development areas in the Neighbourhood Plan area have the potential to impact on the fabric and setting of cultural heritage assets; for example through inappropriate design and layout. It should be noted, however, that existing historic environment designations and, in the west of the parish the South Downs National Park offer a degree of protection to cultural heritage assets and their settings. Additionally the Character Appraisal and Management Plan for the Plaistow Conservation Area offers additional protection in terms of outlining suggested priorities for management and decision making for areas within these two conservation areas.

New development has the potential to lead to small, but incremental changes in landscape and villagescape character and quality in and around the Neighbourhood Plan area; for instance through the loss of landscape features and visible impact. However, new development need not be harmful to the significance of a heritage asset, and in the context of the PIPNP area there is opportunity for new development to enhance the historic setting of the key features and areas and better reveal assets' cultural heritage significance.

5.4 What are the SEA objectives and appraisal questions for the Landscape and Historic Environment SEA theme?

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Protect, maintain and enhance the cultural heritage resource within the Neighbourhood Plan area, including the historic environment and archaeological assets.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conserve and enhance buildings and structures of architectural or historic interest? • Conserve and enhance the Plaistow Conservation Areas? • Support the integrity of the historic setting of key buildings of cultural heritage interest? • Conserve and enhance local diversity and character? • Support access to, interpretation and understanding of the historic environment?
Protect and enhance the character and quality of landscapes and townscapes.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the integrity of the South Downs National Park? • Support the integrity of the local landscape character? • Conserve and enhance landscape and townscape features?



THIS DRAWING IS TO BE USED ONLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF ISSUE THAT IT WAS ISSUED FOR AND IS SUBJECT TO AMENDMENT

- LEGEND**
- Plaistow and Ifold Neighbourhood Plan Area
 - Listed building
 - Record of Scheduled Monument
 - Conservation Area
 - Surry Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
 - South Downs National Park

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Purpose of Issue **DRAFT**

Client
PLAISTOW AND IFOLD PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP

Project Title
PLAISTOW AND IFOLD PARISH NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Drawing Title
HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT AND LANDSCAPE DESIGNATIONS

Drawn CN	Checked JW	Approved NCB	Date 15/05/2017
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6. Land, Soil and Water Resources

Focus of Theme:

- Soils resource
- Waste management
- Watercourses
- Water availability
- Water quality

6.1 Headline Sustainability Issues

- The main watercourse in the Neighbourhood Plan area is the Wey and Arun Canal.
- The whole of the Neighbourhood Plan area is located within a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone for surface water.
- It is uncertain whether agricultural land in the Neighbourhood Plan area comprises land classified as the 'best and most versatile'.
- A major pollution event was recorded in the Neighbourhood Plan area in 2016 (emanating from the unlawful expansion of an AD Unit into an industrial biogas plant at Crouchland Farm).
- Water quality has the potential to be affected by pollution incidents in the area, the presence of non-native species and future physical modifications to waterbodies.

6.2 Policy Context

The EU's Soil Thematic Strategy³² presents a strategy for protecting soils resources in Europe. The main aim of the strategy is to minimise soil degradation and limit associated detrimental effects linked to water quality and quantity, human health, climate change, biodiversity, and food safety.

The EU Water Framework Directive (WFD) drives a catchment-based approach to water management. In England and Wales there are 100 water catchments and it is Defra's intention is to establish a 'framework for integrated catchment management' across England. The Environment Agency is establishing 'Significant Water Management Issues' and recently presented second River Basin Management Plans to ministers. The plans seek to deliver the objectives of the WFD namely:

- Enhance the status and prevent the further deterioration of aquatic ecosystems and associated wetlands which depend on aquatic ecosystems;
- Promote the sustainable use of water;
- Reduce the pollution of water, especially by 'priority' and 'priority hazardous' substances; and
- Ensure the progressive reduction of groundwater pollution.

Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) include:

- Protect and enhance soils. The value of best and most versatile agricultural land should also be taken into account.

³² European Commission (2006) Soil Thematic Policy [online] available at: <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/soil/index_en.htm> last accessed [15/05/17]

- Prevent new or existing development from being 'adversely affected' by the presence of 'unacceptable levels' of soil pollution or land instability and be willing to remediate and mitigate 'despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate'.
- Encourage the effective use of land' through the reuse of land which has been previously developed, 'provided that this is not of high environmental value'. Whilst there is no longer a national requirement to build at a minimum density, the NPPF requires local planning authorities to 'set out their own approach to housing density to reflect local circumstances'.
- Produce strategic policies to deliver the provision of a variety of infrastructure, including that necessary for water supply.
- With regards to waste, the NPPF does not contain any specific waste policies as waste planning policy will be published as part of the National Waste Management Plan.

Other key documents at the national level include Safeguarding our Soils: A Strategy for England³³, which sets out a vision for soil use in England, and the Water White Paper³⁴, which sets out the Government's vision for a more resilient water sector. It states the measures that will be taken to tackle issues such as poorly performing ecosystems, and the combined impacts of climate change and population growth on stressed water resources. In terms of waste management, the Government Review of Waste Policy in England³⁵ recognises that environmental benefits and economic growth can be the result of a more sustainable approach to the use of materials.

Policy 53 District Canals of the Adopted Chichester Local Plan states;

'Appropriate development that assists the provision of through navigation or enhancement of the Chichester Ship Canal and the Wey and Arun Canal will be supported where it meets environmental, ecological and transport considerations.'

6.3 Baseline Summary

6.3.1 Summary of Current Baseline

Land Quality

The Neighbourhood Plan area does not have a history of heavy industrial land use. However several significant and one major industrial pollution incidents have been recorded by the Environment Agency under the EC Integrated Pollution Prevention and Control Directive (IPCC)³⁶. These incidents all occurred from the industrial biogas plant located at Crouchland Farm, in the south of the Neighbourhood Plan area. The major pollution event occurred in 2016 and was concerned with specific waste materials polluting water. This event was categorised as major due to the potential for persistent and extensive effects on the quality of the environment, there may be major damage to the ecosystem, agriculture and/or commerce, and it may have a serious impact upon man.

Quality of Agricultural Land

The Agricultural Land Classification (ALC) classifies land into six grades (plus 'non-agricultural' and 'urban'), where Grades 1 to 3a are recognised as being the 'best and most versatile' land and Grades 3b to 5 are of poorer quality.

³³ Defra (2009) Safeguarding our Soils: A strategy for England [online] available to download from:

<<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-our-soils-a-strategy-for-england>> last accessed [30/01/17]

³⁴ Defra (2011) Water for life (The Water White Paper) [online] available at <<http://www.official-documents.gov.uk/document/cm82/8230/8230.pdf>> last accessed [30/01/17]

³⁵ Defra (2011) Government Review of Waste Policy in England [online] available at: <<http://www.defra.gov.uk/publications/files/pb13540-waste-policy-review110614.pdf>> last accessed [30/01/17]

³⁶ Environment Agency Interactive Map: 'Pollution Incidents' [online] accessible via: <<http://apps.environment-agency.gov.uk/wiyby/default.aspx>> last accessed [20/03/17]

In terms of the location of the best and most versatile agricultural land, a detailed classification has not been undertaken within the Neighbourhood Plan area. Based on the 1:250,000 series of ALC maps produced by Natural England³⁷ and utilised for strategic purposes, the land in the Neighbourhood Plan area is non-agricultural or Grade 3 good to moderate. However there is no detailed information available as to whether the Grade 3 areas are 3a or 3b.

Watercourses

The largest watercourse within the Neighbourhood Plan area is the Wey and Arun Canal, which is located in the northeast of the parish, adjacent to Ifold. There a range of lakes and ponds within the Neighbourhood Plan area. These include Loxwoodhills Pond and the Upper and Lower North Ponds. The Neighbourhood Plan area contains a large network of small streams, which are visible in Figures 4.1 and 4.2.

Groundwater Source Protection Zones (SPZs) have been defined by the Environment Agency in England and Wales to protect groundwater sources such as wells, boreholes and springs that are used for public drinking water supply. The zones show the risk of contamination from activities that might cause groundwater pollution in the area. There are no SPZs covering the Neighbourhood Plan area.

The Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC) requires Member States to identify areas where groundwater has nitrate concentrations of more than 50 mg/l nitrate or is thought to be at risk of nitrate contamination. Areas associated with such groundwater are designated as Nitrate Vulnerable Zones (NVZs), and as such, they are recognised as being at risk from agricultural nitrate pollution. Member States are required to establish Action Programmes in order to reduce and prevent further nitrate contamination. NVZs for 2017-2020 started on January 1st 2017³⁸, including new areas of NVZs and excluding areas that have been de-designated. The Neighbourhood plan area lies within NVZ 523 for surface water, as well as proposed 2017 NVZ area S532 (also for surface water).

6.3.2 Summary of Future Baseline

Due to increasing legislative and regulatory requirements, there are increasing pressures to improve recycling and composting rates.

In terms of water quality, the requirements of the Water Framework Directive (and its replacement are likely to lead to continued improvements to water quality in watercourses in the wider area. Water quality has the potential to be affected by pollution incidents in the area, the presence of non-native species and future physical modifications to waterbodies.

³⁷ Natural England (2011): 'Agricultural Land Classification map London and the South East (ALC007)', [online] available to download via: <<http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/141047?category=5954148537204736>> last accessed [30/03/17]

³⁸ GOV.UK (2017): 'Nutrient Management: Nitrate Vulnerable Zones' [online] available to access via: <<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/nutrient-management-nitrate-vulnerable-zones>> last accessed [17/03/17]

6.4 What are the SEA objectives and appraisal questions for the Land, Soil and Water Resources SEA theme?

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Ensure the efficient and effective use of land.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote the use of previously developed land? • Direct development on greenfield sites to land not classified as the best and most versatile?
Promote sustainable waste management solutions that encourage the reduction, re-use and recycling of waste.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce the amount of waste produced? • Support the minimisation, reuse and recycling of waste? • Maximise opportunities for local management of waste in order to minimise export of waste to areas outside? • Encourage recycling of materials and minimise consumption of resources during construction?
Use and manage water resources in a sustainable manner.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support improvements to water quality? • Minimise water consumption?

7. Population and Community

Focus of Theme:

- Population size
- Population density
- Age structure
- Deprivation
- House prices and affordability
- Homelessness
- Education and skills

7.1 Headline Sustainability Issues

- Recent population increases within the Neighbourhood Plan area are lower than the average rate at which the district, regional and national population have grown.
- The proportion of residents within the 16-24 age range in the parish is significantly lower than district, regional and national comparators. Similarly the population within the 24-44 age range is significantly lower than the district, regional and national average.
- A higher proportion of residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area are employed in high skilled occupations, such as managers, directors and senior officials.

7.2 Policy Context

Key messages from the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) include:

- To 'boost significantly the supply of housing', local planning authorities should meet the 'full, objectively assessed need for market and affordable housing' in their area. They should prepare a Strategic Housing Market Assessment to assess their full housing needs, working with neighbouring authorities where housing market areas cross administrative boundaries. The Strategic Housing Market Assessment should identify the scale and mix of housing and the range of tenures that the local population is likely to need over the plan period.
- With a view to creating 'sustainable, inclusive and mixed communities' authorities should ensure provision of affordable housing onsite or externally where robustly justified.
- In rural areas, when exercising the duty to cooperate with neighbouring authorities, local planning authorities should be responsive to local circumstances and plan housing development to reflect local needs, particularly for affordable housing, including through rural exception sites where appropriate. Authorities should consider whether allowing some market housing would facilitate the provision of affordable housing to meet local needs.
- The NPPF attaches great importance to the design of the built environment. It explains how good design is a key aspect in sustainable development, and how development should improve the quality of the area over its lifetime, not just in the short term. Good architecture and landscaping are important, with the use of design codes contributing to the delivery of high quality outcomes. Design should reinforce local distinctiveness, raise the standard more generally in the area and address the connections between people and places.
- The social role of the planning system involves 'supporting vibrant and healthy communities'.
- The planning system can play an important role in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities

- Promote the retention and development of local services and community facilities such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship.
- Ensure that developments create safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion. Places should contain clear and legible pedestrian routes, and high quality public spaces, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas.
- Ensuring that there is a 'sufficient choice of school places' is of 'great importance' and there is a need to take a 'proactive, positive and collaborative approach' to bringing forward 'development that will widen choice in education'.

The 'Ready for Ageing?' report, published by the Select Committee on Public Service and Demographic Change³⁹ warns that society is underprepared for an ageing population. The report states that *'longer lives can be a great benefit, but there has been a collective failure to address the implications and without urgent action this great boon could turn into a series of miserable crises'*. The report recognises that the supply of specialist housing for the older generation is insufficient for the demand. There is a need for central and local Government, housing associations, and house builders to ensure that these housing needs are better addressed, giving as much priority to promoting an adequate market of social housing for the older generation as is given to the younger generation.

There are a range of policies within the Adopted Chichester Local Plan relating to the Population and Community SA theme, including as follows;

- Policy 3: The Economy and Employment Provision;
- Policy 4: Housing Provision;
- Policy 33: New Residential Development;
- Policy 34: Affordable Housing;
- Policy 38: Local and Community Facilities;
- Policy 52: Green Infrastructure; and
- Policy 54: Open Space, Sport and Recreation.

7.3 Baseline Summary

7.3.1 Summary of Current Baseline

Population

According to the most recent census data available, the population in 2011 in Plaistow and Ifold Parish was 1,898, which was an increase of 2.3% from 2001. In comparison the population of Chichester District has seen an increase of 6.5% in the same time period. The population increase in the PIPNP area was significantly lower than the 7.9% increase seen in the South East and England.

³⁹ Select Committee on Public Service and Demographic Change (2013) Ready for Ageing? [online] available at: <http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/lords-select/public-services-committee/report-ready-for-ageing/> last accessed [03/02/17]

Table 7.1: Population growth 2001-2011⁴⁰

Date	Plaistow and Ifold	Chichester District	South East	England
2001	1,854	106,450	8,000,645	49,138,831
2011	1,898	113,794	8,634,750	53,012,456
Population Change 2001-2011	+2.3%	+6.5%	+7.9%	+7.9%

Age Structure

Within the Neighbourhood Plan area, 30.7% of residents are aged 60+. This is similar to the average in Chichester District (31.9%), but is higher than the national average of 22.3%. The level of the population within the 24-44 age range is significantly lower than the regional average of 26.5% and the national average of 27.5%. The proportion of residents within the 16-24 age range in the parish (6.6%) is significantly lower than locally (10.0%), regionally (11.2%) and nationally (11.9%).

Table 7.2: Age Structure (2011)⁴¹

	Plaistow and Ifold	Chichester District	South East	England
0-15	20.4%	16.5%	19.0%	18.9%
16-24	6.6%	10.0%	11.2%	11.9%
25-44	16.5%	21.0%	26.5%	27.5%
45-59	25.7%	20.5%	19.9%	19.4%
60+	30.7%	31.9%	23.3%	22.3%
Total Population	1,898	113,794	8,634,750	53,012,456

Household Deprivation

Census statistics measure deprivation across four 'dimensions' of deprivation, summarized below:

- **Employment:** Any person in the household (not a full-time student) that is either unemployed or long-term sick.
- **Education:** No person in the household has at least a level 2 qualification and no person aged 16-18 is a full-time student.
- **Health and Disability:** Any person in the household that has generally 'bad' or 'very bad' health, or has a long term health problem.
- **Housing:** The household accommodation is either overcrowded (with an occupancy rating of -1 or less), in a shared dwelling or has no central heating.

⁴⁰ ONS (no date): Census 2011: Population Density 2011 (Table QS102EW); Population Density 2001 (Table UV02)

⁴¹ ONS (no date): Census 2011: Age Structure 2011 (Table KS102EW)

Table 7.3: Relative household deprivation dimensions⁴²

	Plaistow and Ifold	Chichester District	South East	England
Household not deprived	59.8%	48.6%	47.7%	42.5%
Deprived in 1 dimension	29.9%	33.5%	32.2%	32.7%
Deprived in 2 dimensions	9.3%	14.9%	16.0%	19.1%
Deprived in 3 dimensions	0.9%	2.8%	3.7%	5.1%
Deprived in 4 dimensions	0.0%	0.3%	0.4%	0.5%

Based on the most recently available census data, 40.2% of households within the Parish are deprived in some way. This is significantly lower than the average for Chichester District (51.4%), the South East (52.3%) and England (57.5%). The households deprived in 1, 2, 3, and 4 dimensions are also lower in each category than the district, South East and England equivalents.

Index of Multiple Deprivation

The Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015 (IMD) is an overall relative measure of deprivation constructed by combining seven domains of deprivation according to their respective weights, as described below. The seven deprivation domains are as follows:

- **Income:** The proportion of the population experiencing deprivation relating to low income, including those individuals that are out-of-work and those that are in work but who have low earnings (satisfying the respective means tests).
- **Employment:** The proportion of the working-age population in an area involuntarily excluded from the labour market, including those individuals who would like to work but are unable to do so due to unemployment, sickness or disability, or caring responsibilities.
- **Education, Skills and Training:** The lack of attainment and skills in the local population.
- **Health Deprivation and Disability:** The risk of premature death and the impairment of quality of life through poor physical or mental health. Morbidity, disability and premature mortality are also considered, excluding the aspects of behaviour or environment that may be predictive of future health deprivation.
- **Crime:** The risk of personal and material victimisation at local level.
- **Barriers to Housing and Services:** The physical and financial accessibility of housing and local services, with indicators categorised in two sub-domains.
 1. 'Geographical Barriers': relating to the physical proximity of local services
 2. 'Wider Barriers': relating to access to housing, such as affordability.
- **Living Environment:** The quality of the local environment, with indicators falling categorised in two sub-domains.
 3. 'Indoors Living Environment' measures the quality of housing.
 4. 'Outdoors Living Environment' measures air quality and road traffic accidents.

Two supplementary indices (subsets of the Income deprivation domains), are also included:

⁴² ONS (no date): Census 2011: 'Households by Deprivation Dimensions 2011 (Table QS119EW)

- **Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index:** The proportion of all children aged 0 to 15 living in income deprived families.
- **Income Deprivation Affecting Older People Index:** The proportion of all those aged 60 or over who experience income deprivation.

Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) are a geographic hierarchy designed to improve the reporting of small area statistics in England and Wales. They are standardized geographies designed to be as consistent in population as possible, with each LSOA containing approximately 1,000 to 1,500 people. In relation to the IMD 2015, LSOAs are ranked out of the 32,844 in England and Wales, with 1 being the most deprived. Ranks are normalized into deciles, with a value of 1 reflecting the top 10% most deprived LSOAs in England and Wales (see **Table 7.4**).

There are two LSOAs that are either fully or partially in the Neighbourhood Plan area: Analysis of the data presented in Table 7.4 below reveals the following inferences:

General Trends

LSOA E01031502 Chichester 001A: Covers a small portion of the Neighbourhood Plan area, including several residential properties in the village of Ifold. In this area there are very low levels of deprivation with a very low risk of crime, and high levels of education skills and training, there are also high incomes in the area along with high levels of employment. However there are significant barriers to housing and services, particularly with regard to geography and the lack of services in the immediate area.

LSOA E01031503 Chichester 001B: Covers the vast majority of the Neighbourhood Plan area except for a small area to the east of Ifold. In this LSOA there are very low levels of deprivation, with high levels of income and employment, as well as low levels of children living in income deprived families. There are also high levels of deprivation where access to services is considered.

Table 7.4: Index of Multiple Deprivation 2015⁴³

LSOA	Overall IMD	Income	Employment	Education, Skills and Training	Health Deprivation and Disability	Crime	Barriers to Housing and Services	Living Environment	Income Deprivation Affecting Children Index	Income Deprivation Affecting Older People	Children and Young People Sub-domain	Adult Skills Sub-domain	Geographical Barriers Sub-domain	Wider Barriers Sub-domain	Indoors Sub-domain	Outdoors Sub-domain
E01031502: Chichester 001A																
<i>Rank</i>	31,658	31,981	32,423	32,008	29,831	32,095	10,128	25,710	32,423	28,540	31,444	31,280	3,349	30,356	21,150	27,084
<i>Decile</i>	(10)	(10)	(10)	(10)	(10)	(10)	(2)	(8)	(10)	(9)	(10)	(10)	(2)	(10)	(7)	(9)
E01031503: Chichester 001B																
<i>Rank</i>	25,334	27,925	29,371	29,987	23,964	27,218	2,581	21,282	31,823	20,285	30,898	27,183	1,131	24,485	16,195	26,980
<i>Decile</i>	(8)	(9)	(9)	(10)	(8)	(9)	(1)	(7)	(10)	(7)	(10)	(9)	(1)	(8)	(5)	(9)

⁴³ DCLG (2015): 'English Indices of Deprivation', [online] available to download from: <<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/english-indices-of-deprivation-2015>> last accessed [28/03/17]

Similarities between the LSOAs

Both LSOAs performed well, in Chichester 001A 14 of the 16 factors considered were in the top 30% least deprived deciles, with the other two- barriers to housing and services, and the geographical barriers sub-domain performing poorly, both within the top 20% most deprived. With Chichester 001B, 13 of the 16 factors performed in the top 30% least deprived deciles.

Contrasts between the LSOAs

The two LSOAs were very similar across all factors, except for the Indoors sub-domain, where the housing was of poorer quality in Chichester 001B when compared with Chichester 001A. Whilst poorer than Chichester 001A, the quality of housing in Chichester 001B was still within the top 50% least deprived deciles.

Housing Tenure

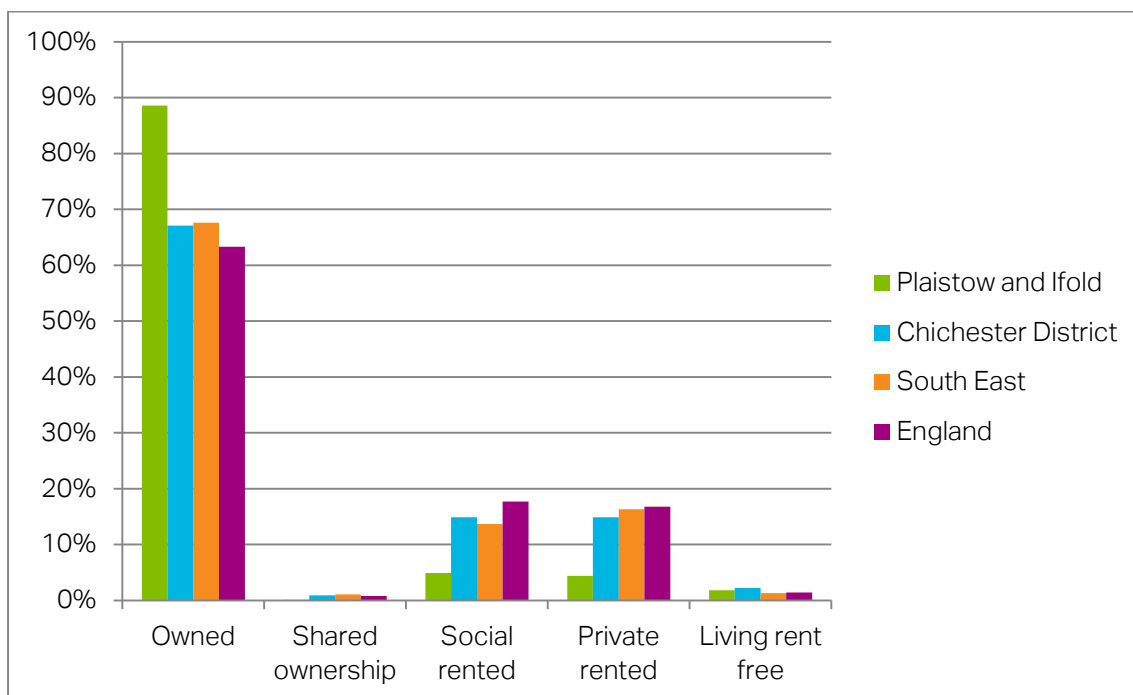


Figure 7.1: 'Tenure by Household' ⁴⁴

The majority of houses in the Neighbourhood Plan area (88.6%) own their own home outright or with a mortgage (Figure 7.1), this is significantly higher than the averages for Chichester District (67.1%), the South East (67.6%) and England (63.3%). The levels of social and private rented properties in Plaistow and Ifold (4.9% and 4.4% respectively) are much lower than the averages for Chichester District (14.9% for both social rented and private rented) as well as regionally and nationally.

⁴⁴ ONS (no date): Census 2011: Tenure-Households 2011 (Table QS405EW)

Education

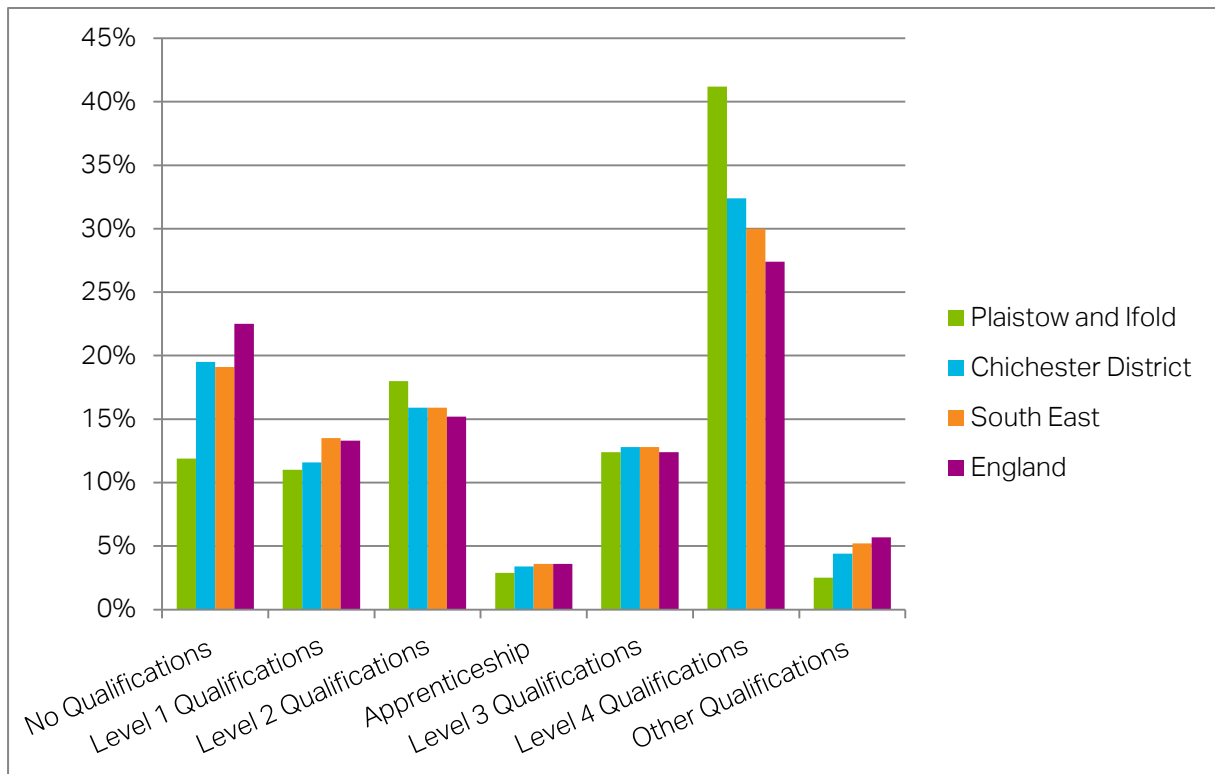


Figure 7.2; 'Highest level of Qualification' ⁴⁵

With regards to the most recently available census data (Figure 7.2), 11.9% of residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area have no qualifications, a percentage which is significantly lower than the averages for Chichester District (19.5%), the South East (19.1%) and England (22.5%). This is reflected in the data for those residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area with level 4 qualifications (41.2%), when compared with Chichester District (32.4%), the South East (30.0%) and the national average (27.4%).

⁴⁵ ONS (no date): Census 2011: Highest Level of Qualification 2011 (Table QS501EW)

Employment

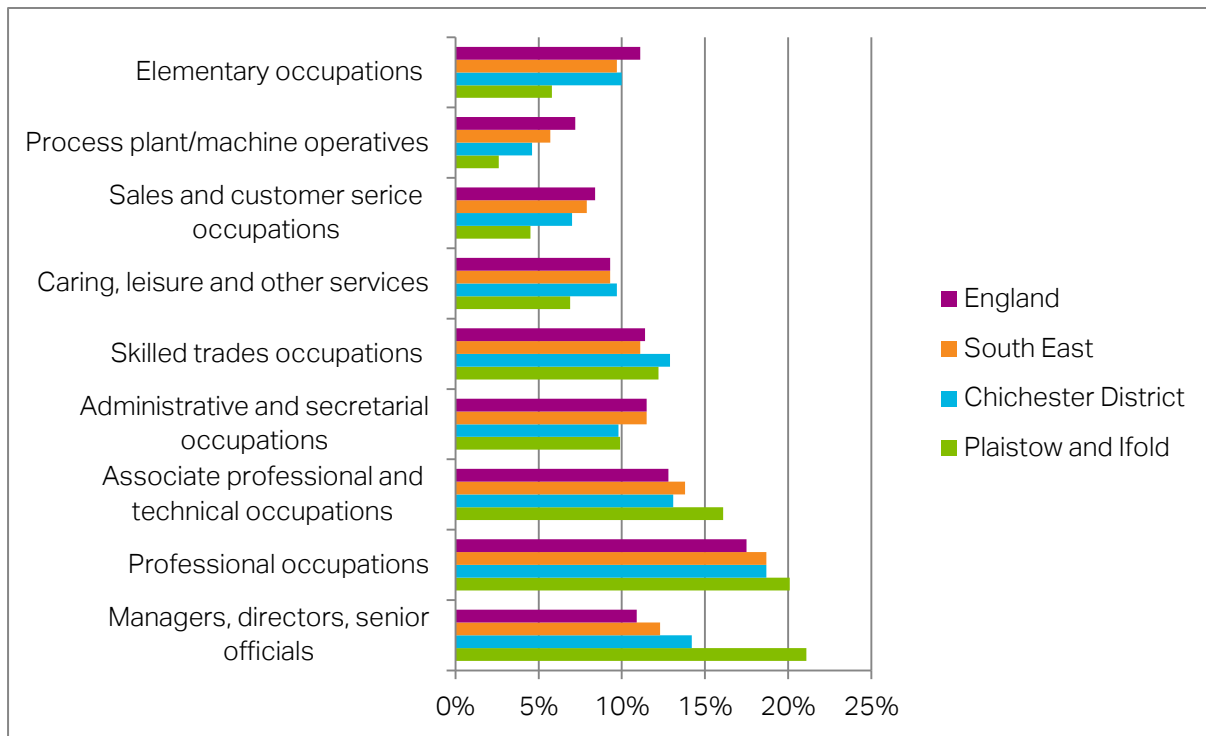


Figure 7.3: 'Occupation of usual residents aged 16 to 74 in employment'⁴⁶

In the Neighbourhood Plan area there is a significantly higher proportion of residents (aged 16 to 74) employed as managers, directors and senior officials (21.1%) when compared with the local, regional and national averages (14.2%, 12.3% and 10.9% respectively), this may be a reflection of the educational trends previously discussed. There are far fewer residents employed as process plant/machine operatives, in sales and customer service occupations and in caring, leisure and other services, when compared to Chichester District, South East and national averages.

7.3.2 Summary of Future Baseline

The population of the Neighbourhood Plan area is likely to age. This has the potential to have implications for the delivering of community facilities, including health services.

Levels of deprivation in the Neighbourhood Plan area are likely to remain low, with only geographical barriers preventing access to services being a concern. The suitability of housing for local requirements depends in part on the successful implementation of policies outlined in the Adopted Chichester Local Plan and the PIPNP.

⁴⁶ ONS (no date): Census 2011: 'Occupation 2011' (Table KS608EW)

7.4 What are the SEA objectives and appraisal questions for the Population and Community SEA theme?

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Cater for existing and future residents' needs as well as the needs of different groups in the community, and improve access to local, high-quality community services and facilities.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the development of a range of high quality, accessible community facilities? Encourage and promote social cohesion and encourage active involvement of local people in community activities? Minimise fuel poverty? Maintain or enhance the quality of life of existing local residents?
Reduce deprivation and promote a more inclusive and self-contained community.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the availability and accessibility of key local facilities, including specialist services for disabled and older people? Support the provision of land for allotments and cemeteries?
Provide everyone with the opportunity to live in good quality, affordable housing, and ensure an appropriate mix of dwelling sizes, types and tenures.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support the provision of a range of house types and sizes? Support enhancements to the current housing stock? Meet the needs of all sectors of the community? Provide quality and flexible homes that meet people's needs? Promote the use of sustainable building techniques, including use of sustainable building materials in construction? Provide housing in sustainable locations that allow easy access to a range of local services and facilities?

8. Health and Wellbeing

Focus of Theme:

- Health indicators and deprivation
- Influences on health and well-being

8.1 Headline Sustainability Issues

- The majority of residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area consider themselves to have 'very good health' or 'good health'.
- Residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area have relatively low levels of disability when compared with the regional, local and national averages.
- A growing population has the potential to increase pressures on healthcare services, and is therefore a significant influence on future health and wellbeing in the Neighbourhood Plan area.

8.2 Policy Context

Key messages from the NPPF include:

- The social role of the planning system involves 'supporting vibrant and healthy communities'.
- A core planning principle is to 'take account of and support local strategies to improve health, social and cultural wellbeing for all'.
- The planning system can play an important role in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities'
- Promote the retention and development of local services and community facilities such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship.
- Set out the strategic policies to deliver the provision of health facilities.
- Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation can make an important contribution to the health and well-being of communities.

In relation to other key national messages in relation to health, Fair Society, Healthy Lives⁴⁷ ('The Marmot Review') investigated health inequalities in England and the actions needed in order to tackle them. Subsequently, a supplementary report was prepared providing additional evidence relating to spatial planning and health on the basis that there is: "overwhelming evidence that health and environmental inequalities are inexorably linked and that poor environments contribute significantly to poor health and health inequalities".

The increasing role that local level authorities are expected to play in providing health outcomes is demonstrated by recent government legislation. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 transferred responsibility for public health from the NHS to local government, giving local authorities a duty to improve the health of the people who live in their areas. This will require a more holistic approach to health across all local government functions.

The West Sussex Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (2014)⁴⁸ was written to describe the current and future health, social care and wellbeing needs of the local population. The overarching themes of the JSNA are listed below;

⁴⁷ The Marmot Review (2011) The Marmot Review: Implications for Spatial Planning [online] available to download from: <http://www.apho.org.uk/resource/item.aspx?RID=106106> last accessed [27/01/17]

⁴⁸ West Sussex County Council (2014) Joint Strategic Needs Assessment [online] available to access via: <http://jsna.westsussex.gov.uk/reports/joint-strategic-needs-assessment-report/> last accessed [11/05/17]

- The importance of starting well;
- Prevention and resilience in relation to individuals, families and communities; and
- Co-morbidity/clustering of conditions and behaviours.

The West Sussex JSNA is currently under review, with updates to be made in the near future.

Health and Well-being is one of the key visions of the Adopted Chichester Local Strategy, with the following objectives;

- Encourage healthy and active lifestyles for all;
- A culturally enriched and empowered community;
- The needs of an older population;
- Accessible health and wellbeing services; and
- Health Protection.

8.3 Baseline Summary

8.3.1 Summary of Current Baseline

Health Indicators and Deprivation

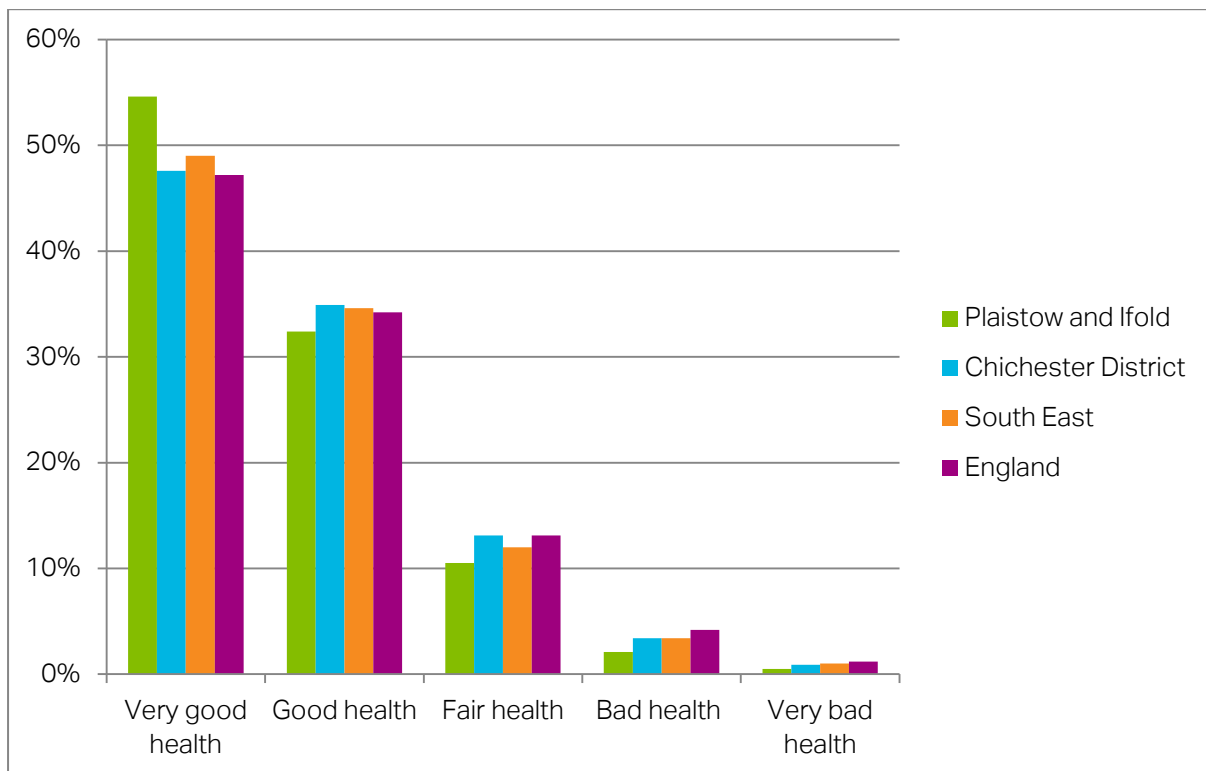


Figure 8.1: 'General Health'⁴⁹

As shown in Figure 8.1 there are high levels of 'very good health' within the PIPNP area, 54.6%, compared with 47.6% in Chichester, 49.0% in the South East and 47.2% average for England. Fewer residents in the PIPNP reported having 'bad health' or 'very bad health'- 2.6% compared with 4.3% in Chichester District, 4.4% in the South East and 5.4% average nationally. The lower than average levels of 'bad health' and 'very bad health', align with the disability data presented in Table 8.1, with fewer

⁴⁹ ONS (no date): Census 2011: 'General Health 2011' (Table QS302EW)

residents in the PIPNP area reporting themselves to be limited by disability when compared with the local, regional and national averages.

Table 8.1: Disability⁵⁰

	Plaistow and Ifold	Chichester District	South East	England
Activities limited 'a lot'	4.0%	7.3%	6.9%	8.3%
Activities limited 'a little'	9.2%	10.2%	8.8%	9.3%
Activities 'not limited'	87.7%	82.5%	84.3%	82.4%

Summary of Future Baseline

The health and well-being levels within the Neighbourhood Plan area are good, with higher numbers of residents having 'very good health' when compared with other local, regional and national averages. A growing population within the Neighbourhood Plan area might face future pressures on health services in the area.

Ongoing cuts to community services have the potential to lead to effects on health and wellbeing over the long term.

Obesity is seen as an increasing issue by health professionals, and one that will contribute to significant health impacts on individuals, including increasing the risk of a range of diseases, including heart disease, diabetes and some forms of cancer.

8.4 What are the SEA objectives and appraisal questions for the Health and Wellbeing SEA theme?

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Improve the health and wellbeing residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area.	<p>Will the option/proposal help to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote accessibility to a range of leisure, health and community facilities, for all age groups? Align to the key priority areas outlined in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment? Provide and enhance the provision of community access to green infrastructure, in accordance with Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards? Reduce noise pollution? Promote the use of healthier modes of travel? Improve access to the countryside for recreational use, including the South Downs National Park.

⁵⁰ ONS (no date): Census 2011: 'Long-term Health Problem or Disability 2011' (Table QS303EW)

9. Transportation

Focus of Theme:

- Transportation infrastructure
- Traffic flows and congestion
- Accessibility
- Car ownership
- Travel to work

9.1 Headline Sustainability Issues

- There is no railway station within the Neighbourhood Plan area; the nearest stations are at Haslemere and Billingshurst.
- There are a two Compass Travel bus services running in the area, with connections to nearby towns, however they are very infrequent, and do not run every day.
- There is a need for continued enhancement to public transport networks in the Neighbourhood Plan area.
- After driving, the most second most popular method of travelling to work in Plaistow and Ifold is to work from home. There is the potential for the number of people working from home to significantly increase due to modern working patterns such as agile and flexible working.

9.2 Policy Context

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. National policy also focuses on the need for the transport network to support sustainable economic growth.

At the local level, each Local Transport Authority in England and Wales has a statutory duty to produce and adopt a Local Transport Plan through the Local Transport Act 2000, as amended by the Local Transport Act 2008.

The main objective of the West Sussex Transport Plan 2011-2026⁵¹ is to improve the quality of life for the people of West Sussex by helping to provide:

- A high quality transport network that promotes a competitive and prosperous economy in all parts of the County
- A resilient transport network that complements the built and natural environment whilst reducing carbon emissions over time
- Access to services, employment and housing
- A transport network that feels, and is, safer and healthier to use.

Policy 39; Transport, Accessibility and Parking of the Adopted Chichester Local Plan lists a range of conditions that development must meet to be granted planning permission. These are as follows;

⁵¹ West Sussex County Council (2011) West Sussex Transport Plan 2011-2016 [online] available via: https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/media/3042/west_sussex_transport_plan_2011-2026_low_res.pdf last accessed [11/05/17]

- All development provides for the access and transport demands they create, through provision of necessary improvements to transport networks, services and facilities, either directly by the developer or indirectly in the form of financial contributions;
- Development is located and designed to minimise additional traffic generation and movement, and should not create or add to problems of safety, congestion, air pollution, or other damage to the environment;
- The proposal has safe and adequate means of access and internal circulation/turning arrangements for all modes of transport relevant to the proposal;
- The proposal encourages development that can be accessed by sustainable modes of transport, in part, through the creation of links between new development and existing pedestrian, cycle and public transport networks;
- The proposal provides for safe, easy and direct movement for those with mobility difficulties;
- The proposal does not create residual cumulative impacts which are severe; and
- Proposals provide for high quality linkage direct from the development to the broadband network.

9.3 Baseline Summary

9.3.1 Summary of Current Baseline

Rail Network

There are no railway stations within the Neighbourhood Plan area. The nearest stations are at Haslemere and Billingshurst.

Haslemere railway station is 6km to the west of Neighbourhood Plan area; however it is 11km from Plaistow village and 12.5km from Ifold settlement. Billingshurst station is approximately 7km south of the Neighbourhood Plan area, but is 8.5km from Ifold and 10km from Plaistow.

Haslemere railway station is located on the London to Portsmouth railway line, with four trains per hour to London Waterloo, two of which are fast services. Stations preceding from the London direction are Godalming, Witley and Guildford, and following stations in the Portsmouth direction are Liphook and Petersfield.

Billingshurst railway station is operated by Southern and lies on the Arun Valley Line. There are generally two trains per hour to London Victoria and two trains per hour to Bognor Regis. Preceding stations are Horsham and Christs Hospital, and the following station is Pulborough.

Bus Network

Bus services in the Neighbourhood Plan area are run by Compass Travel. Bus 66 travels from Loxwood to Horsham, stopping at Plaistow, Wisborough Green and Billingshurst. The bus runs one route on Mondays and Thursdays only. Bus 69 runs one journey every Tuesday and Thursday from Alfold to Worthing, stopping at Loxwood, Wisborough Green Billingshurst and Pulborough. Both routes stop at Ifold Stores and Plaistow Church.

However, this service is not scheduled, and is dependent on demand. As such there are a number of taxi services which provide 'on-demand' services in the Neighbourhood Plan area.

Road Network and Congestion

The road network comprises a network of minor roads and country lanes, sometimes with narrow passing places. There are no A or B roads within the Neighbourhood Plan area.

Cycle and Footpath Network

Many roads within the Neighbourhood Plan area are narrow country lanes; these often do not have pavements and can be unsuitable for pedestrian use.

There are a range of footpaths in the area, with the Sussex Border Path running along the northern boundary of the PIPNP area. There are also footpaths joining Plaistow with Ifold, as well as paths leading south to Kirdford and routes west into the South Downs National Park.

Availability of Cars and Vans

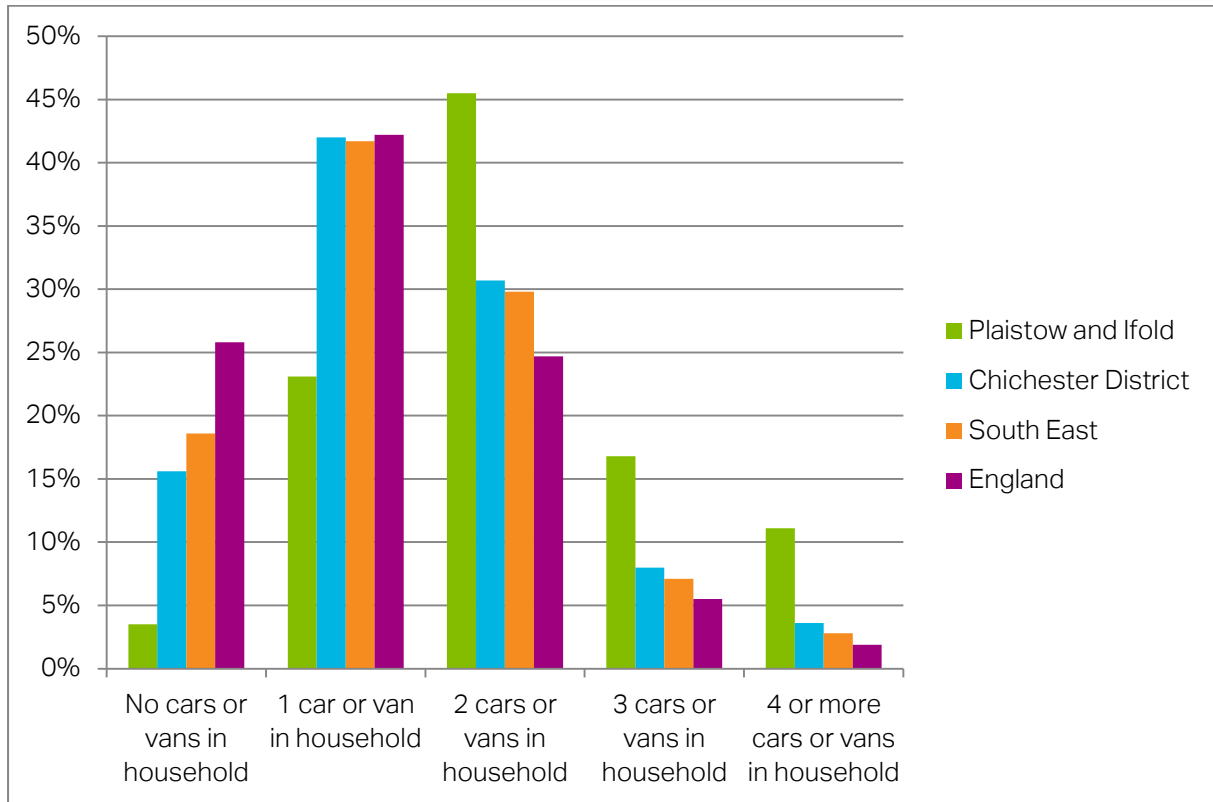


Figure 9.1: 'Car and van ownership'⁵²

With regard to access to vehicles within the Neighbourhood Plan area the proportion of households with no access to a car (3.5%) is significantly lower than the average for Chichester District (15.6%), the South East (18.6%) and England (25.8%). A significantly higher number of households have access to two or more cars (73.4%) when compared with Chichester District (42.3%), the South East (39.7%) and England (32.1%). The high level of cars in the PIPNP per household is likely to be due to the rural nature of the area and poor public transport links.

⁵² ONS (no date): 'Car or Van Availability 2011', (Table QS416EW)

Travel to Work

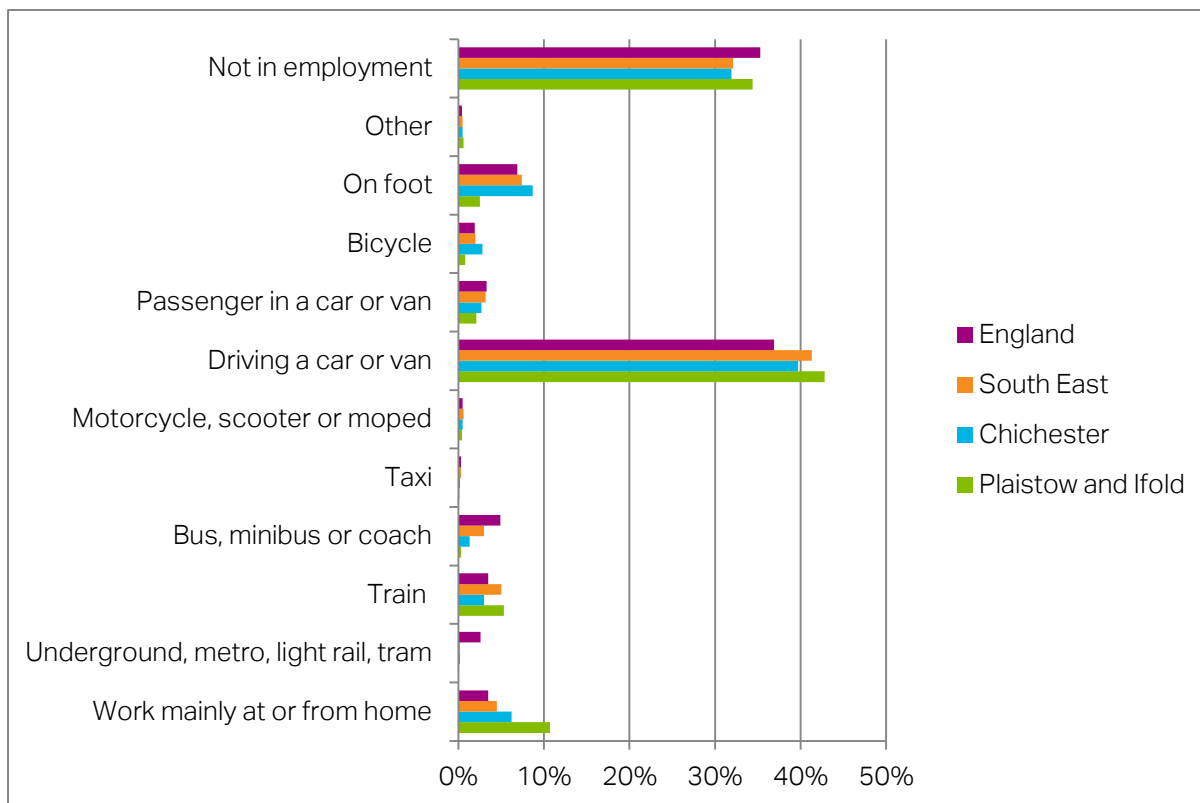


Figure 9.2: 'Method of Travel to Work'⁵³

Based on the most recent census data, the most popular method of traveling to work in the PIPNP is via driving a car or van (42.8%), higher than the averages for Chichester District (39.7%) and the average for England (36.9%). After driving, the most second most popular method of travelling to work in the PIPNP area is to work from home, with the value of 10.7%, higher than the averages for Chichester District (6.2%), the South East (4.5%) and the national average of 6.9%. Only 0.3% of residents within the Neighbourhood Plan area travel to work via bus or coach.

9.3.2 Summary of Future Baseline

New development has the potential to increase traffic and cause congestion within the Neighbourhood Plan area, particularly considering the narrow lanes which run through the area.

Public transport use has the potential to remain low compared with private car use; this likely to be due to the infrequent nature of the services provided within the area. There is potential to increase sustainable transport use and active travel such as cycling.

There is the potential for the number of people working from home in Plaistow and Ifold to significantly increase due to modern working patterns such as agile and flexible working.

⁵³ ONS (no date): Census 2011: 'Method of Travel to Work 2011' (Table QS701EW)

9.4 What are the SEA objectives and appraisal questions for the Transportation SEA theme?

SEA objective	Assessment Questions
Promote sustainable transport use and reduce the need to travel.	Will the option/proposal help to: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Encourage modal shift to more sustainable forms of travel?• Enable sustainable transport infrastructure enhancements?• Facilitate working from home and remote working?• Improve road safety?• Reduce the impact on residents from the road network?• Facilitate enhancements in pedestrian and cycle networks?

10. Next Steps

10.1 Subsequent stages for the SEA process

Scoping (the current stage) is the second stage of the SEA process⁵⁴

1. Screening;
2. Scoping;
3. Assess reasonable alternatives, with a view to informing preparation of the draft plan;
4. Assess the draft plan and prepare the Environmental Report with a view to informing consultation and plan finalisation;
5. Publish a 'statement' at the time of plan adoption in order to 'tell the story' of plan-making / SEA (and present 'measures decided concerning monitoring')

The next stage will involve appraising reasonable alternatives for the Plaistow and Ifold Parish Neighbourhood Plan. This will consider alternative policy approaches for the Neighbourhood Plan. The findings of the appraisal of these alternatives will be fed back to the Plaistow and Ifold Parish Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (the Neighbourhood Plan group) so that they might be taken into account when preparing the draft plan.

Once the draft ('pre-submission version') plan has been prepared by the Neighbourhood Plan group, it will be subjected to SEA and the Environmental Report prepared for consultation alongside it.

Following consultation on the draft Neighbourhood Plan and the Environmental Report, the Neighbourhood Plan will be finalised and submitted to Chichester District Council and the South Downs National Park Authority for consideration for subsequent Independent Examination.

10.2 Consultation on the Scoping Report

Public involvement through consultation is a key element of the SEA process. At this scoping stage, the SEA Regulations require consultation with statutory consultation bodies but not full consultation with the public.

The statutory consultation bodies are the Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England. The Scoping Report has been released to these three statutory consultees, as well as Chichester District Council and the South Downs National Park Authority.

Consultees are invited to comment on the content of this Scoping Report, in particular the evidence base for the SEA, the identified key issues and the proposed SEA Framework.

10.3 Download and viewing details

The Scoping Report can be downloaded at: <https://plaistowandifoldparishnp.com/>

This consultation period runs from **X** May 2017 to **X** June 2017. Comments on the Scoping Report should be sent to:

Beverley Weddell

Plaistow and Ifold Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Email address: clerk@plaistowandifold.org.uk

⁵⁴ In accordance with the stages set out in the National Planning Practice Guidance

All comments received on the Scoping Report will be reviewed and will influence the development of the SEA where appropriate.

