

Tendring
District Council



Tendring District Local Plan 2013-2033 and Beyond

Section 2

Adopted 25th January 2022

Foreword

We are pleased to present the Tendring District Local Plan ‘2013-2033 and beyond’ - the blueprint for future growth in our district and the rule book that will be applied in the pursuit of high quality, energy efficient and properly planned ‘sustainable’ development. Development that meets the needs and demands of our growing economy and increasing population whilst making sure the unique and much loved qualities of Tendring’s towns, villages, rural and coastal areas are respected, maintained and enhanced for the enjoyment of future generations.

The Local Plan is in two Sections. Section One (contained within a separate document) was prepared in partnership with Braintree and Colchester Councils and contains a strategy for growth across North Essex, sets the future targets for housing and employment growth and establishes the development of a new ‘Garden Community’ on the Tendring and Colchester border.

This document is Section Two of the Local Plan which is unique to Tendring and applies to all parts of our district outside of the proposed Garden Community. It identifies areas to be developed, areas to be protected and areas to be rejuvenated and enhanced and, as well as containing the policies that will apply in the determination of planning applications. It also provides the framework upon which Town or Parish Council or other recognised community groups can shape their own futures through the preparation of ‘Neighbourhood Plans’.

This plan did not come together overnight. Instead, it is the product of many years of technical research, community engagement, negotiation and cooperation with partners and neighbours and scrutiny from residents, businesses, developers and campaigners – culminating in the examination by a government Planning Inspector to ensure compliance with the law and national planning policy.

The plan has required the Council to make difficult decisions on a range of complex issues against the backdrop of continual changes in the planning system at the national level, the need for careful scrutiny of population and household projections and the threat, in all of our communities, from unpopular, harmful and speculative development proposals.

We thank all our residents, businesses, partners, Council Officers, expert consultants and fellow elected Councillors from all communities and political groups for their cooperation and participation in the production of this Local Plan, for the good of all.



Cllr Neil Stock OBE - Leader of the Council



Cllr Nick Turner - Chairman of the Planning Policy & Local Plan Committee

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CHAPTER 1

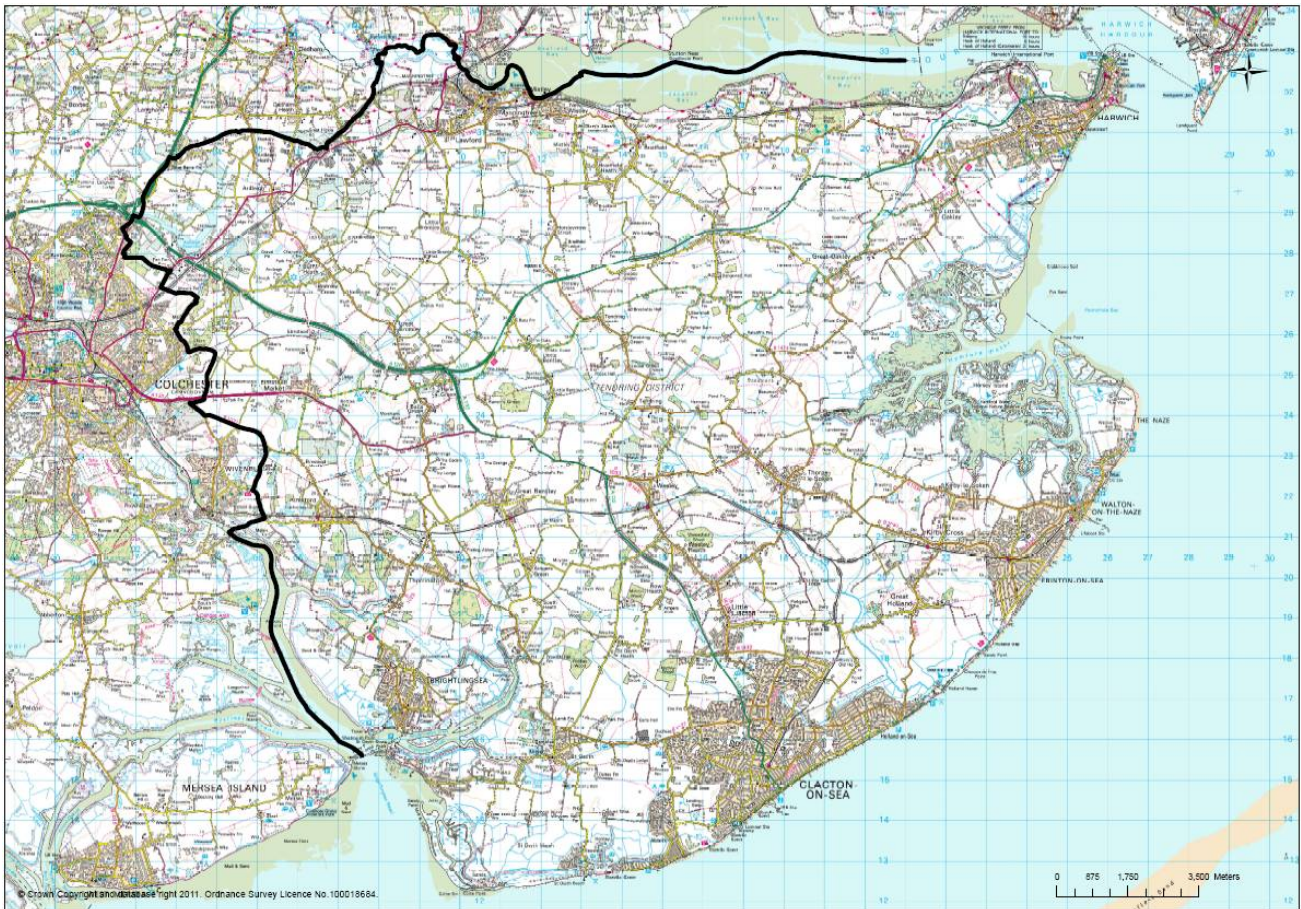
INTRODUCTION

1 Introduction

1.1 Welcome to Tendring

- 1.1.1** Welcome to the Tendring District Local Plan. Tendring District is located in the north-eastern corner of the county of Essex, bordering Suffolk and approximately 70 miles from London. Tendring is a coastal District containing a number of individual seaside and riverside towns and a large rural heartland. Tendring District is a peninsula bordered by the Stour Estuary to the north, the North Sea to the south and east and the Colne estuary to the south-west. The western edge of our District borders Colchester.
- 1.1.2** The largest urban area within our District is Clacton-on-Sea. Tendring District is also home to the International Port of Harwich, the coastal towns of Frinton-on-Sea and Walton-on-the-Naze, the historic port town of Brightlingsea and Manningtree, a town which borders Suffolk, the Stour Estuary and the Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Our rural heartlands contain many distinctive villages and hamlets of varying size.
- 1.1.3** Our District has a diverse range of assets including its attractive landscapes, coastline, areas of nature conservation, maritime heritage, a wealth of heritage assets and both local and internationally important ports. Alongside some thriving settlements and successful businesses there are also some major challenges including unemployment, coastal erosion and the need to provide space for future developments, to meet the employment and housing needs of current and future generations.

Map 1 Tendring District and Boundary



1.2 Our Local Plan

- 1.2.1** Our Local Plan will be the statutory development plan for Tendring District up to 2033. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requires all Local Planning Authorities in England and Wales to prepare a Local Plan and ensure it is kept up to date. Without an up-to-date plan, the Council would have limited power to influence the scale, location and quality of new development in the District, making it difficult to bring about the positive changes that the area needs and difficult to resist inappropriate development proposals that will have a detrimental effect on our area.
- 1.2.2** Section 1 of the Local Plan has been produced in partnership with Braintree, Chelmsford, Colchester and Essex Councils. It contains the context and policies for the strategic matters that are common across our combined Housing Market Area.
- 1.2.3** Section 2 of the Local Plan identifies some of the main characteristics of our District and the challenges we face; it also sets out the vision of this Plan to be achieved by 2033. To address these challenges and deliver the vision, the Plan identifies 'strategic priorities' for achieving sustainable development and planning for economic growth, meeting the social needs of a growing population and protecting the places that make Tendring District an attractive place to live, work and visit.

- 1.2.4** Together Sections 1 and 2 of the Local Plan set out: the key development projects that will deliver new jobs, housing and community facilities; specific sites that will be both promoted for and protected from development; the new infrastructure that will be needed to support future growth; and planning policies that the Council will use when determining planning applications. The Local Plan also provides the broad framework of policies and proposals to which individual communities can, if they wish, add further detail and more local requirements by preparing their own 'Neighbourhood Plans'.

1.3 Context

- 1.3.1** The Local Plan needs to be consistent with a wide range of other policies, guidance, strategies and plans produced not only by this Council but also by central government, neighbouring authorities and other public bodies. Through the Localism Act there is a legal 'Duty to Cooperate' with other organisations and neighbouring authorities in the preparation of Local Plans. The following section identifies other policies, guidance, strategies and plans that informed the content of this Local Plan along with the key national and local partnerships that will be involved in delivering positive changes in the area over the plan period.

1.3.1 National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

- 1.3.1.1** The National Planning Policy Framework was formally introduced by the government on 27th March 2012. The Council must ensure that the Local Plan is consistent with its objectives, principles and policies. The framework advocates a 'presumption in favour of sustainable development' which requires local authorities, in their Local Plans, to positively seek opportunities to meet the development needs in their area and meet objectively assessed needs, with sufficient flexibility to adapt to rapid change. The National Planning Policy Framework is also a 'material consideration' in determining planning applications alongside the policies in the Local Plan.

1.3.2 South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP)

- 1.3.2.1** Our District forms part of the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) which comprises Kent, Essex and East Sussex. Local Enterprise Partnerships are designed to offer local areas the opportunity to take control of their future economic development as part of the government's drive to promote local decision making. As a partnership between local authorities and business, the Enterprise Partnership plays a central role in determining local economic priorities and undertaking activities to drive economic growth. Tendring District Council works alongside other local authorities and businesses in the partnership to identify barriers to local economic growth, to stimulate a prosperous economic future for our District.

1.3.3 Haven Gateway Partnership

- 1.3.3.1** Our District forms part of the ‘Haven Gateway’ sub-region which is recognised as an area of strategic importance as a gateway to Europe and the rest of the world via the ports of Harwich and Felixstowe. The Haven Gateway is recognised as an area where significant growth in new jobs and housing is expected to take place in the future and where funding is allocated for new infrastructure to support regeneration and facilitate these high levels of growth. This Local Plan reflects the District’s important role within the Haven Gateway and helps deliver the sub-regional objectives of the Haven Gateway Partnership.

1.3.4 Essex County Council

- 1.3.4.1** Essex County Council is the Local Highway Authority, with a responsibility to manage and maintain the highway network, and the Local Transport Authority, with transport planning responsibilities for the administrative area of Essex. The Essex Local Transport Plan (2011) contains the Essex Transport Strategy (2011) and sets out the 15 year vision to improve travel in the county and underlines the importance of the transport network in achieving sustainable, long term economic growth and enriching the life of residents. It is supplemented by delivery strategies for public transport, highways, cycling and public rights of way. Essex County Council is also the Local Education Authority and Lead Local Flood Authority.

Essex Minerals Local Plan

- 1.3.4.2** Essex County Council is the minerals planning authority for the District and is responsible for preparing planning policies and assessing applications for mineral development. The Essex Minerals Local Plan (2014) forms part of the statutory Development Plan and should be read alongside the Tendring Local Plan. The role of the Minerals Local Plan is to identify sites for the extraction of sufficient quantities of mineral within Essex to facilitate development over the Plan period.
- 1.3.4.3** There are active quarry sites in the District as well as currently unworked sand and gravel deposits which are subject to a Minerals Safeguarding Policy within the Essex Minerals Local Plan 2014. Policy S8 requires the minerals planning authority – Essex County Council - to be consulted on development proposals covering 5 hectares or more within the sand and gravel Minerals Safeguarding Area. The Minerals Safeguarding Areas within Tendring District are shown on the Policies Map. Regard should be had to the requirements of the Minerals Local Plan where a development falls within a Minerals Safeguarding Area.
- 1.3.4.4** The Minerals Local Plan also designates Mineral Consultation Areas at a distance of 250m around active quarries, mineral infrastructure and mineral deposits permitted for extraction. Essex County Council must be consulted on all non-mineral related development within these areas.

Essex and Southend-on-Sea Waste Local Plan

1.3.4.5 Essex County Council is the waste planning authority for the District, and is responsible for preparing planning policies and assessing applications for waste management development. The Essex and Southend-on-Sea Waste Local Plan (2017) is part of the statutory Development Plan which should be read alongside the Tendring Local Plan. It sets out where and how waste management developments can occur, and is the planning policy against which waste management development planning applications are assessed.

1.3.4.6 The Essex and Southend-on-Sea Waste Local Plan allocates new waste development at Slough Farm, Ardleigh; Morses Lane, Brightlingsea; Sunnymead, Elmstead; and Heath Farms, northwest of Alresford. The Waste Local Plan also identifies Areas of Search to meet the need for additional small scale waste management facilities. These Areas of Search are existing industrial estates within the District, and are located away from residential and other uses sensitive to amenity impacts such as schools, retail, leisure and office development. The Waste Local Plan would seek to focus any new proposals for waste management facilities, which support local housing and economic growth, within these Areas of Search. One is proposed for Tendring, at Martell's Farm Industrial Area. The Waste Local Plan also designates Waste Consultation Areas at a distance of 250m around permitted waste management facilities and 400m around water recycling centres. Essex County Council must be consulted on all non-waste related development within these areas.

1.3.5 Working in Partnership

1.3.5.1 Whilst the Council's Planning Department has overseen the preparation of the Local Plan, it is far more than just a planning document. It is of high importance to all services within the Council and many of the partners that we work with. The Local Plan can inform and be informed by the strategies of different organisations because working in partnership will ultimately produce the best results on the ground. The legal 'Duty to Cooperate' places an onus on Councils to demonstrate that Local Plans have been prepared in partnership with other bodies.

1.3.6 Tendring District Council Strategies

1.3.6.1 Tendring District Corporate Plan – The Council's corporate plan sets out the Council's vision and priorities for the future as an organisation. It is important to ensure that the objectives of the Local Plan and Corporate Plan are aligned.

1.3.6.2 Other Council Strategies – Other than the Corporate Plan, the Council also has a variety of other plans and strategies that the Local Plan reflects and, where possible, supports. Relevant plans and strategies include:

- Community Safety Delivery Plan;
- Housing Strategy;
- Economic Development Strategy;

- Empty Homes Strategy; and
- Tourism Strategy.

1.3.7 The Plans of Neighbouring Authorities

1.3.7.1 The Council also needs to recognise the strategies of neighbouring authorities through the legal duty to cooperate on planning issues of cross-border or strategic significance. Tendring's adjoining neighbours are Colchester Borough Council and Babergh District Council. However, its strategic area is defined by its 'Housing Market Area' and this includes Braintree, Colchester and Chelmsford Council areas. Section 1 of this Local Plan sets out the strategic elements of this Local Plan and is common to all four Housing Market Area authorities. Babergh is not part of Tendring's Housing Market Area but still has an important relationship with Tendring.

1.3.7.2 The Babergh District lies to the north of both Tendring District and Colchester Borough and in the County of Suffolk. At the time of writing, Babergh District Council had adopted a new Core Strategy for the area (as the first part of a new Local Plan) with proposals for the period up to 2031 aimed at delivering around 9,700 jobs and just under 6,000 new homes. The majority of growth is focussed on the towns of Sudbury, Hadleigh and the western fringes of Ipswich. However, Brantham is on the boundary with Tendring District and the settlement has a strong relationship for services and facilities with Manningtree. Any new housing, retail, or employment in Brantham would have implications for the Tendring District. Likewise, proposals in this Local Plan for development in Manningtree, Lawford and Mistley will have implications for Brantham. Tendring District Council and Babergh District Council will work together, through the duty to cooperate, to ensure that these developments bring positive outcomes to the local economy, deliver any necessary infrastructure improvements and achieve good quality design.

1.3.7.3 Both Tendring and Babergh Districts also have a joint interest in the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) which has been extended to cover southern parts of the Stour Estuary.

1.3.8 Other Necessary Assessments

1.3.8.1 The Council has a statutory requirement to carry out a number of assessments, in accordance with European and national legislation to ensure that the implications of policies and proposals in the Local Plan have been fully understood. Such assessments include:

- **Sustainability Appraisal (SA):** This helps to ensure that Local Plans and other planning documents have a sound understanding of the environmental, social and economic characteristics and priorities of the area. The Sustainability Appraisal for this version of the draft Local Plan has been consulted upon.
- **Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA):** The SEA is required by a European Directive to assess the environmental effects of policies and proposals in Local Plans. The SEA is incorporated in to the SA in English law.

- **Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA):** An HRA is a requirement of the European Habitats Directive and for Tendring District is necessary to assess the impact of Local Plan's policies and proposals on our three sites of international importance for wildlife – Hamford Water, the Colne Estuary and the Stour Estuary. An HRA has been prepared for the Publication version of the Local Plan.
- **Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA):** An Equality Impact Assessment is designed to ensure that plan makers think carefully about the likely impacts of their plans on different groups of society to ensure that people are not being discriminated against and the needs of all the population are being addressed. An EqiA has been prepared for the Publication version of the Local Plan.

CHAPTER 2

VISION & OBJECTIVES

2 Vision and Objectives

2.0.1 Having considered the unique characteristics of the District and the challenges that it faces, this chapter sets out the Section 2 vision and objectives for the District. These underpin many of the policies and proposals in this Local Plan that the Council will work with partners to implement between now and 2033 and it reflects the Council's own corporate priorities.

2.1 Vision for Tendring District

VISION

In 2033, Tendring District will be a vibrant, healthy and attractive place to live, work and visit. It will have a thriving, resilient and prosperous economy that promotes sustainable economic growth, making sustainable use of its natural and historic environments, maritime connections and popularity as a visitor destination.

Tendring District's residents will have the opportunity to enjoy a safe and healthy quality of life in communities that offer a range of high quality new housing which meet local needs, job opportunities and other important services and facilities, including improved retail provision. They will be able to enjoy a variety of landscapes including a tidy coast, the open countryside with its elements of natural beauty, a wealth of wildlife areas where biodiversity has been conserved and enhanced and a diverse range of attractive historic settlements, landscapes and assets, and an integrated network of protected wildlife-rich areas which are conserved and enhanced. The District will be home to people of all ages and abilities, providing a range of activities, attractions and facilities that will appeal to the active retired, the young and residents of working age. The District will also provide for the specialist needs of all people ensuring, in particular, that children and young people have the knowledge and skills to secure the opportunity for a good start in life.

Tendring District's coastal area places economic, social and environmental considerations at the forefront of climate change and therefore there will be a need to place adaptation and mitigation against climate change at the centre of sustainable development.

Seaside Towns

Clacton-on-Sea will have established itself as the place everyone wants to live. With the rejuvenation of the town's attractive and safe beaches (including the coastal protection scheme between Holland Haven and Clacton), high quality shops, restaurants and cafes in the town centre, creation of new country parks and the construction of hundreds of new high quality, spacious and much sought after houses, bungalows and retirement complexes, the economy will have seen a significant resurgence with new job opportunities in the retail, leisure, hospitality and health sectors.

Clacton will have preserved and enhanced its heritage features and still maintained its tourism roots, building a thriving local tourism industry but as well as attracting holiday makers, the town will provide a range of activities and attractions that our older residents can enjoy with their children and grandchildren at the weekends and during the school holidays, and a strong evening economy where people from the town and surrounding areas will come for a fun and relaxing evening with their friends and colleagues in some of the town's new and trendy restaurants, nightclubs and entertainment venues. In Jaywick Sands, regeneration projects will continue to raise the standard of living in this part of Clacton. Jaywick Sands will have seen, through the provision of a deliverable development framework, a sustainable community with associated economic, community and employment opportunities.

The town will also have new training facilities with a centre of excellence for health and assisted living.

Frinton-on-Sea and Walton-on-the-Naze will enjoy year-round prosperity whilst retaining their very distinctive individual characteristics. Walton will have seen the biggest change with an injection of new housing, holiday accommodation, shops and leisure attractions bringing vitality to the town centre and core visitor areas, with new medical facilities serving the resident population. Frinton will have also seen some new homes and improvements to public spaces whilst continuing to offer a unique and non-commercialised shopping and leisure experience to its residents and its visitors. Both settlements will have succeeded in preserving and enhancing their special historic character.

Harwich and the A120 Corridor

The Harwich area will experience an economic resurgence with a number of major employers operating in the area with developments including Stanton Europark, Harwich Valley and Carless making the most of the A120. As a result, the housing market will have picked up and a number of housing developments will have taken place. The Old Town of Harwich will offer new leisure activities and a number of visitor attractions associated with its maritime history, including the Mayflower. Dovercourt Town Centre and seafront will have also improved its offer of a year round shopping and leisure experience. These benefits will have taken place whilst continuing to preserve and enhance the town's maritime heritage through careful consideration of its associated buildings, structures and coastal landscapes.

Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community

Neighbouring Colchester will have been the focus for significant growth in jobs and housing and will have a thriving economy that will benefit Tendring District's residents, many of whom commute into the town each day for work. A new community will be developed to the east of Colchester, developed on garden community principles, with necessary infrastructure and facilities provided and high quality of built and urban design. With major investment in rapid transit services to the town centre, pedestrian and cycle connections and a new link road between the A120 and A133, the management of traffic congestion will have improved, and provision of upgraded broadband infrastructure and services.

The University of Essex will be one of the leading research and development facilities in the country and, as a result, businesses will have moved to the area to benefit from its expertise and improved transport links. The new garden suburb crossing the Colchester Borough and Tendring District boundary will be a much sought-after place to live.

Rural Heartland

In the District's substantial rural heartland, the smaller towns of Manningtree, Lawford, Mistley and Brightlingsea, along with some of the larger villages, will have seen some modest levels of new housing and employment development to support local shops and services, address local issues, provide for local needs and facilitate investment by local businesses in job opportunities.

In some of the District's more remote villages, hamlets and other rural communities a flexible approach to small-scale housing development has helped keep those communities vibrant. Improvements to the telecommunications network and internet broadband services have given these areas a new lease of life with more people able to work, shop and learn from the comfort of their own home.

Any new development will need to obtain the following outcomes:

- 1. Creating the right balance of jobs, housing and infrastructure;*
- 2. Ensuring that development is sustainable in terms of location, use and form;*
- 3. Balancing the development needs of the District with the protection and enhancement of the natural, historic and built environment;*
- 4. Excellent services and facilities easily accessed by local communities and businesses;*
- 5. More walkable places and an excellent choice of ways to travel;*
- 6. Vibrant, well connected town and productive countryside;*
- 7. Avoid, then mitigate and, as a last resort, compensate for adverse impacts of development on the built, historic and natural environment and capitalising on these features;*
- 8. Stronger, more self-reliant town and countryside with thriving centres;*
- 9. Enhanced quality of life for all residents;*
- 10. Working with partners and residents to develop a place where people really matter;*
- 11. All new developments should account for, adapt to and mitigate against climate change.*

2.2 Objectives for the Plan

2.2.1 Section 2 of the Local Plan provides the housing and employment allocations outside of the Garden Community. It also provides the vision, objectives and development management policies for the plan as a whole.

2.2.2 A number of sub-objectives have been identified to underpin the purpose of the Local Plan policies in Section 2. These are as follows:

2.2.1 Living Places

- **Housing Delivery**

2.2.1.1 The Local Plan's strategic objectives for Housing Delivery are:

Objective 1

- *To provide new dwellings within Tendring District up to 2033 of sufficient variety in terms of location of sites, size, types, tenure and affordability to meet the needs of a growing and ageing population in full.*
- *To deliver high quality sustainable new communities.*

2.2.2 Prosperous Places / Sustainable Places

- **Employment/Commercial**

2.2.2.1 The Local Plan's strategic objective for Employment delivery is:

Objective 2

- *To create the conditions for economic growth and employment opportunities across a range of economic sectors including established business sectors and those sectors projected to grow in the future such as renewable energy and care and assisted living.*
- *To provide for the development of employment land on a variety of sites to support a diversity of employment opportunities and to achieve a better balance between the location of jobs and housing, which will reduce the need to travel and promote sustainable growth up to the period of 2033.*

2.2.3 Prosperous Places

- **Retail Development**

2.2.3.1 The Local Plan's strategic objective for Retail Development is:

Objective 3

- *To promote the vitality and viability of the town centres through the promotion of retail and other related uses, exploiting the benefit of enhanced growth of the towns whilst retaining the best and valued aspects of their existing character, as well as responding*

appropriately to changes in the way people enjoy shopping and other leisure activities, and competition for trade arising from other centres, both within and outside of the district.

2.2.4 Connected Places / Sustainable Places

- **Infrastructure Provision**

2.2.4.1 The Local Plan's strategic objectives for infrastructure provision are:

Objective 4

- *To make efficient use of existing transport infrastructure and ensure sustainable transport opportunities are promoted in all new development. Where additional capacity is required in the form of new or upgraded transport infrastructure, to ensure this is provided as necessary in connection with new development.*
- *To enable provision of upgraded broadband infrastructure and services.*
- *To ensure that new growth brings opportunities to enhance existing services, facilities and infrastructure for the benefit of existing and new communities.*
- *To ensure that flood defence infrastructure is considered so that future developments take into consideration the impacts of climate change.*
- *To ensure there is adequate capacity in the foul water sewerage infrastructure.*

2.2.5 Healthy Places / Prosperous Places

- **Education and Health**

2.2.5.1 The Local Plan's strategic objectives for Education and Healthcare are:

Objective 5

- *To improve and provide good quality educational opportunities and prospects for Tendring's residents as part of sustainable community strategy. This includes practical vocational training and apprenticeships.*
- *To work with partners in the National Health Service, local health organisations, Essex County Council and local community groups to ensure adequate provision of healthcare facilities to support growing communities.*
- *To work with Public Health to promote and encourage healthy lifestyles through developments and planning to ensure that the people of Tendring have opportunities to be as healthy as possible.*

2.2.6 Healthy Places / Sustainable Places

- **Sustainability**

2.2.6.1 The Local Plan's strategic objective for Sustainability is:

Objective 6

- *To locate development within Tendring District where it will provide the opportunity for people to satisfy their needs for employment, shopping, education, and other services locally or in locations which minimise the need to travel and where there are modes of transport available in addition to the use of the car.*

2.2.7 Protected Places / Sustainable Places

- **The Historic Environment**

2.2.7.1 The Local Plan's strategic objective for the Historic Environment is:

Objective 7

- *To conserve and enhance Tendring District's historic environment, including: heritage; respecting historic buildings and their settings; heritage assets; landscapes; links; and views.*

2.2.8 Protected Places

- **Biodiversity**

2.2.8.1 The Local Plan's strategic objective for Biodiversity is:

Objective 8

- *To provide a network of interconnected multi-functional natural green and blue spaces which secures a net gain in biodiversity and geodiversity; promotes healthy lifestyles; and enhances the quality of the natural and built environment.*

2.2.9 Protected Places

- **Water and Climate Change**

2.2.9.1 The Local Plan's strategic objective for Water and Climate Change is:

Objective 9

- *To reduce the risk of flooding (all types) by securing the appropriate location and design of new development (including SuDs), having regard to the likely impact of climate change.*

2.2.10 Prosperous Places / Protected Places

- **Tourism Promotion**

2.2.10.1 The Local Plan's strategic objective for Tourism is:

Objective 10

- *To work with partners to provide an enhanced environment for tourism and the maritime sector and its associated services.*

CHAPTER 3

SUSTAINABLE PLACES

3 Sustainable Places

3.0.1 The Local Plan's strategic objective for Sustainability is "To locate development within Tendring District where it will provide the opportunity for people to satisfy their needs for employment, shopping, education, and other services locally or in locations which minimise the need to travel and where there are modes of transport available in addition to the use of the car."

3.1 Spatial Portrait

3.1.1 General Characteristics

3.1.1.1 Within our District, the 2011 Census puts the population at approximately 138,100 with an average density of 4.1 people per hectare. The most recent figures (2019) estimate the population of the District at approximately 146,000, an increase of 5.7% on the 2011 Census figures. The predominant ethnic group is White British with a high percentage of the population describing themselves as such. The ethnic minority population was lower than the estimates for both the East of England and Essex.

3.1.1.2 Our District is projected to grow by 14.4% (from 2011 Census numbers) to approximately 158,000 by the end of the plan period. Recent decades have seen a trend towards an ageing population in the District and this is projected to continue in the future. The percentage of over 65s in Tendring District is higher than both the East of England and Essex percentages. The number of people over age 65 years is projected to increase by more than a third within the plan period. In contrast, the proportion of the population aged under 5 years is projected to remain the same in that period. Between 2014 and 2024 the total population of the District is predicted to increase from 139,500 to 149,700, this represents an increase of 7% or 10,200 more people. The percentage of over 65s in Tendring District is higher than both the England and Essex percentages. The number of people over 65 is expected to increase from 40,600 to 47,500 - an increase of 17% (6,900) representing almost a third of the total population in the district. Recent decades have seen a trend towards an ageing population in the District, these figures are representative of that.

3.1.1.3 Based on the 2011 Census, there were 62,105 households in the Tendring District, the majority of which were within privately owned housing. Average household size in the district was 2.2 people, slightly lower than the national, regional and county averages. The average property price in March 2020 in Tendring District was £217,526; this is noticeably lower than average prices for England and Essex.

3.1.2 Economy

3.1.2.1 Tendring District is connected to a network of major roads via the A120, A133 and A137, which provide routes to Chelmsford, London, the M25, London Stansted Airport and the Port of Felixstowe.

- 3.1.2.2** Transportation provision in the District includes 14 railway stations with connections to Colchester, Ipswich and further afield. The average journey time between Clacton-on-Sea and London Liverpool Street is 1 hour 26 minutes and the journey time from Manningtree to London is just over 1 hour.
- 3.1.2.3** There are numerous bus routes throughout the District including frequent inter-urban routes linking villages to the larger urban areas of the district and the large town of Colchester in the adjoining borough. The dispersed geography of the District means that there is a reliance on the use of private cars.
- 3.1.2.4** The District includes Harwich International Port which has developed into a highly efficient, multi-purpose freight and passenger port handling bulk and container ships as well as roll-on, roll-off ferries and cruise ships. The port also supports the off-shore renewables industry providing support facilities for the installations at London Array, Gunfleet Sands, Greater Gabbard, and most recently the Galloper Wind Farm off the Suffolk coast. The latter has a state-of-the-art purpose-built operations & maintenance facility within the Port.
- 3.1.2.5** The sector employing the most people in Tendring, according to the Economic Development Strategy (2013), was health which accounted for approximately 17% of jobs, followed by retail and education. The sector employing the most people in Tendring, according to the Economic Strategy (2019), was Health & Care which accounted for over 6,500 jobs.
- 3.1.2.6** The Cultural, Visitor and Tourism sector encompasses a range of activities which play an important role in the District's economy. This sector is worth more than £353 million per annum to the economy and is estimated to provide 7,900 jobs across Tendring District. The majority of jobs and businesses in this sector are located in and around Clacton. Figures from the Economic Strategy 2019 show that tourism employment has grown by 35% over the last five years. This has in part, been driven by the actions promoted in the Tendring Tourism Strategy 2010-16. Wider investment into the sector, including Brook Park West (£75m investment), the major investment at Clacton Pier (£4m), and the Water Park at Clacton Pavilion (£1m) will help to make Tendring a more attractive place for tourists to visit.
- 3.1.2.7** The quantitative projection for new retail floorspace in the Tendring District to 2032, as identified in the Retail Study Update 2017, indicates that there is no quantitative need for additional retail floorspace across the District. The Retail and Town Centre Uses Study (2020) forecasts an increase in turnover for convenience goods shopping in Tendring that could potentially generate enough floorspace capacity for an additional food store, subject to market demand.
- 3.1.2.8** The Study also identifies that there is no capacity for new convenience goods floorspace in the District. A town-by-town analysis indicates a quantitative need for additional convenience floorspace in Manningtree and Harwich/Dovercourt, but not in Frinton-on-Sea, Brightlingsea, Walton-on-the-Naze, or Clacton. In relation to

comparison retail there is a potential increase in turnover which, taking into account internet shopping, is only expected to generate a negligible increase in floorspace capacity.

- 3.1.2.9** In relation to comparison goods floorspace requirement, there is a potential capacity for new comparison goods floorspace. A town-by-town analysis indicates that there is a quantitative need for modest additional comparison floorspace in all town centres except in Clacton, Harwich/Dovercourt and Walton-on-the-Naze. The Study indicates that additional floorspace in the town centres would improve market share, sustain vitality and viability and attract visitors. In both cases the need for additional floorspace can be accommodated within existing centres, which is consistent with national policy and will promote the vitality and viability of the district's town centres.
- 3.1.2.10** Internet shopping has become a major competitor to town centre shopping, a trend accelerated by COVID-19, with three quarters of all adults in the UK buying goods or services on-line. Increases in on-line shopping choice will mean traditional retailers and service providers will need to compete not only in price and range but also in service and expertise. Town centres will need to provide an attractive, mixed-use shopping experience to retain and increase their share of consumer spending.
- 3.1.2.11** Model based unemployment figures for the District during the period January 2015 – December 2015 show that the unemployment rate was 5.3% which is higher than that for the East of England. Model based unemployment figures for the District during the period April 2019 – March 2020 show that the unemployment rate was 5.4% which is higher than that for the East of England. These figures are based on a proportion of the District's economically active population.
- 3.1.2.12** At the time of writing there were more than 130 Care Homes in Tendring District, with 9.1 care homes per 10,000 population. This is the highest concentration of care homes in the UK. The care sector is the second highest employer in the District. With the population of over 65s projected to rise by more than a third during the plan period, consideration will need to be given to the needs of an ageing population to encourage independent living. Figures from the Economic Strategy 2019 show the broad Health and Care sector is a significant employer within the District with over 6,500 jobs. 3,000 of these are within the Care and Assisted Living sub-sector, the vast majority of which are in care homes. Tendring has a higher concentration of care homes than any other district in the UK, the district is home to one in five of all the care homes in Essex.

3.1.3 Social Characteristics

- 3.1.3.1** In 2018 there were 1,314 births in the Tendring District. Recent figures show life expectancy in the District has been estimated as 78 years for men and 82 years for women, this is slightly lower than the estimates for England and Essex.
- 3.1.3.2** As at September 2020 there are 39 Primary Schools and 6 Secondary Schools in the District. In addition there are 2 Special Schools for children ages 5 – 16

- 3.1.3.3** The Essex School Organisation Service's Ten Year Plan 2020-29, published in January 2020, sets out the requirement, supply and demand for places in mainstream primary and secondary schools and is updated annually.
- 3.1.3.4** In January 2020 there were 10,480 mainstream primary school pupils and 7,987 secondary school pupils, including 742 in sixth forms.
- 3.1.3.5** Primary school numbers published on the Essex County Council website in support of the 10 Year Plan, predict a rise in demand for mainstream places from the 10,469 pupils recorded on roll at January 2019 to 11,648 by the 2029/30 academic year. This forecast is consistent across the district and takes account of new housing set out in Tendring Council's housing trajectory, as available at the end of March 2019.
- 3.1.3.6** Corresponding secondary school numbers also published on the Essex County Council website, predict a rise in demand from the 7,918 pupils (including sixth form) to 10,254. Again, increased demand is expected across the district. The sharpest rise in demand is expected to be in the Clacton area.
- 3.1.3.7** The District rates relatively highly on the Index of Multiple Deprivation and Jaywick Sands ranks first within England. It is estimated that almost a fifth of people in the District live in seriously deprived neighbourhoods. This estimation is higher than that of the neighbouring Colchester Borough and Babergh District. The rate of households assessed as homeless in Tendring District is 1.93 per 1,000 in the period January – March 2020. Households assessed as threatened with homelessness within the District is 1.04 per 1000, lower than both the regional and national figures.
- 3.1.3.8** Crime data taken from the Essex Police Performance Summary to July 2020 publication regarding the number of offences recorded by the Police, for the year July 2019 to 2020 shows that all recorded crime in the Tendring District had fallen by just over 4%.
- 3.1.3.9** Tendring's community has access to a wide range of Council-run services including three leisure centres with swimming pools, sports centres, recreation grounds, country parks and the Princes Theatre, with an 820 seat auditorium which hosts local events as well as attracting national and international entertainers. The Council also provides Careline, a subscription service which supports independent living.

3.1.4 Ecological Characteristics

- 3.1.4.1** The District has large areas of unspoilt open countryside and a wealth of attractive natural and historic landscapes including areas of importance to nature conservation, particularly around our coast and estuaries. The District also contains many buildings of historic and architectural importance, many of which are within designated conservation areas. These assets are key to the District's attractiveness and its tourism economy but, at the same time, are sensitive to the development pressures stemming from new jobs and homes needed to meet local demands and address the social and economic issues facing the District.

- 3.1.4.2** In the north west of the District is the Dedham Vale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), designated for conservation due to its significant landscape value. Made famous by the paintings of Constable and Gainsborough, its traditional grasslands, wildflower meadows and hedgerows provide an opportunity for both residents and visitors to enjoy the peace and beauty of what are among some of England's most precious and vulnerable landscapes. The Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONB has also been extended to cover parts of Tendring on the south side of the Stour Estuary. The District also has the Orwell and Stour Estuaries which are designated as a Special Protection Area (SPA), Ramsar site and Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The Colne Estuary is designated as Essex Estuaries Special Area of Conservation (SAC) as well as SPA, Ramsar, and SSSI. The Hamford Water area is designated as SPA and SAC. The above sites are all key for the natural environment in regards to protection of habitats of migratory animals, endangered birds, scarce plants and invertebrates as well as the conservation of wetlands.
- 3.1.4.3** The Naze at Walton, the most easterly peninsular in Essex, is a stunning and increasingly rare example of natural and wild coastline of geological and biological importance which benefits both visitors and wildlife alike. It is an important site for migrating and nesting birds including many rarities, with harbour porpoises out to sea, grey seals in the backwaters and a whole host of species to be found on the beaches and in the mud pools. The 70 foot (21m) high cliffs, are an internationally important SSSI. These cliffs are made up of London Clay, Red Crag and Thames sands and contain many fossils, such as shark's teeth, shells and wood, which can frequently be found on the beaches. The Naze is rich in history and is dominated by the Naze Tower, built in 1720 by Trinity House to mark the premonitory to shipping approaching Harwich Harbour. The Tower is now open to the public during the summer months and provides a gallery for the display of works by local artists and craftspeople and boasts a 360 degree view of the surrounding land and seascapes from its viewing platform.
- 3.1.4.4** The District has a rich geodiversity which is varied and largely irreplaceable. There are 10 sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) in the District, notified specifically for their geological value.
- 3.1.4.5** The countryside in the District is one of its key assets both in terms of tourism and the living environment for our residents. The Council, working with the Essex Wildlife Trust, has identified over 100 Local Wildlife Sites (LoWS) in the Tendring District including meadowland, grasslands, churchyards and ancient woodlands. LoWS are areas of land with significant wildlife value which provide important wildlife refuges and a green infrastructure network and, although these sites are not protected by law, they are worthy of nature conservation and are protected by planning policy.
- 3.1.4.6** With over 37 miles (60 Km) of coastline, the District contains a number of areas at high risk from tidal flooding and coastal erosion. There is risk of fluvial flooding or surface water flooding elsewhere in the District. The Essex and South Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan (SMP), prepared in partnership between the

Environment Agency, Essex County Council and District Councils, is a strategy for managing flooding and coastal erosion over the next 100 years, in three time periods. The main aims of the SMP are to protect all dwellings and key infrastructure against flooding and erosion, to sustain the quality of the natural and historic environment and to allow natural shoreline evolution where possible to take place.

- 3.1.4.7** The 'Hold the Line' strategy, maintaining the existing defence line, can be seen in the Coastal Protection Scheme between Clacton and Holland-on-Sea. In 2014 the Clacton to Holland-on-Sea Coastal Protection Scheme was implemented to provide protection to more than 3,000 homes and commercial premises which would otherwise be at serious risk from erosion by the sea during the next 100 years.

3.1.5 Heritage Characteristics

- 3.1.5.1** Our District has more than 960 Listed Buildings. The District also benefits from 27 Scheduled Monuments which include above and below ground features, 4 Registered Historic Parks and Gardens as designated by Historic England and 9 Protected Lanes, preserved for their historic indication of ancient road patterns in the District. The District also contains 20 Conservation Areas.
- 3.1.5.2** The historic centres of Harwich, Manningtree, Mistley and St Osyth contain many impressive and unique historic buildings and monuments. Within these areas there is a greater likelihood of archaeological remains due to their complex history and development of their communities over many centuries. These centres are sensitive to development in much the same way as is the ecology of an environmentally important area. Outside of these designated areas, the district's largely rural character and long history of occupation results in many areas of high archaeological importance as well as a range of listed buildings, conservation areas and scheduled monuments.
- 3.1.5.3** Some of the more notable heritage assets within our District include the St Osyth Priory Gatehouse (Scheduled Monument, Grade I listed building) an important example of monastic building of the Augustinian order whose façade has one of the best preserved examples of knapped flint and stone flushwork in East Anglia. The impressive 18th Century Mistley Towers (Scheduled Monument Grade I Listed building), the remains of a church designed by Robert Adam. The Harwich Redoubt (Scheduled Monument Grade II* Listed building) a circular fort which supported 10 gun embrasures, completed in 1810 to defend the harbour against invasion during the Napoleonic War. These are just a few examples of the heritage assets within the District.

3.1.6 Socio-Environmental Characteristics

- 3.1.6.1** Tendring District's potable drinking water comes from Ardleigh Reservoir. The reservoir covers 120 acres and, as well as providing the District with drinking water, is also used for recreational activities including sailing and fishing.

- 3.1.6.2** In 2011/12 the Council's total Carbon Dioxide emission was 3,032 tonnes, the most recent figures indicate that in 2018/19 those emissions have risen to 4,553 tonnes although the rise may be attributable to changes in assessment and reporting methodologies. The Council is in the process of setting out an Action Plan to become net zero carbon by 2030.
- 3.1.6.3** Increase in development and use of renewable energy has seen the installation of both off and onshore wind farms in the District. The Orsted Gunfleet Sands 48 turbine offshore Wind Farm has the capacity to provide approximately 100,000 homes with 'clean electricity' in the years to come making a considerable reduction in Carbon Dioxide emissions. Its sister operation, Galloper Offshore Wind Farm, became fully operational in March 2018. Galloper is maintained from the Operations & Maintenance facility at Harwich International Port. Galloper alone generates enough energy to power up to 380,000 average UK households per year. The 5 turbine on-shore Wind Farm at Earls Hall has the capacity to generate 'clean electricity' for approximately 6,300 homes and will reduce Carbon Dioxide emissions by 15,000 tonnes per year. Approval was granted for Solar Farms in Wix and Bradfield, these have been delivered, which together will have the capacity to generate 'clean electricity' for approximately 3,409 homes.

3.2 Neighbourhood Planning

3.2.1 The 2011 Localism Act introduced the concept of 'Neighbourhood Planning'. Under this Act, Town or Parish Councils or other 'qualifying bodies' can prepare Neighbourhood Plans to supplement the policies and proposals in this Local Plan to influence future growth in their local area. Neighbourhood Plans can be used to allow additional development that meets locally identified requirements. The basic conditions for any Neighbourhood Plans are that they must:

- have appropriate regard to national policy;
- contribute to the achievement of sustainable development;
- be in general conformity with strategic policies in the Local Plan; and
- be compatible with legal obligations, including habitats and human rights requirements.

3.2.2 In addition to the Strategic Policies within Section 1 of the Plan, the main 'Strategic Policies' within Section 2 of this Local Plan that Neighbourhood Plans must be in accordance with are:

- Policy SPL 1 MANAGING GROWTH
- Policy SPL 2 SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENT BOUNDARIES
- Policy LP 1 HOUSING SUPPLY
- Policy LP 2 HOUSING CHOICE
- Policy LP 5 AFFORDABLE HOUSING
- Policy LP 6 RURAL EXCEPTION SITES
- Policy PP 5 TOWN CENTRE USES

- Policy PP 6 EMPLOYMENT SITES
- Policy PP 13 THE RURAL ECONOMY
- Policy PPL 1 DEVELOPMENT AND FLOOD RISK
- Policy PPL 2 COASTAL PROTECTION BELT
- Policy PPL 4 BIODIVERSITY AND GEODIVERSITY
- Policy PPL 5 WATER CONSERVATION, DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

3.2.3 Upon adoption, neighbourhood plans will become a statutory plan, sitting alongside the Local Plan as part of the suite of documents that will guide development. The Council will advise and assist Town or Parish Councils and other qualifying bodies in the preparation of Neighbourhood Plans as and when appropriate.

3.3 Spatial Strategy

3.3.1 Growth needs to be carefully managed so as not to lead to unsustainable developments in remote and poorly accessible locations. The settlement hierarchy prioritises locations with access to the strategic road network, public transport and which have the potential to offer the widest range of services. All settlements which may experience growth have a development settlement boundary. Those without a settlement development boundary are considered to be part of the countryside.

3.3.1 Settlement Hierarchy

3.3.1.1 Strategic Urban Settlements and Garden Community

3.3.1.1.1 'Strategic Urban settlements' have the larger populations and a wide range of existing infrastructure and facilities, making them the most sustainable locations for growth. These settlements provide better opportunities for the use of public transport, walking and cycling to get from place to place and, because they have established town centres, employment areas and infrastructure, they provide locations where, with the right action, it is possible to create a significant number of additional new jobs and deliver sustainable housing growth on a larger scale.

3.3.1.1.2 For Tendring District, the settlements that fall within this category are of Clacton-on-Sea, Harwich and Dovercourt and the Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community. Outside of our District, Colchester is also considered to be a Strategic Urban Settlement for the purposes of the Settlement Hierarchy.

3.3.1.1.3 To deliver economic growth in each of these areas, this Local Plan contains proposals for new employment sites, investment in town centres and improvements to the infrastructure.

3.3.1.1.4 In applying a sustainable, fair and proportionate approach to the distribution of housing growth, the Strategic Urban Settlements will accommodate the largest proportion of the District's increase in housing stock over the plan period.

3.3.1.1.5 The proposed strategic housing and mixed use sites in Clacton and the Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community are also areas where longer-term growth is likely to be considered beyond the current plan period.

3.3.1.2 Smaller Urban Settlements:

3.3.1.2.1 Smaller Urban Settlements have large populations relative to rural settlements and benefit from a range of existing infrastructure and facilities. These settlements provide a range of opportunities for the use of public transport, walking and cycling and because they have established town centres, employment areas and infrastructure, they provide locations where, with the right action, it is possible to create a significant number of additional new jobs and deliver sustainable housing growth on a large scale.

3.3.1.2.2 For Tendring District, the settlements that fall within this category are Frinton, Walton and Kirby Cross; Manningtree, Lawford and Mistley; and Brightlingsea

3.3.1.2.3 In applying a sustainable, fair and proportionate approach to the distribution of housing growth, the Smaller Urban Settlements will accommodate the second largest proportion of the District's increase in housing stock over the plan period. Development will be of scale that is proportionate having regard to the existing size and character of each settlement; their range of jobs, shops, services and facilities; and any physical, environmental or infrastructure constraints.

3.3.1.3 Rural Service Centres:

3.3.1.3.1 For Tendring District, seven villages are classed as 'Rural Service Centres' Alresford, Elmstead Market, Great Bentley, Little Clacton, St. Osyth, Thorpe-le-Soken and Weeley. For these settlements, the Local Plan identifies opportunities for smaller-scale growth. Some of these villages will accommodate a modest increase in housing stock, where appropriate, within the plan period. Developments will be of a scale that is proportionate, achievable and sustainable for each of the settlements concerned having regard to the existing size and character of each settlement; their more limited range of jobs, shops, services and facilities; and any physical, environmental or infrastructure constraints. These developments will make a meaningful contribution toward addressing local housing needs, supporting the village economy and assisting with the overall housing growth proposed for the District.

3.3.1.3.2 If at any time during the plan period, there is an identified local need for affordable housing in any of these villages that cannot be fully addressed through the proposed housing growth in this Local Plan, the option of delivering additional housing through the 'rural exceptions policy' is available to Parish Councils working with landowners, the District Council and/or another affordable housing provider.

3.3.1.4 Smaller Rural Settlements:

- 3.3.1.4.1** Other smaller villages within Tendring District's rural heartland have much less in the way of job opportunities, local services, facilities and other infrastructure. Residents of these smaller villages are often reliant on neighbouring towns and villages for work, shopping and other services and frequently need to travel distances either by public transport (if it is available) or, more often than not, by private car.
- 3.3.1.4.2** Because of this, these smaller villages are considered to be the least sustainable locations for growth and there is a concern that encouraging too much development in these areas will only serve to increase the number of people having to rely on cars to go about their everyday lives. However, these villages are still under pressure to grow and some small-scale development which is sympathetic to the rural and often historic character of the settlement might help younger people to continue to live in the area, keep local shops and services viable and help bring balance to an ageing population. Particular attention must be given to school travel and any expansion of existing rural schools.
- 3.3.1.4.3** Each of these smaller rural settlements can achieve a small scale increase in housing stock over the plan period. To allow for this to happen, Settlement Development Boundaries have been drawn flexibly, where practical, to accommodate a range of sites both within and on the edge of the villages and thus enabling them to be considered for small-scale residential 'infill' developments: provided that it does not detrimentally impact the historic and natural environment.
- 3.3.1.4.4** Developments which exceed 10 dwellings in size will not be permitted unless there is local support from the Town or Parish Council, an approved Neighbourhood Plan that advocates additional growth or an identified local need for affordable housing that could be addressed through a 'rural exception site'.

3.3.2 Existing Permissions:

- 3.3.2.1** To achieve a sustainable increase in housing stock for each of Tendring District's settlements up to 2033, a high level of new homes have gained planning permission or will have been completed on sites between 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2020. The remaining requirement will be delivered on sites that are specifically allocated for housing development, supplemented by other suitable sites within the Settlement Development Boundaries in this Local Plan. The allocated sites either lie within the established built-up area of the settlement or involve undeveloped land on the edge of the settlement. Alongside the planned developments, it is likely that a number of currently unidentified 'windfall' sites will obtain planning permission for housing in accordance with the policies in this Local Plan during the plan period.

Policy SPL 1

MANAGING GROWTH

Settlement Hierarchy

Strategic Urban Settlements and Garden Community:

- *Clacton-on-Sea (comprising Central Clacton, Jaywick Sands, West Clacton, Great Clacton (North), East Clacton and Holland-on-Sea)*
- *Harwich and Dovercourt (including Parkeston and part of Ramsey)*
- *The Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community*

Smaller Urban Settlements

- *Frinton, Walton and Kirby Cross*
- *Manningtree, Lawford and Mistley*
- *Brightlingsea*

Rural Service Centres

- *Alresford*
- *Elmstead Market*
- *Great Bentley*
- *Little Clacton*
- *St. Osyth*
- *Thorpe-le-Soken*
- *Weeley*

Smaller Rural Settlements:

- *Ardleigh*
- *Beaumont-Cum-Moze*
- *Bradfield*
- *Frating*
- *Great Bromley*
- *Great Holland*
- *Great Oakley*
- *Kirby-le-Soken*
- *Little Bentley*
- *Little Bromley*
- *Little Oakley*
- *Ramsey Village*
- *Tendring*
- *Thorpe Station and Thorpe Maltings*

- *Thorrington*
- *Weeley Heath*
- *Wix*
- *Wrabness*

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 1 and 6 of this Local Plan.

3.3.3 Settlement Development Boundaries

- 3.3.3.1** To achieve a sustainable increase in housing stock, a significant number of new homes will come forward on sites which at April 2020 already had extant planning permission for new housing. The remaining requirement will be delivered on sites that are specifically allocated for housing or mixed-use development, supplemented by other suitable sites within the Settlement Development Boundaries in this Local Plan. Alongside the planned developments, it is likely that a number of currently unidentified 'windfall' sites will obtain planning permission for housing in accordance with the policies in this Local Plan during the plan period. In general terms, development outside of defined Settlement Development Boundaries will be the subject of strict control to protect and enhance the character and openness of the countryside. However, there are certain forms of development that can and sometimes need to take place in these areas, some of which can bring about positive outcomes for the rural economy.

Policy SPL 2

SETTLEMENT DEVELOPMENT BOUNDARIES

To encourage sustainable patterns of growth and carefully control urban sprawl, each settlement listed in Policy SPL1 (with the exception of the Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community) is defined within a 'Settlement Development Boundary' as shown on the relevant Policies Map and Local Map. Within the Settlement Development Boundaries, there will be a general presumption in favour of new development subject to detailed consideration against other relevant Local Plan policies and any approved Neighbourhood Plans.

Outside of Settlement Development Boundaries, the Council will consider any planning application in relation to the pattern and scales of growth promoted through the Settlement Hierarchy in Policy SPL1 and any other relevant policies in this plan.

An exemption to this policy is provided through the Rural Exception Site Policy LP6.

The Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community will be the subject a separate Development Plan Document (DPD) containing its own policies designed to guide the location of development in the broad location identified on Diagram 10.2 in Section 1 of the Local Plan and Map B.7

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 1 and 6 of this Local Plan.

3.3.4 Sustainable Design

- 3.3.4.1** Policy SPL3 contains the design criteria against which every planning application for development will be considered. Part A of the policy provides the local planning criteria for ensuring development is well designed and relates well to its surroundings. Part B ensures that practical requirements have been addressed and Part C ensures that any potential impacts on surrounding uses and/or the local environment are identified and measures are put in place to ensure any adverse impacts are minimised.

Policy SPL 3

SUSTAINABLE DESIGN

Part A: Design. All new development (including changes of use) should make a positive contribution to the quality of the local environment and protect or enhance local character. The following criteria must be met:

- a. new buildings, alterations and structures are well designed and maintain or enhance local character and distinctiveness;
- b. the development relates well to its site and surroundings particularly in relation to its siting, height, scale, massing, form, design and materials;
- c. the development respects or enhances local landscape character, views, skylines, landmarks, existing street patterns, open spaces and other locally important features;
- d. the design and layout of the development maintains or enhances important existing site features of landscape, ecological, heritage or amenity value; and
- e. boundary treatments and hard and soft landscaping are designed as an integral part of the development reflecting the function and character of the development and its surroundings. The Council will encourage the use of locally distinctive materials and/or locally occurring and characteristic hedge species.

Part B: Practical Requirements. New development (including changes of use) must meet practical requirements. The following criteria must be met:

- a. access to the site is practicable and the highway network will, following any required mitigation, be able to safely accommodate the additional traffic the proposal will generate and not lead to severe traffic impact;
- b. the design and layout of the development maintains and/or provides safe and convenient access for people with mobility impairments;
- c. the development incorporates or provides measures to minimise opportunities for crime and anti-social behaviour;
- d. the applicant/developer can demonstrate how the proposal will minimise the production of greenhouse gases and impact on climate change as per the Building Regulations prevailing at the time and policies and requirements in this plan;
- e. buildings and structures are designed and orientated to ensure adequate daylight, outlook and privacy for future and existing residents;
- f. provision is made for adequate private amenity space, waste storage and recycling facilities, vehicle and cycle parking; and

g. the development reduces flood risk and integrates sustainable drainage within the development, creating amenity and enhancing biodiversity.

Part C: Impacts and Compatibility. *New development (including changes of use) should be compatible with surrounding uses and minimise any adverse environmental impacts. The following criteria must be met:*

a. the development will not have a materially damaging impact on the privacy, daylight or other amenities of occupiers of nearby properties;

b. the development, including any additional road traffic arising, will not have unacceptable levels of pollution on: air, land, water (including ground water), amenity, health or safety through noise, smell, dust, light, heat, vibration, fumes or other forms of pollution or nuisance;

c. the health, safety or amenity of any occupants or users of the proposed development will not be materially harmed by any pollution from an existing or committed use; and

d. all new development should have regard to the most up to date adopted Essex Mineral Local Plan; and

e. during the construction phase, developers must comply with a 'considerate constructors' scheme' which employs reasonable measures and techniques to minimise and mitigate impacts and disturbance to neighbours and the existing wider community and any damage to public and private property.

All new development (including changes of use), should incorporate climate change adaptation measures and technology from the outset including reduction of emissions, renewable and low carbon energy production, passive design, and through green infrastructure techniques, where appropriate.

When considering new development, applicants and developers should avoid adverse impacts upon the environment. Where this is not possible, mitigation measures should be put forward. As a last resort, compensate for adverse environmental impacts.

Any measures necessary to meet the above requirements are to be established by the applicant/developer.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 6, 7 and 8 of this Local Plan.

CHAPTER 4
HEALTHY PLACES

4 Healthy Places

4.1 Improving Health and Wellbeing

4.1 The Local Plan's strategic objectives for Healthcare Needs are "To work with partners in the National Health Service, local health organisations and local community groups to ensure adequate provision of healthcare facilities to support growing communities."

4.1.1 Good health and wellbeing means that wherever possible people are free of illness or disability and they have a positive physical, social and mental state. The Council wants people in Tendring District to have healthier, happier and longer lives with less inequality. Health and Wellbeing has been a priority for a number of years to the partners in Tendring District.

4.1.2 Tendring District has a higher than average proportion of older and disabled people and, for many, the provision of health services is an essential part of everyday life. For our residents, being able to access primary health care is one of the biggest concerns for the future with many people worried that more housing developments and an increasing population could have significant impact upon over-stretched health services.

4.1.3 The Essex Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA, 2016) stated that in Tendring District:

- 68.3% of adults are classified as overweight or obese compared to the national average of 64.6%.
- 2,980 people aged over 65 are thought to have dementia. This figure is estimated to rise to 3,995 by 2025. The rising number of people with dementia will impact on future housing stock where consideration needs to be given to the availability of supported and sheltered housing and care homes.

4.1.4 In 2014, Tendring District had 29 GP surgeries located in Ardleigh, Alresford, Brightlingsea, Clacton, Frinton, Great Bentley, Great Oakley, Harwich, Lawford, Manningtree, Thorpe-le-Soken and Walton.

4.1.5 However, in recent years, resources particularly in the Clacton, Frinton and Walton areas have become stretched by the growing ageing population alongside difficulties in recruiting GPs and other medical professionals. Applicants for planning permission may be required to contribute towards the provision of new or improved health care facilities. The need for such facilities and the type of provision will be determined by the Health Care Commissioners and providers.

- 4.1.6** Through the proposals in this Local Plan, the Clacton, Frinton and Walton areas are expected to accommodate more than 3,000 new homes between them and the vision is to promote active retirement and the provision of care and assisted living. It will therefore be essential to ensure that current deficiencies in primary health care provision are addressed in partnership with Healthcare Commissioners.
- 4.1.7** The Council will work with its Health Sector partners to deliver new and improved facilities.
- 4.1.8** For secondary health care, the District hospitals at Clacton and Harwich provide a range of services including cardiology, diabetic medicine, minor injuries, podiatry, physiotherapy and urology but for other services many residents have to travel to Colchester General Hospital which, itself, is under pressure from a growing population. In recognition of Tendring District's ageing population and the levels of housing development proposed for the Clacton area, of which a large proportion will cater for older people wishing to retire, the Council is also working with the NHS to explore the opportunities to increase and improve care closer to home services in the area, particularly those services of importance to an ageing population.
- 4.1.9** Primary care is adopting a Digital First approach to primary care investment. An agreed Integrated Care System Road map for Suffolk and North East Essex was introduced in 2019, many of the initiatives were brought forward as a result of the response to Covid 19 and have already proven successful. GP practices, care homes and community service providers have been using telephone/video consultations, smartphone applications to enable patients to request prescriptions and appointments. Practices within Primary Care networks will enable digital first options to improve fast access to primary care, reducing waiting and travelling time for patients, services will include outpatient follow up appointments and medication reviews. Consequently, the need for high speed broadband access and flexibility in terms of the provision of digital health infrastructure to any new housing development is crucial in order to ensure the success of the Digital First approach.
- 4.1.10** Most development has a potential impact upon the health services and facilities in the District but good design can help to promote healthy living. These impacts and opportunities need to be assessed to ensure that adequate health and services are provided for the community as a whole. Local authorities across Essex are in agreement that applications for residential developments over 50 dwellings, all development in Use Class C2 (Residential Institutions) and non-residential developments involving the creation of 1,000 square metres or more floor space should be accompanied by a 'Health Impact Assessment' (HIA). A screening process will take place to determine the extent and detail/complexity of HIA required based on the type of development proposed and whether evidence demonstrates the development impacts can be expected to be significant on sensitive receptors.

- 4.1.11** This Local Plan has a vital role to play in ensuring that the opportunities exist for people to be able to make healthier life choices and addressing health inequalities across the District. Resilient local health policies will create and support vibrant, sustainable and healthy communities. By promoting and facilitating healthy living and creating an environment which offers opportunities for healthy choices.
- 4.1.12** The National Planning Policy Framework (paragraphs 69-70) acknowledges that the planning system can play an important role in facilitating social interaction and creating healthy, inclusive communities. It is imperative to ensure that the design of the built environment and new development does not increase health inequalities and make it harder for people to live healthy lives.

Policy HP 1

IMPROVING HEALTH AND WELLBEING

The Council will work to improve the health and wellbeing of residents in Tendring by:

- a. *working in partnership with the NHS and Public Health to ensure that our residents can access high quality primary and secondary health care services and that new and improved services are put in place, where appropriate, to serve the growing population;*
- b. *supporting the NHS (including local GP Surgeries) and Public Health to deliver a service which meets the needs of residents in Tendring District;*
- c. *working with stakeholders on projects that provide better service integration, locating services where access can be improved, particularly for vulnerable groups and communities;*
- d. *encouraging healthier communities through targeting of unhealthy lifestyles such as smoking and those which cause obesity as identified in the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment. The Council will work in collaboration with partners, including Public Health, to avoid a concentration of fast food takeaways, where the number of outlets would be likely to harm public health objectives, particularly in deprived communities; local areas of poor health and near schools;*
- e. *requiring a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) on all development sites delivering 50 or more dwellings, all development in Use Class C2 (Residential Institutions) and all non-residential developments delivering 1,000 square metres or more gross internal floor space. The HIA should be carried out in accordance with the advice and best practice published by Public Health England and locally through the Essex Planning Officers Association;*
- f. *seeking mitigation towards new or enhanced health facilities from developers where new housing development would result in a shortfall or worsening of health provision; and*
- g. *ensuring increased contact with nature and access to the District's open spaces and offering opportunities for physical activities through the Haven Gateway Green Infrastructure and Open Space Strategies.*

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 5 and 6 of this Local Plan.

4.2 Community Facilities

4.2.1 Community facilities (sometimes referred to as Community assets) provide for health and wellbeing, recreational and leisure and education and culture. They can include for example, community halls, libraries, museums, arts venues, post offices, public houses, places of worship, sports halls, health and fitness facilities, swimming pools and other facilities of community value. They are a key part of sustainable communities and contribute to their self-reliance.

4.2.2 It is important that local communities are supported by a range of community facilities as they provide local employment opportunities, are a focal point for community life and can help reduce the need for people to travel long distances for essential goods and services.

4.2.1 Retention, Improvement and New Community Facilities Provision

4.2.1.1 The loss of community facilities can have a substantial impact on people's quality of life, wellbeing and overall viability of the local area. With the growing number of older people in Tendring District, access to locally based facilities will become increasingly important to ensure sustainable communities.

4.2.1.2 The Council will expect new development to retain, and where possible, improve existing local community facilities. It is important that these are integrated into the design of new development where possible.

4.2.1.3 For existing community facilities, the Council will work with its partners to secure future improvements and will protect them against redevelopments for alternative uses, particularly housing. Public houses, in particular, perform a useful social role in rural communities and are a source of local employment. They frequently occupy historic buildings and make a significant contribution to the character of the locality.

4.2.1.4 The viability of community facilities is an important consideration for a sustained local area. Planning applications that would result to the loss of community facilities should be accompanied by marketing information to show why existing use is not viable and information to show why the facilities are no longer needed by the community it serves or that the facility is being suitably relocated to meet local needs.

4.2.2 Assets of Community Value

4.2.2.1 Part 5 Chapter 3 of the Localism Act 2011(Act) provides for a scheme called 'assets of community value'. This requires District and unitary councils to maintain a list of 'community assets'. It has also become known as the 'community right to bid'.

4.2.2.2 Under the Act and through the Community Rights to Challenge and Build, parish councils, voluntary groups, neighbourhood forums, and other community organisations can consider the opportunity to develop or establish new community facilities. Local groups have the right to nominate a building or land for listing by the Council as an Asset of Community Value.

- 4.2.2.3** The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) paragraph 70 states that planning policies and decisions should:
- guide against unnecessary loss of valued community facilities and services, particularly where this would reduce the community's ability to meet its day-to-day needs; and
 - ensure that established community facilities and services are able to develop and modernise in a way that is sustainable, and are retained for the benefit of the community.

Policy HP 2

COMMUNITY FACILITIES

The Council will work with the development industry and key partners to deliver and maintain a range of new community facilities. New development should support and enhance community facilities where appropriate by:

a. providing on site, where necessary, or contributing towards new or enhanced community facilities to meet needs arising from the proposed development or growth and where possible, encourage co-location.

The loss or change of use of existing community or cultural facilities will be resisted unless:

b. replacement facilities are provided on site, or within the vicinity, which meet the need of the local population, or necessary services can be delivered from other facilities without leading to, or increasing, any shortfall in provision; or

c. it has been demonstrated that there is no longer a community need for the facility or demand for another community use on site.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 4, 5 and 6 of this Local Plan.

4.3 Green Infrastructure

- 4.3.1** The National Planning Policy Framework states that Green Infrastructure (GI) is 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. It includes 'blue infrastructure' comprising watercourses and wetlands, which provides a range of ecosystem services.
- 4.3.2** Ecosystem services are the benefits that the natural environment provides to humans, including the production of clean water and many raw materials used for economic activities and cultural benefits such as aesthetic value and recreational opportunities.

- 4.3.3** A good green infrastructure network provides opportunities to enhance tourism in the Tendring District, while ensuring that its most sensitive assets are protected. As well as the obvious benefits to the natural environment, such measures can also provide an economic boost by helping to attract more visitors and improve residents' health and wellbeing by creating a more attractive environment for people to actively use. The network should be made as accessible as possible to all users.
- 4.3.4** The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requires planning to encourage multiple benefits from the use of land in urban and rural areas, recognising that some open land can perform many functions (such as for recreation, wildlife, carbon storage and food production).
- 4.3.5** Throughout our District, there are a number of existing areas of green infrastructure falling into the various different categories which are important to the character of our towns, villages and rural areas and provide valuable space for formal and informal recreational activities in our communities. Areas of existing green infrastructure, including open space, sports and recreational facilities, will be protected from development, are shown on the Policies Map.
- 4.3.6** Development on these sites will only be allowed where it will result in an equivalent or larger area of green infrastructure of equal or better quality being provided in a location that will benefit more residents.
- 4.3.7** The Haven Gateway Green Infrastructure Study (2008) and the Open Space, Sport and Recreation study (2017) identified Tendring District as an area deficient in green infrastructure. The Council will work with its partners to resolve existing deficiencies and, where appropriate, secure developer contributions towards Green Infrastructure both as an integral part of major developments and through financial contributions to ensure that deficiencies are not exacerbated by future population growth.
- 4.3.8** The provision of high quality accessible green infrastructure is seen as increasingly important to regeneration and creating places that are based upon local distinctiveness. Quality environments also attract quality investment in terms of housing, jobs, skills and visiting attractions.
- 4.3.9** The Council's Open Spaces Strategy (2017) identified the nature of any existing surpluses and deficiencies and provides size and quality standards for the provision of future open spaces and green infrastructure in the District. This is reflected in the Policies HP3, HP4 and HP5 of this Local Plan.
- 4.3.10** Investment in Green Infrastructure for Tendring will help to tackle existing deficiencies of accessible green space, and help provide and protect wildlife corridors, open space and accessible land.

Policy HP 3

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

Green Infrastructure will be used as a way of adapting to, and mitigating the effects of, climate change, through the management and enhancement of existing spaces and habitats and the creation of new spaces and habitats, helping to provide shade during higher temperatures, flood mitigation and benefits to biodiversity, along with increased access.

All new development must be designed to include and protect and enhance existing Green Infrastructure in the local area, as appropriate.

Green Infrastructure as identified on the Policy Map, will be protected, managed and where necessary enhanced by:

- a. managing development to secure a net gain in green infrastructure;*
- b. supporting investment priority projects set out in the Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan;*
- c. not permitting development that compromises the integrity of the overall Green Infrastructure networks;*
- d. investing in enhancement and restoration where opportunities exist; and*
- e. using developer contributions to facilitate improvements to their quality and accessibility.*

The Council will work with all sectors and interest groups to help deliver Green Infrastructure projects. Developers should use the guiding principles set out in the Green Infrastructure Delivery Plan to influence all development proposals from an early stage in the design process. Any new Green Infrastructure proposed must be accompanied by a plan for the long-term sustainable maintenance and management of these assets, as well as phasing plans to demonstrate how they are to be delivered. New Green Infrastructure should incorporate semi-natural habitats and provide net gains in biodiversity wherever possible. The long-term management of assets should include biodiversity recording/monitoring to verify/ensure the ecological integrity of GI networks. Green Infrastructure should, where appropriate, include access for the widest range of user groups.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 6 and 8 of this Local Plan.

4.4 Open Space, Sports and Recreation Facilities

- 4.4.1** The National Planning Policy Framework (Annex 2) defines open space as ‘all open space of public value, including not just land, but also areas of water (such as rivers, canals, lakes and reservoirs) which offer important opportunities for sport and recreation and act as a visual amenity’.
- 4.4.2** The Council’s Open Space Strategy (2017), prepared by Knight, Kavanagh and Page Ltd, identified the following typologies of open spaces across the District:
- parks and gardens;
 - natural and semi-natural greenspaces; and
 - amenity greenspace.
- 4.4.3** Amenity space including:
- provision for children and young people;
 - allotments;
 - cemeteries/churchyards; and
 - Playing pitches and Outdoor Sports Facilities.
- 4.4.4** The above typologies are protected by Policy HP4 and are shown on the Policies and Local Maps collectively as Safeguarded Open Space. The Neighbourhood Planning process allows Town and Parish Councils or other nominated bodies to identify open spaces of particular local value as ‘Local Green Space’ which are afforded an additional level of protection, ruling out new development other than in very special circumstances. In line with the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework, this additional level of protection can only be applied to green spaces where they are in reasonably close proximity to the community they serve, are demonstrably special to the local community and hold a particular significance and are local in character, rather than an extensive tract of land.
- 4.4.5** Open Spaces in towns and rural areas are essential in improving public health, well-being and quality of life. Attractive, safe and accessible parks and green spaces contribute positively to social, economic and environmental benefits and promote sustainable communities. Major new housing and mixed-use developments should include new and improved access to schools, to enable children to walk or cycle from their homes.
- 4.4.6** Well-used and maintained open spaces make considerable contribution to the quality of life of residents and visitors and promote sustainable communities. Each type of open space has various benefits, for example parks for recreation and play and social events, children’s play and playing pitches for formal sports events and allotments for growing produce.

- 4.4.7** It is important to provide a balance between different types of open space in order to meet local needs. For example, not all residents living in every area will have a demand for open space in the form of playing pitches or allotments. In some areas there will be a specific local demand for 'green corridors' such as nature walk or bridleways.
- 4.4.8** The National Planning Policy Framework, Planning Policy Guidance and the North Essex Strategic Plan, Section 1 of this Local Plan provide a context for the protection of existing open space. The NPPF (paragraph 74) suggests that existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields should be protected unless:
- an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or
 - the loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity, quality and in a suitable location; or
 - the development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.

Policy HP 4

SAFEGUARDED OPEN SPACE

Development that would result in the loss of the whole or part of areas designated as Safeguarded Open Space, as defined on the Policies Map and Local Maps will not be permitted unless the following criteria are met:

- a. the site is replaced by the provision of new site at least equal in quality and size and accessible to the community, which the existing site serves;*
- b. it is demonstrated that there is no longer a demand for the existing site;*
- c. the site is not appropriate for other open space functions; and*
- d. the development of the site would not result in the loss of an area important to visual amenity.*

Land is also allocated for the future expansion of the Weeley Crematorium, the Burrs Road Cemetery (Clacton), Dovercourt Cemetery and the Kirby Cross Cemetery as shown on the various Policies Maps and Local Maps for these areas. New cemeteries and other burial places may be permitted on existing private land providing that relevant Local Plan policies are satisfied.

- 4.4.9** Locally based open space standards have been developed in the Tendring Open Spaces Strategy, and proposals for new residential development should contribute to the provision and/or enhancement of open space in areas where there is a deficiency in provision, or poor quality of, open spaces. This provision could be either on or off-site depending on the scale and nature of development and the level and quality of existing facilities in the local area.
- 4.4.10** This Local Plan, requires that open space provision should be included as part of all residential developments involving sites of 1.5 hectares in size or greater, and should comprise at least 10% of the gross site area and that no single area of usable open space should be less than 0.15 hectares.

Policy HP 5

OPEN SPACE, SPORTS AND RECREATION FACILITIES

The Council will work with partners and sports providers across the district to maintain, expand and improve the quality and accessibility of public open space, sports and recreational facilities of different types and will aim to achieve and exceed standards set out in the Council's 2017 Open Spaces Strategy or any future update.

In line with policy HP3, new development must be designed to include, protect and enhance the green infrastructure network and the Council will prepare and adopt a new Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) which will update and replace previous guidance on how this will be achieved and how the following requirements will be implemented.

All new residential developments of 11 or more dwellings on sites of 1.5 hectares and above will be expected to provide a minimum 10% of the gross site area as open space laid out to meet the Council's specifications having regard to the Council's Open Spaces Strategy and the requirements of any SPD. No single area of useable open space will be less than 0.15 hectares in size. Financial contributions will also be sought through s106 legal agreements (or an appropriate alternative mechanism) towards ongoing maintenance.

If new development would be better served by existing or proposed open spaces within an accessible distance (having regard to the standards set out in the Open Spaces Strategy or any future update), a financial contribution in lieu of on-site provision may be sought through a s106 legal agreement or an appropriate alternative mechanism towards any necessary improvement or expansion of existing, or the delivery of new, open spaces and/or sports facilities.

Where residential developments have the potential to give rise to adverse impacts on internationally important habitat sites (Ramsar, SPA and SAC) through increased recreational disturbance, the Council may require, as part of any mitigation programme, the provision of larger areas of high quality natural and semi-natural open space to absorb day-to-day recreational activities such as routine dog walking to reduce the frequency of visits made to nearby designated sites. In order to serve this function, such an open space must be of a suitable size and include circular walks of sufficient length for daily dog walking, dogs-off-lead areas and waste bins.

CHAPTER 5

LIVING PLACES

5 Living Places

5.0.1 The Local Plan's strategic objectives for Housing Delivery are "To provide new dwellings within Tendring District up to 2033 of sufficient variety in terms of sites, size, types, tenure and affordability to meet the needs of a growing and ageing population" and "To deliver high quality sustainable new communities".

5.1 Housing Supply

5.1.1 One of the government's main objectives, as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework, is to significantly increase the delivery of new housing to ensure that everyone will have the opportunity to live in high quality, well-designed homes, in a community where they want to live. To achieve this objective, all local planning authorities, including Tendring District Council, must plan for increased house building, looking to meet the full requirements for market and affordable housing as determined by the Council, using local objectively prepared assessments.

5.1.2 To determine how many new homes are likely to be needed in the future, the Council worked in partnership with Colchester Borough Council, Braintree District Council and Chelmsford City Council to commission an 'Objectively Assessed Housing Needs Study'. The 2015 study determined that the combined authority area was the correct geography to undertake 'strategic market housing area assessment'. The study took its baseline from 2013/14, effectively re-setting Tendring's housing needs – moving away from the East of England Plan housing targets, which were superseded by the NPPF, to the new locally derived housing needs targets.

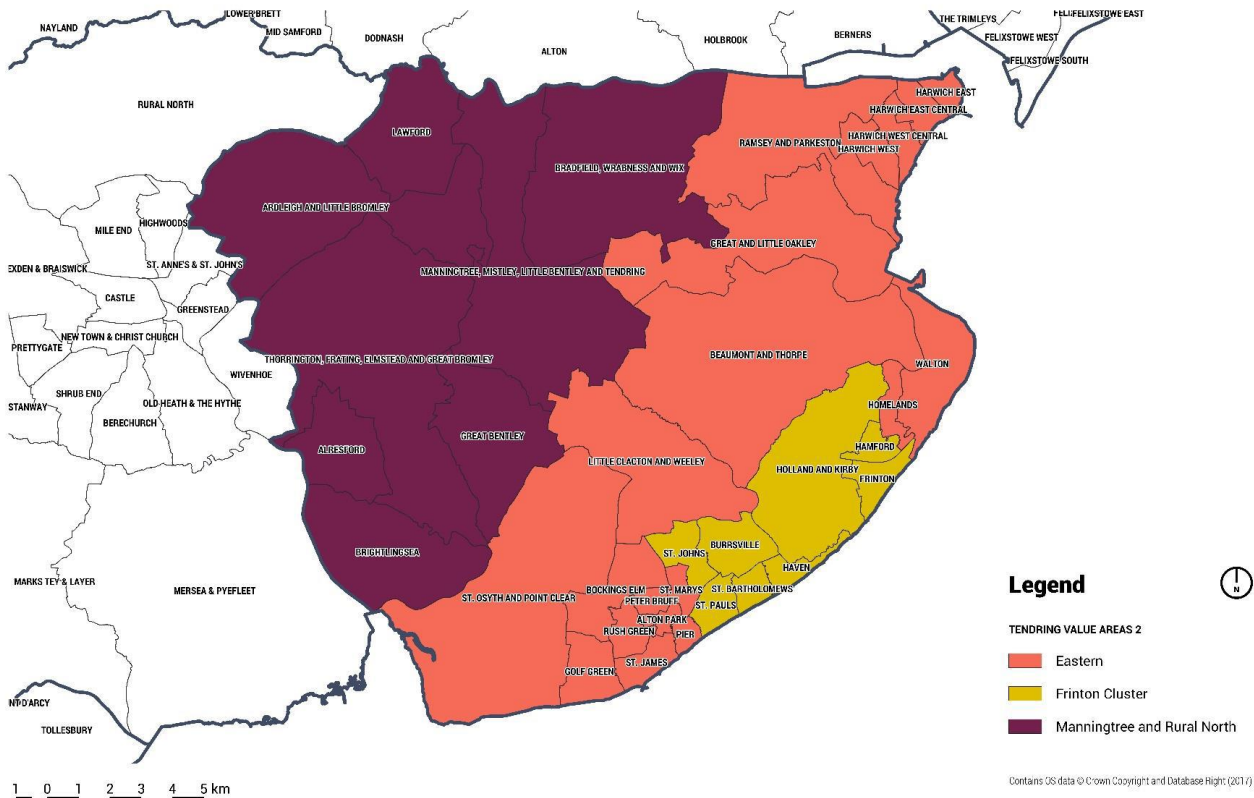
5.1.3 Since 2015, various iterations of this study have been produced reflecting amended advice from government, new employment and affordable housing needs data and assessment of the 'un-attributable population change' in the census. Overall, the 2015 study, as updated in 2016, looked at a series of data including population and household projections, migration patterns, economic projections and affordable housing needs. The assessments concluded that the total objectively assessed need for housing in Tendring District would be 550 homes each year and recommended an OAN of 550 be taken as the annual housing completions target. The housing requirement of 550 homes a year is set out in Policy SP3 in Section 1 of the Local Plan which was formally adopted by the Council in 2021 following the independent examination and confirmation from the Planning Inspector that the figure is based on sound evidence.

5.1.4 The affordable housing study, published in 2015 found that up to 151 homes each year would meet Tendring's affordable housing need; against the OAN this equates to approximately 27% of the 550 homes. The Planning Inspector for the Section 1 Local Plan also considered the need for affordable housing including projections contained within the Council's 2015 Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) and other evidence on affordability. He determined that the need for affordable housing in Tendring was likely to fall within the range of 151 to 278 homes a year depending on the assumptions made about the proportion of household income it

would be reasonable to spend on housing. Tendring’s Local Plan viability study finds that affordable housing could be achieved across the whole district on sites of 10 or more homes. However, it also finds that there are some viability issues in the eastern area of the District and certain sites in this area may not be able to meet all policy requirements. It would therefore seem reasonable to set the affordable housing target at 30% for sites of 11 homes or more. This will enable those sites that are viable to achieve 30% and those sites that are only viable at less than 30% to make a reasonable contribution to the achievement of the overall affordable housing need. Therefore, 30% will be taken as the baseline for viability testing of individual planning applications. When undertaking viability assessment the Tendring District Council - Local Plan Part 2 Viability Study (June 2017 , as updated in 2019) should be read as a whole because there is differentiation for certain types of homes, such as flats. The viability assessment for the Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community also provides for a target of 30% affordable housing. The zones of viability are illustrated below by ward.

Map - Tendring Value Areas 2

TENDRING - Value Areas 2



5.1.5

As noted above, April 2013 is taken as the baseline for the Local Plan’s housing strategy, the end date of this Local Plan is March 2033, although some site allocations will continue to deliver beyond 2033. This end date is chosen to provide a 15 year plan following the expected submission of this Local Plan in 2017/18. 15 years

allows for three Local Plan housing supply periods as suggested by the National Planning Policy Framework. The sooner the housing supply needs to be completed the more certain of delivery the Council should be in setting out its housing strategy.

- 5.1.6** Council's are required to provide a five years supply of deliverable housing. Here 'deliverable' means sites should be available, offer a suitable location for development, be viable and have a realistic prospect that housing will be delivered within five years. The National Planning Policy Framework set out that sites with planning permission should be considered deliverable until permission expires, unless there is clear evidence that schemes will not be implemented within five years. Tendring's first five year housing strategy relies on sites with planning permission for 10 or more dwellings, plus an allowance for smaller sites (9 or fewer homes) based on past delivery trends.
- 5.1.7** For years 6-10 the Council has identified a supply of specific, developable sites and broad locations for growth. These are made up of the broad allocation for a garden community in Section 1 of this Local Plan and site specific allocations in Chapter 9 of Section 2 of the Local Plan. In addition, an allowance for small sites of 9 or fewer homes based on past delivery trends is also included for years 6-10.
- 5.1.8** For years 11-15 the Council has identified a supply of specific, developable sites and broad locations for growth, some of which continue to deliver onwards from year 10 of the Local Plan and few of which continue to deliver beyond year 15 of the Local Plan.
- 5.1.9** The twenty-year time frame of the Local Plan from baseline in April 2013 to completion in March 2033 provides for the objectively assessed need requirement for 11,000 homes (550 homes x 20 years).
- 5.1.10** The Council assesses annual housing completions against the annualised housing target of 550 homes each year. As of April 2020, seven years of completions data is available. Table LP1 identifies housing completions of 3,638 between 2013/14 and 2019/20. This leaves a requirement for the Local Plan to establish a supply of at least 7,362 homes. 'At least' is an important factor because the housing strategy is more sound if it provides some flexibility for choice and range in its supply to accommodate external factors such as the market failure of a particular developer which could slow overall completion rates.

Table LP1: Housing Requirement for the period 1/4/13 – 31/3/33

A – Annual Net Dwellings Required - Reported Years from Base Date	
2013/14 to 2032/33	550 x 20
Total	11,000
B – Net Completions - Reported Years from Base Date	
2013/14	204
2014/15	267
2015/16	245
2016/17	658
2017/18	565
2018/19	915
2019/20	784
Total	3,638
C - Shortfall - Reported Years from Base Date	
Total	212
D – Net dwellings from Base Date still required	
Total	7,362

Table LP2 makes provision for the homes required as established through the OAN. The supply consists of large sites (10 or more homes) with planning permission or a resolution to grant planning permission, an allowance for small sites (of 9 or fewer homes) based on past trends and sites for 10 or more homes allocated in the Local Plan.

Table LP2 – Local Plan Housing Allocations

Site	Total housing numbers	2020/21 to 2024/25	2025/26 to 2029/30	2030/31 to 2032/33	And Beyond	Reference
Non-allocated sites of 10 or more Homes with Planning Permission	4,932	3,124	1,312	244	252	
Sites of 9 or less homes / windfall	1,260	680	419	161	0	
Hartley Gardens, Clacton	1700	0	60	150	1,490	SAMU2
Oakwood Park, Clacton	900	0	195	240	465	SAMU3
Rouses Farm, Clacton	950	90	270	180	410	SAMU4
Land South of Council Offices, Weeley	280	60	150	70	0	SAMU5
Land West of Low Road, Dovercourt	300	90	210	0	0	SAH2
Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community	3,500-4,500	0	625	375	2500 - 3500	SP9

Site	Total housing numbers	2020/21 to 2024/25	2025/26 to 2029/30	2030/31 to 2032/33	And Beyond	Reference
Land at Weeley Council Offices	24	0	24	0	0	MSA1
Former Tendring 100 Waterworks Site, Clacton	90	0	90	0	0	MSA6
Land adjoining Harwich and Parkeston Football Club, Dovercourt	48	0	48	0	0	MSA8
Station Yard / Avon Works, Walton	40	0	40	0	0	MSA11
TOTALS	14,024 - 15,0244	4,044	3,443	1,420	5,117 - 6,117	
Total in Plan Period	8,907					

Policy LP 1

HOUSING SUPPLY

The Council will work with the development industry and other partners to deliver a minimum new homes increase of 11,000 (net) between 1 April 2013 and 31 March 2033 to support economic growth and meet objectively assessed requirements for future housing in the District. This supply of new homes will be delivered from the following sources:

Supply Source to March 2033	Totals
<i>Net Dwelling Completions 2013 - 2020</i>	3,638
<i>Non-allocated Large Sites with Planning Consents</i>	4,680
<i>Small Sites with Planning Consents (with Trend Based Completions)</i>	1,260
<i>Strategic Allocations - Mixed Use (SAMU Policies)</i>	1,465
<i>Strategic Allocations – Housing (SAH Policies)</i>	300
<i>Medium Sized Allocations (MSA Policies)</i>	202
<i>Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community</i>	1,000
Totals	12,545

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 1 and 6 of this Local Plan.

- 5.1.11** The supply of housing throughout the Local Plan period will be supplemented by proposals for rural exception schemes and bringing back into use some of the long-term empty properties in the District through the Council's Empty Homes Strategy. The broad areas allocated for housing and mixed-use development in this Local Plan are shown on the relevant Policies Map Insets and supported by locality-based maps in the appendices of this document.
- 5.1.12** In accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework, the Council will monitor the delivery of new housing on an annual basis and publish the results in its Authorities Monitoring Report. The Council will seek to ensure that, in any one year, there is sufficient land available to deliver a minimum of the next 5-years' worth of new housing plus the appropriate buffer to allow flexibility in the market for land, taking into account any under-provision or over-provision from the previous year(s).

5.2 Housing Choice

- 5.2.1** As well as planning for a significant increase in housing development, the National Planning Policy Framework requires Councils to plan for a mix of new housing based on current and future demographic trends, market trends and different groups within the community. Paragraphs 22 – 29 of the Housing and Economic Development Needs Assessments section of the national Planning Practice Guidance details how affordable housing need should be calculated. It defines affordable housing need as the *'number of households and projected households who lack their own housing or live in unsuitable housing and who cannot afford to meet their housing needs in the market.'*
- 5.2.2** The assessment consists of four broad stages to calculate affordable housing need:
- an assessment of the current gross unmet need for affordable housing;
 - an assessment of the newly arising need for housing;
 - an assessment of the current affordable housing supply;
 - an assessment of future affordable housing supply.
- 5.2.3** Within each of the four stages, there are a number of detailed calculations many of which themselves have a number of components. The Strategic Housing Market Assessment Update 2015 estimate the net annual affordable housing need in Tendring at 160 homes each year.
- 5.2.4** The update suggests there is likely to be a demand for a range of dwelling size, type and tenure over the plan period. It is estimated that around 71% of the need for new housing up to 2033 will be for 'market housing' available to buy or rent at open market values and around 27% of the need for housing will be for 'affordable housing' made available by the Council or other registered providers at lower than market prices to meet the needs of people and families with lower incomes that cannot afford to buy or rent property on the open market.
- 5.2.5** The tenure profile from the update, suggests there will be a need for 67.1% of all homes to be owner occupied, 22% private rented, 0.4% shared ownership and 10.5% social/affordable rented. To meet this tenure distribution the proportion of tenure completions would be 47.7% owner occupied, 30.8% private rented, 2.1% shared ownership and 19.5% social/affordable rent.
- 5.2.6** In terms of dwelling size, for owner occupied, the share required for the new housing stock is 10.3% one bedroom, 31.5% two bedroom, 33.3% three bedroom and 24.8% four or more bedrooms. For private rented, the change required is 6.8% one bedroom, 19.4% two bedroom, 52.7% three bedroom and 21.1% four plus bedrooms.

Policy LP 2

HOUSING CHOICE

The Council will work with the development industry and housing providers to deliver a mix of dwelling types, sizes and tenure within the housing growth proposed for the District which reflects the Council's overarching vision for growth in Tendring District and the evidence of housing need contained in its latest Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA), which will be the subject of periodic review.

On developments of 11 or more dwellings, the Council will expect to see a mix of dwelling size, type and tenure that broadly reflects the housing need identified in the latest Strategic Housing Market Assessment unless there are specific housing mix requirements for a particular site, as set out in site-specific policies in this Local Plan, or genuine physical or economic viability reasons why this mix cannot be achieved. The Council will also require a proportion of the new properties to be provided in the form of affordable housing in line with the requirements in Policy LP5.

The Council will support the development of bungalows, retirement complexes, extra care housing, independent living, starter homes, self-build and other forms of residential accommodation aimed at meeting the future needs of older and disabled residents as well as family housing. Support will also be given to innovative development proposals subject to consideration of other Local Plan policies.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 1 and 6 of this Local Plan.

5.3 Housing Density

- 5.3.1** It is important that the density of housing development promotes: a good quality of life for its residents; reflects accessibility to local services within the location; the need for appropriate levels of internal floor space and external private amenity space; the required mix of housing type and size; and the character of development in the immediate area. Higher densities are appropriate in town centres to support retail, public transport, walking and cycling and minimising greenfield development.

Policy LP 3

HOUSING DENSITY AND STANDARDS

New residential and mixed-use development (including conversions and changes of use) must achieve an appropriate housing density that has regard to the following factors:

- a. accessibility to local services;*
- b. the need for residential development to comply with the government's latest 'Technical housing standards - nationally described space standard';*
- c. the required mix of housing;*
- d. the context and character of development (and the opportunity to enhance that character) in the immediate area;*
- e. for the edge of greenfield sites, the need for an appropriate transition between built development and the open countryside; and*
- f. on-site infrastructure requirements that will need to be incorporated into the layout of the development (including green infrastructure, highways and footpaths built to adoptable standards, public rights of way and any community facilities).*

On housing developments of 10 or more dwellings, 10% of market housing should be to Building Regulations Part M4(2) 'adaptable and accessible' standard. For affordable homes, 10% should be to Building Regulations Part M4(2) and 5% should be to Part M4(3) 'wheelchair-user' standards (Ref. Tendring District Housing Viability Assessment 12 May 2017).

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 1 and 6 of this Local Plan.

5.4 Housing Layout

- 5.4.1** The National Planning Policy Framework states that the supply of new homes can sometimes best be achieved through planning for larger scale developments that follow the principles of ‘Garden Cities’. Section 1 of this Local Plan sets out the specific requirements for the Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community.
- 5.4.2** Due to the lack of available brownfield land, the Council has no choice but to promote the expansion of towns and villages onto greenfield land to deliver the District’s future housing requirements. Rather than the high-density housing estates that have dominated housing provision over the last forty years which are characterised by cul-de-sacs, narrow highways and an increasing over-dominance of on-street car parking, this Council wants to embrace the principles of the Garden City movement as a means of bringing about social and economic improvements in the District. The Council will therefore only support large scale housing developments if they are well designed, integrated with the existing environment and contribute positively towards the ‘sense of place’.
- 5.4.3** Examples of residential areas in the Tendring District that display these characteristics are the Avenues area of Frinton-on-Sea, the Gardens area of Clacton-on-Sea and inter-war developments in Tewkesbury, Thornbury and Severn Roads, Douglas Road, Vicarage Gardens, Clacton; and the majority of Holland-on-Sea.

Policy LP 4

HOUSING LAYOUT

To ensure a positive contribution towards the District's 'sense of place', the design and layout of new residential and mixed-use developments in the Tendring District will be expected to:

- a. promote health and wellbeing by incorporating and maximising the use of green infrastructure, verges, trees and other vegetation. Proposals for residential development on sites of 1.5 hectares and above are required to provide at least 10% of the gross site area as public, open space (unless there are more specific open space requirements set out in policies relating to the site in question);*
- b. locate new public open space where it can be conveniently and safely accessed by all members of the community, especially children by walking and cycling; and ensuring it is directly overlooked on all sides and not located to the rear of properties;*
- c. consider surface water management from the outset of site layout and masterplanning. All surface water should be managed by means of Sustainable Urban Drainage System (Suds) unless there is an exceptional case not to do so;*
- d. minimise the opportunities for crime and anti-social behaviour by ensuring good natural surveillance of both public and private spaces from buildings and the streets, providing clear definition between public and private spaces and convenient access for emergency services*
- e. ensure that the overall highway network is legible, permeable, with all roads connected wherever possible and fit for purpose by all road users;*
- f. ensure internal road layouts can safely and comfortably accommodate emergency services, waste collection services, buses (where necessary) and other large vehicles;*
- g. accommodate residential parking provision for residents on-plot, either at the front or side of dwellings with sufficient provision of on-street parking for use by visitors and delivery vehicles;*
- h. deliver new dwellings that are designed to high standards of architecture, which respect local character and which together with a well-considered site layout, create a unique sense of place;*
- i. be of a density that reflects the factors set out in Policy LP3;*

- j. provide for private amenity space of a size and configuration that meets the needs and expectations of residents and which is commensurate to the size of dwelling and the character of the area; and*
- k. meet all other requirements of the Local Plan.*

To ensure new developments meet these requirements and other requirements of policies in this Local Plan, the Council will sometimes work with landowners, developers and other partners, particularly on larger schemes, to prepare master plans or development briefs prior to the submission of planning applications.

In determining planning applications, the Council will also refer to the guidance provided in the Essex Design Guide for Residential & Mixed-Use Developments, 'Building for Life' and the 'Manual for Streets' and as superseded; as well as adopted Master Plans, Place Plans, Neighbourhood Plans or Village Design Statements. For new residential development in Jaywick Sands, the Council will also have regard to the Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) being prepared to guide new development in that area.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 1, 5 and 6 of this Local Plan.

5.5 Affordable Housing

5.5.1 The Council's Strategic Housing Market Assessment suggests that over the plan period there will be demand for new 'affordable housing' in our District to cater for people and families with low incomes who cannot afford to buy or rent property on the open market. Extensive public consultation with our residents suggests that the concept of affordable housing is supported, especially to give younger people a fair chance to live and work in the area. However, there is a concern that if this housing is not properly managed and there are no strict controls on who can and cannot qualify, it could encourage people from outside of Tendring to move to the area for affordable accommodation, placing people with long-standing local connections at a disadvantage.

5.5.2 To tackle this issue, the Council has carefully reviewed its policies on who can and cannot qualify for affordable housing to give priority to those people who have lived, and ideally worked, in the District for at least three years. The Council will still have a statutory duty to meet the needs of people from outside the District if they have a particular urgent need for housing, but in the majority of cases local people will be given priority. The Council also proposes to deliver affordable housing in the form of 'Council Housing', managed and maintained directly by Tendring District Council, to ensure that these rules are properly enforced. Specialist affordable/market homes such as starter homes and key worker homes will be delivered as market or affordable homes as appropriate.

- 5.5.3** Policy LP5 below requires that for development proposed outside of the Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community, involving the creation of 11 or more (net) homes, 30% of new dwellings (including conversions) will be made available to Tendring District Council or a nominated partner (which could include a registered housing provider or a trust) to acquire for use as affordable housing. A lesser amount of affordable housing than required by Policy LP5 will only be considered where robust evidence is provided to demonstrate that the development would not be economically viable as a result of the affordable housing requirement. Such evidence will be independently tested, at the applicant's cost, as necessary.
- 5.5.4** Changes to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) in 2019 introduced a requirement for at least 10% of dwellings on major developments involving housing to be made available for 'affordable home ownership' (a specific category of affordable housing which allows people to purchase property at a discounted price) unless it would exceed the level of affordable housing required in the area or would significantly prejudice a Council's ability to meet the identified affordable housing needs of specific groups. In determining planning applications and in negotiating the right mix of affordable housing the Council will consider, on a case-by-case basis, the applicability and impact of the 10% affordable home ownership requirement, having regard to the latest information on affordable housing need contained within its Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) and its housing needs register.

Policy LP 5

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

To promote a mix of housing tenure in the District and address the housing needs of people and families with lower incomes who cannot afford to buy or rent housing on the open market, the Council will work with the development industry to provide new affordable housing.

For development proposals outside of the Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community, involving the creation of 11 or more (net) homes, the Council will expect 30% of new dwellings, (including conversions) to be made available to Tendring District Council (subject to viability testing) or its nominated partner(s) to acquire at a proportionate discounted value for use as affordable housing.

To avoid an over-concentration of affordable housing in one location, no single group of affordable housing will exceed ten dwellings and to ensure positive integration between the residents of affordable housing and market housing, there should be no material difference in the appearance or quality between dwellings to be sold on the open market and those to be acquired and managed by the Council or its nominated partner(s).

The size and type of affordable housing will be specified by the Council on a case-by-case basis having regard to the latest Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) and housing needs register and will be the subject of negotiation between the Council and the developer or applicant.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 1 of this Local Plan.

5.6 Rural Exception Sites

- 5.6.1** To enable the delivery of affordable housing in rural areas, the Rural Exception Scheme allows small developments on a site which abuts or is well-related to the Settlement Development Boundary of a 'Rural Service Centre' or 'Smaller Rural Settlement' as defined by the spatial hierarchy. These can come forward as an exception to normal settlement policy. Such schemes are intended to meet the housing needs of local people unable to afford accommodation in the villages where they live or have close local family or employment ties. The rural exception policy will be particularly useful in delivering additional housing in rural settlements where only limited growth is proposed and where the affordable housing is not likely to be otherwise delivered. Where Parishes have identified a need for local housing in an area, it can still be difficult to encourage landowners to sell their land below open market residential values. To address this, there is a provision for a maximum of one open market home in three homes on sites put forward by the Parish Council or through the Community Right to Build.

- 5.6.2** In considering planning applications for affordable local needs housing, the Council must be provided with evidence to show a scheme meets a demonstrated local need. Such evidence should define the local client group requiring housing and their specific housing requirements.
- 5.6.3** In addition, information detailing the number, size and tenure of dwellings proposed (e.g. rental units or shared ownership) will be required. Otherwise the exceptional need for a proposal, in particular whether it meets or contributes to the identified local need, cannot be established. In such circumstances, a detailed planning application will normally be needed.
- 5.6.4** It is essential to demonstrate that the proposed housing realistically meets or contributes to the identified local need and will be exclusively reserved and managed in perpetuity as affordable housing for the long-term benefit of the local community. Therefore, arrangements which will secure this must be in place before planning permission is granted and when the rental values or selling prices are accurately predicted. These would normally take the form of voluntary planning obligations and covenants offered by the agency involved in managing the scheme and agreed by the landowner, the developer and the Council. Management of the scheme by Tendring District Council or an alternative housing association, charitable trust or similar organisation will generally offer the required assurances. Restricting the occupation of property to people falling within the identified categories of local need will ensure that units remain affordable.

Policy LP 6

RURAL EXCEPTION SITES

Affordable housing may be permitted on sites adjoining the Settlement Development Boundaries of a 'Rural Service Centre' or 'Smaller Rural Settlement', as defined by the settlement hierarchy, as an exception to normal settlement policy to meet a specific identified local need that cannot be otherwise met.

To justify this form of development, applicants must demonstrate a shortage of affordable housing, where provision would offer long term security of tenure to existing residents within the relevant Parish needing separate accommodation in the area and other persons with strong local connections within the Parish in terms of employment or longstanding family, or previous residence links and who require accommodation in the area.

Proposals will need the support of the relevant Parish or Town Council and be expected to meet all of the following criteria:

Evidence of Local Need

The proposal must include detailed and up-to-date evidence of local need for affordable housing within the Parish, proven to the satisfaction of the District Council. The detail of any planning application should show that the number of affordable homes will not exceed the number, size and tenure genuinely required to meet the identified local housing need.

The Content of Schemes

A proposal shall cater primarily for local needs. However, to assist with the economic viability of the overall development and provide an incentive to landowners to release their land, a maximum of one in three dwellings in the overall development can be provided for sale or rent on the open market.

Secure Arrangements

Secure arrangements must be in place, before the granting of planning permission, that:

- a. ensure that all the affordable homes within the scheme remain exclusively for local need through control of occupation during the lifetime of the development and that the low-cost benefits of the housing provision pass on to subsequent occupants meeting the criteria of local need;*
- b. ensure that the necessary long-term management of the scheme is permanently secured; and*
- c. provide that where a vacated affordable home in the scheme cannot be filled by persons in local need within the Parish, that the home is made available over within Tendring District on the same basis of need to secure its occupation.*

Location and Environmental Considerations

The proposal shall have no significant material adverse impact on biodiversity and geodiversity (including designated sites), landscape (including designated landscapes), the historic environment, residential amenity, highway safety, or the form and character of the settlement to which it adjoins.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 1 of this Local Plan.

5.7 Self-Build and Custom-Built Homes

- 5.7.1** The National Planning Policy Framework requires Councils to plan for a mix of housing based on the needs of different groups in the community which includes people wishing to build their own homes as a Self-Build or Custom-Built home. The majority of the new homes that will be built in Tendring up to 2033 will be on sites specifically allocated for development which tend to be acquired by volume house builders and local developers who will aim to deliver new housing to meet the needs of the mass market. However this leaves few opportunities for the construction of individual properties of bespoke and innovative architectural design, larger more spacious properties for the higher end of the market and self-build 'grand designs' for people wanting to build a home to live in themselves.
- 5.7.2** The strategic priorities of this Local Plan focus heavily on the need to deliver economic growth, tackle unemployment and deprivation and improve the long-term prospects of future generations. Alongside measures to attract businesses, rejuvenate town centres and create more jobs, the Council's Economic Development Strategy suggests that delivering the right mix of housing is critical to the future of the District's economy. By enabling opportunities to deliver self-build homes within the overall mix of new housing over the plan period, the District can go some way in providing attractive high-quality properties that local people can aspire to live in and stay close to their family. The opportunities to build such properties could also help to encourage high-earners and people with entrepreneurial spirit to live in the District who will have disposable income to spend in the local economy and who have the potential to invest in local business opportunities.
- 5.7.3** Paragraph 55 of the National Planning Policy Framework requires Councils to avoid new isolated homes in the countryside unless there are special circumstances which, amongst others, can include the "exceptional quality or innovative nature of the design of the dwelling". Policy LP7 therefore sets out the circumstances under which aspirational or self-build homes could be built outside of settlement development boundaries but within a reasonable proximity of the District's more sustainable urban settlements and rural service centres.

Policy LP 7

SELF-BUILD AND CUSTOM-BUILT HOMES

The Council will encourage the provision of opportunities for constructing Self-Build and Custom-Built Homes as part of the mix of housing on large residential developments and the one-for-one replacement of an existing dwelling, of any size, in the countryside outside of settlement development boundaries with a single unit of Self-Build Housing, unless the impacts of development would conflict with other policy requirements in this Local Plan.

The Council will also consider, on their merits, proposals for small developments of new Self-Build and Custom-Built Homes on land outside of, but within a reasonable proximity to, settlement development boundaries, where they will still support a sustainable pattern of growth in the District and are brought forward by individuals or associates of individuals who will occupy those homes. All new dwellings on such developments must either:

- a. be safely accessible on foot within 600 metres of the edge of the settlement development boundary of one of the District's 'strategic urban settlements', or 'smaller urban settlements'.*
- b. be safely accessible on foot within 400 metres of the edge of the settlement development boundary of one of the District's 'rural service centres'; or*
- c. involve the redevelopment of vacant or redundant previously developed land that can be shown, with evidence, to be unviable for employment use.*

The proposal shall have no significant material adverse impact on the landscape, residential amenity, highway safety, or the form and character of nearby settlements and shall be otherwise appropriate in scale and design for their location, having regard to other policies in this Local Plan.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 1 of this Local Plan.

5.8 Backland Residential Development

5.8.1 "Backland" developments are, for the purposes of Policy LP8 below, defined as the proposed erection of one or more dwelling houses on a parcel of land:

- which lies generally behind the line of existing frontage development;
- has little or no frontage to existing public highway; and
- which would constitute piecemeal development in that it does not form part of a large area allocated for development.

- 5.8.2** Typical sites include the back gardens of existing dwellings, “tandem” development sites of the kind found in Jaywick Sands, smallholdings, yards, or small vacant sites. On these sites, it will often be difficult to achieve the design requirements of this Local Plan due to a combination of location, restricted access and intensity of residential use in the vicinity.
- 5.8.3** The main problems that can arise as a result of backland development include: undermining the established character of an area (especially if similar schemes were to be repeated elsewhere in a locality); dwelling plots appearing cramped relative to their surroundings; the fragmentation of established gardens with a loss of mature landscaping; and the infringement of neighbouring residents’ amenities. Development behind an established building line can also appear incongruous, particularly isolated dwellings. To avoid these problems, backland development requires particularly thorough planning, and Policy LP8 provides specific criteria that the Council will apply in such proposals.
- 5.8.4** There must also be proper means of access to backland development, which is safe and convenient for both drivers and pedestrians, with a turning area where necessary to avoid the need for vehicles to reverse onto a public highway. A proposed access should avoid excessive disturbance or loss of privacy to neighbouring residents through, for example, an access drive passing unreasonably close to an adjoining dwelling. The likely frequency of use by vehicular traffic and the suitability of the access for service vehicles and the emergency services will also be relevant material considerations.
- 5.8.5** “Tandem” development consists of a dwelling or dwellings immediately behind an existing residential frontage which are served by a shared access. It is generally unsatisfactory because of the difficulties of access to the dwelling at the rear and the disturbance and lack of privacy suffered by the residents of the dwelling in front.

Policy LP 8

BACKLAND RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT

Proposals for the residential development of “backland” sites must comply with the following criteria:

- a. where the development would involve the net loss of private amenity space serving an existing dwelling, that dwelling must be left with a sufficient area of private amenity space having regard to the standards in this Local Plan;*
- b. a safe and convenient means of vehicular and pedestrian access/egress must be provided that does not cause undue disturbance or loss of privacy to neighbouring residents or visual detriment to the street scene. Long or narrow driveways will not be permitted;*

- c. *the proposal must avoid “tandem” development using a shared access;*
- d. *the site must not comprise an awkwardly shaped or fragmented parcel of land likely to be difficult to develop in isolation or involve development which could prejudice a more appropriate comprehensive development solution;*
- e. *the site must not be on the edge of defined settlements where likely to produce a hard urban edge or other form of development out of character in its particular setting; and*
- f. *the proposal must not be out of character with the area or set a harmful precedent for other similar forms of development.*

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 1 of this Local Plan.

5.9 Gypsy and Traveller Sites

- 5.9.1** Government guidance sets out the approach Local Authorities should take when making provision for Gypsy and Travellers. It requires Local Authorities to make their own assessment of need, develop fair and effective strategies to meet need through the identification of land for sites, to plan for sites over a reasonable timescale, to increase the number of traveller sites in appropriate locations in order to address under provision and maintain an appropriate level of supply.
- 5.9.2** In August 2015 a new definition of Gypsy and Traveller was introduced into the Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (2015). This meant that the Council’s existing evidence base needed to be updated to reflect the new definition. This new study looked at the new definition and only those households that fall within the planning definition now need to be formally assessed as part of the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) process.
- 5.9.3** The GTAA for all local planning authorities in Essex follows a consistent approach and was commissioned jointly by the Councils working in partnership in line with the legal duty to cooperate. The GTAA was updated in 2018. In 2018 there were 11 permanent gypsy and traveller pitches in Tendring and planning permissions in place to deliver a further 11 permanent pitches and 1 temporary pitch. The GTAA for Tendring identifies a future need up to 2033 for 1 additional pitch for households meeting the new definition for a gypsy or traveller, 3 pitches for households not meeting the definition and 2 pitches for households where it is unclear whether or not the definition is met. There are therefore sufficient planning permissions in place without the need to specifically allocate any land for additional gypsy and traveller pitches in this Local Plan. Longer-term provision for gypsy and travellers is however proposed as part of the Colchester Tendring Garden Community and details will be set out in the separate Development Plan Document (DPD) for that area. The GTAA identifies no need for plots for travelling showpeople in Tendring.

- 5.9.4** Planning Policy for Traveller Sites (2015) says that where there is no identified need for additional gypsy and traveller pitches, Councils should have criteria-based policies in their Local Plan to provide a basis for decisions in case applications nevertheless come forward. Such policies should be fair and should facilitate the traditional and nomadic life of travellers while respecting the interests of the settled community. Any applications for the creation of new gypsy and traveller sites or additional pitches will be judged against the criteria of Policy LP9 below and any other relevant policies in this Local Plan.

Policy LP 9

GYPSY AND TRAVELLER SITES

The projected future need for five gypsy and traveller pitches in Tendring up to 2033 as identified in the Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation Assessment (GTAA) can be met in full through sites that have already obtained planning permission and therefore this Local Plan does not allocate any specific sites for this purpose. It is proposed that further longer-term provision will be met as part of the Colchester Tendring Borders Garden Community. There is no current or future need for any plots for travelling showpeople in Tendring and therefore no land is allocated for this purpose.

Any proposals for additional pitches to meet the needs of gypsies and travellers will be considered against criteria a) to e) below alongside other requirements in the Local Plan:

- a. sites must avoid any adverse impacts on any internationally, nationally or locally designated protected areas and must avoid areas prone to flooding;*
- b. sites must have reasonable access to key facilities including schools, doctors' surgeries, convenience shops, and employment sites;*
- c. sites must include suitable circulation and amenity space;*
- d. sites must comprise well drained ground and achieve safe access for large vehicles from the local road network and access to utilities; and*
- e. sites must be of a high quality design and landscaping, providing a good standard of residential amenity for their occupiers.*

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 1 of this Local Plan.

5.10 Care and Assisted Living

- 5.10.1** Demographic projections suggest that by the end of the plan period in 2033, around 60% of our residents could be over the age of 65 and we know that our District is already a very popular area for retirement, particularly in our coastal towns of Clacton and Frinton, with much of the demand for new housing driven by the migration of older people from other parts of the country. Generally, thanks to advancements in

medical care and healthier lifestyles, people are living longer and the Council is actively promoting the District's leisure offer to the 'active retired' who make a valuable contribution toward our local economy.

- 5.10.2** The Local Plan encourages development of care, independent and assisted living homes in appropriate locations. This will ensure future generations of older and disabled residents get the highest quality of care and future generations of working age residents can access a range of job opportunities in a diverse and growing sector of the economy. As well as jobs for care assistants, growth in this sector will generate job opportunities for medical professionals, caterers and managers as well as jobs in supply chain industries dealing with matters such as maintenance, gardening, specialist training, security and construction. Consideration of staffing capacity/availability must be considered by applicants prior to submission of planning applications.
- 5.10.3** Residential institutions have the potential to accommodate a significant number of residents, employ substantial numbers of staff and receive visits from friends and family. Therefore, they are best located in accessible locations, ideally within the settlement development boundaries of the District's more Sustainable Urban Settlements and Rural Service Centres. As opposed to the Smaller Rural Settlements or remote countryside locations where there tend to be fewer local services and facilities, limited access to public transport and where the introduction of such development can often have a detrimental impact on the rural character of that community.
- 5.10.4** However, the Council does recognise that it is often difficult to find areas of land large enough to accommodate larger, high quality care homes set within open grounds with gardens, landscapes and trees – which, for the quality of life for residents, is very important. Therefore, the policy encourages the development of care homes and extra-care housing within the larger residential and mixed-use allocations across the District.
- 5.10.5** Secure Residential Institutions, which come under use class C2a, can include secure hospitals, detention centres and prisons. These institutions also have the potential to employ significant numbers of people but in some instances can have a detrimental impact on their immediate surroundings in terms of noise and disturbance. A more remote location may therefore be appropriate and proposals for these kinds of institutions will be considered on their own merits subject to meeting the requirements of other policies in this document and demonstrating a local need.

Policy LP 10

CARE, INDEPENDENT ASSISTED LIVING

To meet the care needs of our future generations and generate growth in the care, independent and assisted living sector in line with the Economic Development Strategy, the Council will support the construction of high quality care homes and extra-care housing in sustainable locations. The Council will also work with the NHS, Essex County Council, care providers, educational establishments and businesses to promote technological advancements in the provision of care, improvements in training and qualifications for care professionals and support growth in the 'supply chain' industries related to care and assisted living.

The Council will support the provision of care homes and extra care housing within settlement development boundaries and, in particular, within the mix of accommodation for the residential and mixed-use developments across the District.

The Council will also consider, on their merits, proposals for the development of new (including change of use to) care homes (Use Class C2) on land outside of settlement development boundaries where they will still support a sustainable pattern of growth in the District. Such developments must either:

- a. be located on a site safely accessible on foot within 800 metres of the edge of the settlement development boundary of one of the District's 'strategic urban settlements', 'smaller urban settlements' or 'strategic rural service centres'; or*
- b. be located on a site safely accessible on foot within 400 metres of the edge of the settlement development boundary of one of the District's 'rural service centres'.*

All new care homes and extra care housing must pay particular attention to landscape character if located outside of settlement development boundaries and offer a high quality, safe, secure and attractive environment for their residents and provide sufficient external space to accommodate the normal recreation and other needs of residents, visitors or employees. Proposals shall have no significant material adverse impact on the landscape, residential amenity, highway safety, or the form and character of nearby settlements and shall be otherwise appropriate in scale and design for their location, having regard to other policies in this Local Plan.

Proposals for the development of new (including change of use to) secure residential institutions (Use Class C2A) will be considered on their own merits against other policy requirements of this Local Plan.

Development that would result in the loss of all, or part, of an existing care home will not be permitted unless the applicants can demonstrate, with evidence, that the site or premises are no longer economically viable. The approach used to demonstrate that the

requirements of this policy have been met may vary from site to site and so must be agreed between the Council and the applicant in advance of any planning application being submitted.

Where planning permission is granted, use rights under the provision of the latest Use Classes Order may be withdrawn where there is evidence to suggest that another use within the same or different Use Class would be inappropriate.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 1 of this Local Plan.

5.11 HMO and Bedsits

- 5.11.1** An HMO (House in Multiple Occupation) is a house occupied by three or more unrelated individuals as their only or main residence where they have individual lockable bedrooms, but where basic amenities such as a kitchen or bathroom are shared. HMOs with between three and six bedrooms fall under Class C4 of the Use Classes Order. HMOs with seven or more bedrooms are classed as 'sui generis'. Each individual bedroom within an HMO is classed as a 'tenancy unit'.
- 5.11.2** Bedsits are dwelling houses that consist of a single room containing living accommodation and dedicated, but often basic, cooking and washing facilities (such as a cooker, microwave oven and sink) but sometimes bathroom and toilet facilities are shared by a number of bedsit occupiers. Bedsits form part of Use Class C3.
- 5.11.3** The creation of HMOs and bedsits, in the majority of cases, require planning permission in line with national planning regulations. The conversion of a 'dwelling house' (Use Class C3) to an HMO in Use Class C4 can take place without the need for planning permission except in locations where the Local Authority has made an 'Article 4 Direction' to remove this permitted change. Tendring District Council has made an Article 4 Direction removing this permitted change in all parts of the District. Therefore any proposal involving the creation of an HMO or bedsits in the Tendring District will require planning permission.
- 5.11.4** The Council is concerned about the impact that an increasing number of HMOs and bedsits, both new-build proposals and the conversion of existing properties, will have on the health of residents, the economy of the District and the physical character of our towns and villages. An increasing number of large residential properties, hotels and guesthouses in central parts of our seaside towns are being lost to HMOs and bedsits, which will result in the permanent loss of valuable visitor accommodation, essential to the tourism economy, and poor living conditions and resultant health problems for tenants.
- 5.11.5** Furthermore, the concentration of low-cost accommodation within town centre areas can result in a high proportion of people with personal, financial or health issues moving into the area (often from outside of the District) and being concentrated

together in one area, placing undue pressure on the public services within those areas (such as doctors' surgeries); detracting from the public perception of the area (which is all important for the purposes of attracting visitors, tourists and investors to spend money in the local economy); and, in turn, making the owners of houses, hotels and guesthouses within the area consider converting their premises into HMOs and bedsits, for rental income, rather than retaining them in their existing use.

- 5.11.6** This trend is not sustainable for the long-term health and prosperity of the District and the economy of our town centres and tourist areas. Therefore Policy LP11 below is designed to ensure that any proposal for HMOs or bedsits does not result in an unhealthy concentration of such accommodation in any one particular area and to ensure that any HMOs or bedsits that are permitted will meet minimum standards of room size, facilities, design and layout to ensure that occupiers can enjoy decent living standards and to minimise any detrimental impacts on the physical appearance of the area. The space standards set out in the policy are based on the minimum space standards prescribed in Section 326 of the Housing Act 1985.

Policy LP 11

HMO AND BEDSITS

All proposals involving the creation of Houses in Multiple Occupation (HMOs) or bedsits (including new-build, subdivisions and conversions) will require planning permission and will only be permitted within defined town centres where all of the following criteria are met:

- a. within a 100 metre radius of the property or site in question (drawn as a circle from the centre of the property or site), the total number of existing and proposed HMO tenancy units and bedsits, as a proportion of all residential accommodation (tenancy units plus bedsits and dwelling houses that are not HMOs), would not exceed 10%;*
- b. the proposed tenancy units have a minimum internal floor area of 12 square metres and bedsits have a minimum internal floor area of 16 square metres;*
- c. each individual tenancy unit or bedsit has direct physical access to communal facilities without the need to rely on access via another tenancy unit or bedsit;*
- d. no more than six tenancy units or bedsits will be served by a single indoor communal facility such as a living room, dining room or kitchen;*
- e. a minimum of 1 off-street car parking space per tenancy unit or bedsit is provided and each parking space must be capable of being used independently of one another;*
- f. all residents of the HMO or block of bedsits have access to adequate space for the storage of waste and recycling bins which will be provided within the curtilage of the block;*

g. all external alterations to existing buildings are in keeping with the character of the building and the wider area; and

h. an area of communal open space is provided that has sufficient space and facilities for drying clothes.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 1 of this Local Plan.

CHAPTER 6
PROSPEROUS PLACES

6 Prosperous Places

- 6.0.1** The Local Plan's strategic objective for Employment/Commercial is "To provide for the development of employment land on a variety of sites to support a diversity of employment opportunities and to achieve a better balance between the location of jobs and housing, which will reduce the need to travel and promote sustainable growth up to the period of 2033."
- 6.0.2** Promoting balanced economic growth is one of the key elements of delivering sustainable development. This Local Plan aims to make Tendring District more self-reliant by achieving a sustainable balance between jobs, retail development, tourism, leisure, hotel and guesthouse development and associated facilities and to improve education and skills for our District's residents. Balancing growth will ensure that our natural and built environment, especially our countryside, are preserved and protected against unsustainable growth.
- 6.0.3** The National Planning Policy Framework requires local planning authorities to adopt a positive approach toward development proposals that will contribute toward building a strong, responsive and competitive economy in their area and to ensure that sufficient land of the right type is available in the right places and at the right time to support growth and innovation. From undertaking extensive consultation with residents and businesses within the Tendring District, it is clear that delivering a strong economy that provides more jobs for local people is a high priority in our area but that the pursuit of economic growth must also sit comfortably alongside other objectives, such as protecting and enhancing the environment and planning positively to meet the social needs of our local communities.
- 6.0.4** The Economic Development Strategy was adopted by the Council in November 2013 and it sets out the following five key objectives:
- **Objective 1: Support Tendring's growth locations**
Prioritising economic development projects in Harwich, Clacton and the west of the District (toward Colchester) as these are the areas with the greatest potential for economic growth and where the case for government assistance and funding will be the strongest.
 - **Objective 2: Target growth sectors**
Promote sectors of the economy with the greatest potential for significant growth and job creation which, for Tendring District, are Offshore Renewable Energy and Care and Assisted Living.
 - **Objective 3: Ensure residents have skills and information to participate**
Working with businesses and educational establishments to provide the training and work experience our residents need to address skills shortages and therefore achieve a diverse and highly skilled local workforce to fulfil the demands of new businesses looking to locate in our area.

- **Objective 4: Support modernisation, diversification and growth within the business base**
Building a stronger relationship between the Council and the District's existing business base, including the delivery of improved broadband infrastructure and supporting businesses to expand and diversify.
- **Objective 5: Facilitate population growth where this supports economic objectives**
Building more homes in the right locations, which will increase the population and boost the demand for goods and services and unlock new employment opportunities.

6.1 Delivering Retail

- 6.1.1 The Local Plan's strategic objective for Retail Development is "To promote the vitality and viability of the town centres, exploiting the benefit of enhanced growth of the town whilst retaining the best and valued aspects of its existing character."
- 6.1.2 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) promotes planning policies that help create the conditions in which businesses can invest, expand and indicates that significant weight should be placed on the need to support economic growth through the planning system.
- 6.1.3 The NPPF requires local planning authorities to support the role that town centres play at the heart of their communities and pursue policies to promote their viability and vitality. In addition, local planning authorities are expected to allocate a range of suitable sites in town centres to meet the scale and type of anticipated needs for retail uses. Ensuring town centres are recognised and protected and sufficient land can be brought forward to meet the retail needs of the District is a crucial element of this Local Plan.
- 6.1.4 References in the Local Plan to "town centres" or "centres" apply to town centres, District centres and local centres but exclude small parades of shops of purely neighbourhood significance.
- 6.1.5 Town centres act as key locations for a diverse range of uses such as retail, leisure, commercial, office, tourism, cultural activities, community facilities and also provide an important, sustainable location for housing.
- 6.1.6 Retail is split into comparison and convenience shopping. Convenience shops provide for the everyday essential items including milk and newspapers, food and drinks and confectionery. These shops are usually close to people's homes so people can make many visits during the week. Comparison shops provide items not purchased on a frequent basis such as clothing, footwear or household items.
- 6.1.7 The Town Centre First principle requires applications for main town centre uses to be located in town centres, then in edge of centre locations and only if suitable sites are not available (or expected to become available within a reasonable period) should out of centre sites be considered. The NPPF sets out that when assessing large applications for retail, leisure and office development outside of town centres, which

are not in accordance with an up-to-date Local Plan, local authorities should require an impact assessment if the development is over a proportionate, locally set floorspace threshold.

6.1.8 Where an application fails to satisfy the sequential test or is likely to have significant adverse impact on the town centre, it should be refused. Local planning authorities are required to ensure that sequential test and impact test have been properly applied, and that the "town centre first" approach has been followed. This does not mean that out-of-centre development is necessarily inappropriate.

6.1.9 Tendring District Council commissioned WYG Planning and Environment (WYG) to undertake a Retail Study in 2016, to serve as local evidence to support the Local Plan Policies. An updated retail study was undertaken in 2020 by Lambert Smith Hampton (LSH).

6.1.1 Additional Retail Floorspace Provision

6.1.1.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), requires that local planning authorities (LPA's) should allocate a range of suitable sites to meet the scale and type of town centre uses needed in town centres and that it is important that the need for retail, leisure, office and other main town centre uses are met in full and are not compromised by limited site availability. Town centre boundaries should be kept under review where necessary.

6.1.2 Convenience Shopping

6.1.2.1 The quantitative assessment in LSH Retail and Town Centre Uses Study (2020) estimates that turnover for convenience goods sales in the district could increase from around £348.5million in 2020 to around £390.6million by 2033, potentially generating capacity for around 2,347 sq.m of additional convenience goods in the plan period – the equivalent of an additional foodstore. However, these findings need to be assessed against market demand and, in 2020, there was limited commercial appetite amongst mainstream grocers to establish new stores, with demand for new store openings mostly confined to the discount food market. However, most of the major foodstore operators are already represented in the district. The assessment notes that opportunities to enhance Clacton's convenience retail offer are likely to be limited to improving existing foodstore provision but that, if market conditions support it, any new provision should be directed to Clacton Town Centre as a priority, in line with the sequential approach and to support the Council's objectives for rejuvenation of that centre.

6.1.3 Comparison Shopping

6.1.3.1 The LSH Retail and Town Centre Uses Study (2020) estimates that turnover for comparison goods sales in the district could increase from around £291.6million to around 441.3million by 2033, however taking into account the emergence and success of on-line retailers in meeting comparison goods demands, the capacity for

increasing physical comparison goods floorspace is likely to be much lower than for convenience goods. With a predicted increase in capacity of around 54sq.m by 2033, the need for additional comparison goods floorspace in the district is likely to be negligible and easily accommodated within either existing vacant town centre units or retail schemes that already benefit from planning permission.

- 6.1.3.2** The LSH Retail Study highlights that Clacton is a vital and viable centre, but could become vulnerable as a result of the economic impact of Covid-19. Nonetheless, the Study identified Clacton as an important shopping and service centre for the district. Goad's survey data from March 2019 shows that there were 88 national multiples in the town centre, of which 51 were retailers. Council initiatives, alongside private investment in recent years, have seen considerable improvements to the built environment, which is beneficial to the town centre's visitor experience. The Council is also working with partners on a programme of measures to rejuvenate Clacton Town Centre.

Policy PP 1

NEW RETAIL DEVELOPMENT

Retail development will be encouraged and permitted in the retail policy area of the town centres as defined on the Policies Map. This will be the main focus for new additional retail floorspace for the town centres, maintaining the District's current hierarchy and market share between centres.

Retail development will be encouraged on a scale appropriate to the needs of the area served by these centres. Development will be subject to local planning, traffic and environmental considerations and the needs of people who live in or near the areas affected.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 3, 6 and 9 of this Local Plan.

6.2 Retail Hierarchy

- 6.2.1** With the introduction of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), there is now a need to take fresh look at how the delivery of retail is managed in the District.
- 6.2.2** The NPPF requires planning policies to define a network and hierarchy of centres that promotes their long-term vitality and viability. It states that, planning policies should support the role that town centres play at the heart of their communities vitality by taking a positive approach to their growth, management and adaptation.

- 6.2.3** The NPPF continues the government's commitment to place a high level of importance on the 'town centre first' approach to the delivery of retail, leisure, office, tourism and business development (collectively known as 'town centre uses').
- 6.2.4** The NPPF (Annex 2) defines the town centre as follows:
- 6.2.5** 'Area defined on the local authority's policy map, including the primary shopping area and areas predominantly occupied by main town centre uses within or adjacent to the primary shopping area. References to town centres or centres apply to city centres, town centres, district centres and local centres but exclude small parades of shops of purely neighbourhood significance. Unless they are identified as centres in the development plan, existing out-of-centre developments, comprising or including main town centre uses, do not constitute town centres'.
- 6.2.6** The District centres will usually comprise groups of shops often containing at least one supermarket or superstore, and a range of non-retail services, such as banks, building societies and restaurants, as well as local public facilities such as a library.
- 6.2.7** Local centres include a range of small shops of a local nature, serving a small catchment. This might include, amongst other shops, a small supermarket, newsagent, a sub-post office and pharmacy. Other facilities could include a hot-food takeaway and launderette. In rural areas large villages may perform the role of a local centre.
- 6.2.8** Small parades of shops of purely neighbourhood significance are not regarded as centres for the purposes of this policy statement.
- 6.2.9** In order to plan positively to promote the vitality and viability of the town centres, the Council has identified a local retail hierarchy for the District that sets out the role and function of centres. The presumption would be that any proposals for a main town use would only be permitted if firstly every effort had been made to locate it in the defined centres as a preference (following the application of the 'sequential test').
- 6.2.10** Our town, District, village and neighbourhood centres provide a significant proportion of the District's local employment and business activity and offer a range of services, facilities and activities that meet the needs of both local residents and people that visit the area. These centres lie at the heart of our communities and are often the historic core of our towns, villages and neighbourhoods and the home to many attractive and historic spaces, buildings and other features.
- 6.2.11** The nature of retail is changing, with the emergence of on-line shopping along with the popularity and convenience of large superstores. The Council wishes to promote the vitality and viability of these centres and accepts that with changes in shopping habits, they will need to move with the times to remain a focus for economic activity and community life.

- 6.2.12** Therefore, our centres will need to change too by becoming more diverse in their offer, embracing more leisure-based activities such as: eating and drinking; promoting the evening economy; utilising the internet as a promotional tool rather than seeing it as a threat to business; providing safe and attractive environments that people are more inclined to visit through choice, rather than convenience; and being easily accessible by a range of transport types.
- 6.2.13** The Council and local businesses both have an important role to play in bringing about this change.
- 6.2.14** The Draft Policy PRO5, Local Plan Pre-Submission Document (2012) identified Clacton as a 'major town centre' and Frinton, Harwich, Dovercourt, Brightlingsea, Manningtree and Walton as 'designated town centres'. Underneath these are 'District centres', 'village centres', and existing and 'proposed neighbourhood centres'.
- 6.2.15** The WYG Retail Study (2016) recommends that Clacton should continue to be classified as a major town centre and the following retail areas are classified as a town centres: Dovercourt, Walton-on-the-Naze, Frinton-on-Sea, Brightlingsea and Manningtree. This study classified Harwich as a District centre due to its level of retail provision and role it plays within the network of centres. The health check shows that Harwich has a total of 3,810 sq.m retail and leisure floorspace and has a disjointed centre with a high level of non-town centre uses at ground-floor level.
- 6.2.16** As well as the defined centres listed in Policy PP2, the District also contains a number of large modern retail parks or stand-alone supermarkets/retail outlets that are located in out-of-town centre (or edge-of-town centre) locations that often fulfil a need for bulky-goods retail that cannot be accommodated in town centres. The national planning policy is for main town centre uses to be located in town centres, then in edge of centre locations and only if suitable sites are not available should out of centre sites be considered.

Policy PP 2

RETAIL HIERARCHY

The following centres, as defined on the Policies Map, provide the key locations that can be resilient to future economic changes and which should be considered as part of a sequential test for proposed main town centres.

Retail development should take place at a scale appropriate to the size and function of the centre within which it is to be located. To guide this approach, the following retail hierarchy is defined:

Major Town Centre

- Clacton

Town Centres

- *Dovercourt*
- *Walton-on-the-Naze*
- *Frinton-on-Sea*
- *Brightlingsea*
- *Manningtree*

District Centres

- *Harwich*
- *Old Road, Clacton*
- *The Triangle, Frinton-on-Sea*
- *Great Clacton*
- *Frinton Road, Holland-on-Sea*

These centres will be the focus for 'town centre uses' which include retail, leisure, commercial, office, tourism and cultural, community and residential development. The Council will promote a mix of appropriate town centre uses within these defined centres with 'active street frontages' at ground floor level. Proposals must be properly related in their scale and nature having regard to the above hierarchy.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 3, 6 and 9 of this Local Plan.

- 6.2.17** There are other small parades of shops across the towns and rural areas that are purely of neighbourhood significance but do not meet the definition of a centre. However, they contribute to the function of the local communities. The NPPF requires local planning authorities to plan positively for the provision of community facilities such as local shops and guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services. It is therefore appropriate to include an additional policy to protect and enhance these local facilities.

Policy PP 3**VILLAGE AND NEIGHBOURHOOD CENTRES**

Small-scale retail development to serve the day-to-day needs of village and local neighbourhoods will be normally permitted. Where express planning permission is required, proposals for change of use from retail within a neighbourhood shopping parade or a village with limited shopping provision will not be permitted unless retail use is either:

- *no longer viable;*
- *no longer needed by the community it serves; or*
- *is to be relocated, to provide an equivalent or improved facility.*

The Council will work with its partners, including local businesses, to protect and enhance the following village and local neighbourhood centres and any proposed village and neighbourhood centres as defined on the Policies Map.

Village Centres

- *Alresford Village Centre*
- *Elmstead Market Village Centre*
- *Great Bentley Village Centre*
- *Little Clacton Village Centre*
- *St. Osyth Village Centre*
- *Thorpe-le-Soken Village Centre*

Existing and Proposed Neighbourhood Centres

- *Bluehouse Avenue, Clacton*
- *Bockings Elm, Clacton*
- *Broadway, Jaywick Sands*
- *Burrs Road, Clacton*
- *Cambridge Road, Clacton*
- *Coopers Lane, Clacton*
- *Coppins Road, Clacton*
- *Gravel Hill Way, Harwich*
- *Junction of Tamarisk Way/Broadway, Jaywick Sands*
- *Thorpe Road, Kirby Cross*
- *Tudor Parade, Marlowe Road, Jaywick Sands*
- *Woodlands Close, Clacton*
- *Upper Dovercourt*
- *Frinton Road, Holland-on-Sea*
- *Waterside, Brightlingsea*
- *Neighbourhood centre at St. John's Road, Clacton*
- *New neighbourhood centre proposed for Oakwood Park Development, Clacton*
- *New neighbourhood centre proposed for Rouses Farm Development, Clacton*
- *New neighbourhood centre proposed for Hartley Gardens Development, Clacton*

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 3 and 6 of this Local Plan.

6.3 Local Impact Threshold

6.3.1 In accordance with national planning policy, it is appropriate to identify locally set thresholds for the scale of edge-of-centre and out-of-centre retail, office and leisure development which should be subject to the assessment of the impact criteria set out by paragraph 26 of the NPPF.

6.3.2 For the purposes of this policy, an 'edge-of-centre' location means:

- for retail development, a site within 300 metres of a 'primary shopping area' with good pedestrian connections to that primary shopping area;
- for office development, a site within 500 metres of a railway station;

- for other town centre uses, a site within 300 metres of a defined town, district, village or neighbourhood centre.

6.3.3 An ‘out of centre’ location means a site that is not within a defined town, district, village or neighbourhood centre and not an edge-of-centre location, but that does fall within the Settlement Development Boundary of the settlement in question.

6.3.4 The NPPF states that:

6.3.5 *‘When assessing applications for retail and leisure development outside town centres, which are not in accordance with an up-to-date plan, local planning authorities should require an impact assessment if the development is over a proportionate, locally set floorspace threshold (if there is no locally set threshold, the default threshold is 2,500 sq.m of gross floorspace)’.* This should include assessment of:

- the impact of the proposal of existing, committed and planned public and private investment in a centre or centres in the catchment area of the proposal; and
- the impact of the proposal on town centre vitality and viability, including local consumer choice and trade in the town centre and wider retail catchment (as applicable to the scale and nature of the scheme).

6.3.6 Where an application is likely to have significant adverse impact it should be refused.

6.3.7 The WYG Retail Study (2016) assessed the need for a local impact threshold and recommended that ‘a blanket approach’ would not be appropriate across all centres. The study advised that policy should advocate a tiered approach with different thresholds based upon the location, role and function of the centre. For example a small convenience store would clearly have more impact on a local centre than the town centre. The study recommends that the thresholds should not only apply to new floorspace, but also to changes of use and variations of conditions to remove or amend restrictions on how units operate in practice.

Policy PP 4

LOCAL IMPACT THRESHOLD

Applications for retail, leisure and office development outside of a centre as defined on the Policies Map, which are not in accordance with the Local Plan, will require an impact assessment if the development is over the following floorspace thresholds in the nearest defined Town Centre:

- Clacton - 929 sq.m gross floorspace*
- Frinton-on-Sea - 929 sq.m gross floorspace*
- Dovercourt - 250 sq.m gross floorspace*
- Walton-on-the-Naze - 250 sq.m gross floorspace*

- e. *Brightlingsea - 250 sq.m gross floorspace*
- f. *Manningtree - 250 sq.m gross floorspace*
- g. *Harwich - 250 sq.m gross floorspace*

In determining planning applications, the Council will consider quantitative and qualitative impacts of the development on town centre vitality and viability, measures aimed at mitigating and minimising impacts and opportunities to claw back trade lost to other town centres both within and outside of the district.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 3 and 6 of this Local Plan.

6.4 Town Centre Uses

- 6.4.1** The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requires that planning policy should support the role that town centres play at the heart of local communities, by taking a positive approach to their growth, management and adaptation. Therefore, it is vital that the future needs of the District's town centres are addressed through the Local Plan.
- 6.4.2** With regard to the location for new retail, leisure and other town centre development (as defined in the NPPF), the Council will adopt the 'sequential approach' as set out in the NPPF. This states that for retail development the first preference should be for town, district or local centre sites, where suitable sites are available, followed by edge-of-centre sites, and only then out-of-centre sites. With regard to edge-of-centre and out-of-centre, a preference should be given to accessible sites which are well connected to the town centre.
- 6.4.3** The NPPF states that local authorities should define areas within their town centres as primary shopping areas. These areas comprise the parts of the town centre where retail development is concentrated. It is the primary shopping areas of the town centres which are the preferred location for new retail development.
- 6.4.4** The NPPF states that the planning authorities should define the extent of the town centres and primary shopping areas, and set policies that make clear which uses will be permitted in such locations.
- 6.4.5** Use Class E, which came into effect in September 2020, incorporates not only those uses which the NPPF defines as 'Main town centre uses', but also certain other uses such as medical services and some industrial. Changes between uses within this class will not be subject to a planning application, which will promote further diversification of town centres.

6.4.1 Primary Shopping Area

- 6.4.1.1** The Primary Shopping Areas shown on the Policies Maps and Local Maps are the defined areas where retail development is concentrated.

- 6.4.1.2** Identification of the PSA and town centre boundary is necessary as these form the basis for the application of the sequential test for applications for town centre uses. The NPPF defines the edge of centre for retail purposes as a location that is well connected and up to 300m from the PSA. For all other main town centre uses (leisure, entertainment, arts, culture and tourism) this is a location within 300 metres of the defined town, centre boundary and for office development a site within 500 meters of a public transport interchange.
- 6.4.1.3** In exceptional cases where the Council agrees that retail, leisure or office development outside of a defined centre could be justified, applications may need to be accompanied by an 'impact assessment' which, in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework, must include an assessment of:
- the impact of the proposal on existing, committed and planned public and private investment in a centre or centres in the catchment area of the proposal; and
 - the impact of the proposal on town centre vitality and viability, including local consumer choice and trade in the defined centres and wider retail catchment (as applicable to the scale and nature of the scheme).

Policy PP 5

TOWN CENTRE USES

Within Town Centre boundaries (as shown on the Policies Maps and Local Maps), proposals for development or change of use for 'main town centre uses' (as defined in Policy PP2 and the National Planning Policy Framework) as well as residential development will be permitted where they comply with other relevant policies in this Local Plan and support the vitality and viability of the town centre.

Within the 'Primary Shopping Area', the use of ground floor shop units will be restricted to uses within Use Class E (commercial, business and service uses). Applications for residential development will be supported on upper floors above shop units where they provide an adequate level of parking and amenity space that takes into account access to shops, services and facilities, public transport provision and proximity to public open space.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 3 and 6 of this Local Plan.

6.5 Delivering Economic Prosperity

- 6.5.1** Tendring District has a diverse economy with local employment across a range of activities including our ports; on our industrial estates; in our town centres and retail parks; in our schools; hospitals, surgeries and care homes; in our hotels, guesthouses and holiday parks; on our farms and even in our homes, with many of our residents being self-employed or working in small businesses.
- 6.5.2** The District is well connected to a network of major roads via the A120, A133 and A137, which provide routes to Chelmsford, London, the M25, Stansted Airport and the Port of Felixstowe. Transportation provision in the District includes 14 railway stations with connections to Colchester, Chelmsford, Ipswich, Norwich, Stratford and London.
- 6.5.3** Tendring District's economy is closely linked to the maritime industry, although it has a diverse economy with local employment across a range of activities. However, like many coastal areas, residents in some parts of the District choose or have to commute out of the area for work, especially to neighbouring Colchester. So creating new and better-paid jobs for existing and future generations of residents is, and will continue to be, one of the Council's top priorities.
- 6.5.4** A key requirement of this Local Plan is to provide for appropriate sustainable employment opportunities for residents in Tendring and to support the growth of local businesses and attract investment in the District.
- 6.5.5** Policy SP3 of the Section 1 Local Plan sets out the strategic framework for delivering new employment across the District. It sets out strategic principles to underpin economic growth across North Essex as follows:
- a. *Sufficient land will be identified to support the achievement of the minimum jobs numbers, recognising the importance of key sectors to be identified by each local authority;*
 - b. *Priority will be given to the use of previously-developed land in appropriate locations as well as, where it meets sustainable principles, the expansion of existing employment locations;*
 - c. *Existing and allocated employment sites will be safeguarded for employment use unless it can be demonstrated that there is no reasonable prospects of the site being used for that purpose;*
 - d. *Town and City centres are the appropriate locations for new office development; and*
 - e. *Employment development will be a key component of the new garden communities identified in Policy SP4. The scale and mix of employment uses will be determined through development frameworks and masterplans for each new community.*

- 6.5.6** The primary objective of this Local Plan is to support and diversify the economy while maintaining a broad balance between homes and jobs in order to achieve self-reliance. The Section 1 Local Plan provides a strategic policy framework for achieving this. It seeks to ensure that sufficient high quality sites are identified to support the delivery of job targets; gives priority to the enhancement of existing employment sites and regeneration of previously developed land; safeguarding existing and committed sites; supports initiatives which promote skills and training and safeguards and enhances tourism and cultural assets of the District.
- 6.5.7** Essex County Council has undertaken a 'Grow on Space Feasibility Study' to explore the need for employment 'Grow-On Space' within the county. Such flexible employment space, between 100 – 300 sqm in scale, is required to enable flexible premises for businesses to move on from incubation/enterprise centres/start-up spaces, and free up these units for other start-ups. The Essex Economic Commission also identified an inadequate supply of flexible tenures (eg. Grow-on Space), which is holding back successful businesses that want to expand and grow. Tendring District Council will consider which interventions are the most appropriate and viable to ensure the provision of flexible local employment space (by tenure) in the plan area.
- 6.5.8** The Aspinall Verdi Employment Land Review (2016) highlights that there is the need to promote Tendring District as a vibrant place to live, work and visit, and to promote the area to support sustainable economic growth. Key opportunity sectors in the District include Offshore Wind and Care and Assisted Living. Other sectors, including agri-tech, composite, engineering, manufacturing, hospitality and retail all have the potential to contribute to growth in jobs across the District.
- 6.5.9** The Aspinall Verdi Employment Land Review (2016) sets out a total employment land requirement of 20ha to be delivered across Tendring District. Employment development is best located in combination with existing or proposed housing growth to promote a sustainable pattern of development and access by sustainable transport modes. Existing employment sites will be safeguarded and additional employment land will be required in a number of sustainable urban and rural locations.
- 6.5.10** The Aspinall Verdi Employment Study suggests that the Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community scores well given its communication linkages and proximity to Colchester. The study states that due to the closeness of West Tendring to Essex University, this area could provide a competitive advantage and deliver medium to long-term employment opportunities for Tendring District.
- 6.5.11** Weeley also scores well given that it forms part of a relatively large settlement with good communication linkages and the presence of uses such as the hotel and service area. Similarly, the Oakwood allocation in Clacton benefits from the already functioning and popular Gorse Lane Industrial Estate, which itself has extant planning permission to expand. The Hartley Gardens site scores highly due to its location directly off the A133 and its ability to provide further employment land to the edge of Clacton.

6.5.12 The Council will ensure that the right amount and type of employment land is available in locations that balance the demands of the market with the capacity of infrastructure and the need to protect, and where possible enhance the environment. This includes policies within this Local Plan on:

- Safeguarding existing and committed employment sites, including Royal Mail sorting and delivery offices, which are of the right quality and suitably located in relation to infrastructure. This will include safeguarding employment land allocations for a range of uses in support of a balanced economy;
- Providing for additional sites in sustainable locations to meet the business needs of the growing District;
- Supporting the enhancement of skills in the local workforce through improved opportunities for education and training to provide a more dynamic and flexible labour market;
- Promoting the provision of infrastructure and services needed to provide a competitive business environment, including support and electronic communications infrastructure notably enhanced broadband provision; and
- Promoting the diversification of the rural economy, in particular by supporting the retention and development of local services and community facilities in villages; supporting farm diversification including the conversion of existing farm buildings and infrastructure for employment and other commercial developments such as tourism.

6.5.1 Protecting Existing Employment Sites

6.5.1.1 In order to maintain an adequate level of employment land to meet the needs of the local economy, the Council wants to protect defined employment areas from uses which would be better located in other areas of the District. The Council does not wish to inhibit the ability of existing firms to expand. It will be supportive of the redevelopment of sites which would lead to an improvement in the quality of employment floorspace suited to modern day needs.

6.5.1.2 Policy SP3 of the North Essex Strategic Plan (Section 1 of this Plan), recognises the valuable role of locally important existing employment areas and establishes the need to protect them from loss to alternative uses. The identification of locally important existing employment sites has arisen through joint work with the Council's Economic Development and Regeneration team.

Policy PP 6

EMPLOYMENT SITES

The Council will seek to protect existing employment sites, as shown on the relevant Policies Maps and Local Maps. Sites within use classes B2 and B8 will be safeguarded for these purposes. Employment sites falling within Use Class E(g) will be retained and will continue to provide for the employment needs of the district.

Proposals for employment uses falling outside of use classes B2, B8 or other established activities (such as retail, offices, other town centre uses or other 'sui generis' uses) on protected employment sites will be considered on their merits and against other relevant policies within the Local Plan.

Proposals for non-employment uses on these sites will only be permitted if:

- a. it can be demonstrated that the land or premises have become inherently unsuitable for any form of employment use and there is clear and robust evidence of appropriate marketing with registered commercial agents at a reasonable price to demonstrate no realistic prospect for continued employment use; or*
- b. the alternative use will either facilitate or result in wider economic regeneration benefits that outweigh the loss of employment land or premises on the protected site for existing or potential employment use; or*
- c. The alternative use will ease or resolve demonstrable longstanding and otherwise irresolvable harmful conflicts between land uses.*

If criteria a) b) or c) are met, the proposal must not have an adverse impact on the operation of any remaining businesses on the protected site and must not give rise to any incompatibility between land uses.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 2, 4 and 6 of this Local Plan.

6.5.2 New Employment Sites Allocations

- 6.5.2.1** Only a certain proportion of jobs are located in employment areas and fall within the B use classes: B1 business; B2 general industrial; B8 storage and distribution; and uses that are classified as sui generis if they are akin to employment type uses which accord with the caveats set out in Policy PP6. The rest of the jobs in the local economy consist of 'services' such as: retail, health, education and leisure, amongst others. Therefore, when making provision for jobs in Policy PP7 only jobs falling into the B use classes (and appropriate sui generis uses) will be acceptable unless the site allocation policies for Policy PP7, in Chapter 9 - Delivering Places state otherwise.

Policy PP 7

EMPLOYMENT ALLOCATIONS

32ha of land is allocated for new development in use classes B2 (General Industry) and B8 (storage and Distribution) to support a diversity of employment opportunities, the majority of which has already obtained planning permission. The allocated sites are listed in Table 6.1 below and are identified on the Policies Maps and relevant Local Maps.

Table 6.1

Table 6.1

Name of Site	Local Plan Allocation (ha)
Extension to Gorse Lane Industrial Estate, Telford Road, Clacton	6.8ha
Land at Stanton Europark, Parkeston	3.3ha
Land at Harwich Valley, East of Pond Hall Farm, Dovercourt	6.3ha (as part of a wider mixed use development)
Land off Clacton Road/Dead Lane, Mistley	2ha
Crown Business Centre, Old Ipswich Road, Ardleigh/Colchester	2.3ha
Land south west of Horsley Cross	11.2ha
Total Employment Land Area	31.9ha

N.B Some sites have permission in part for B1 use, now Class E(g).

On these sites, proposals for development in use classes B2 and B8 will be supported. Proposals for employment uses falling outside of use classes B2 or B8 (such as retail, offices, other town centre uses or other 'sui generis' uses) will be considered against other relevant policies within the Local Plan.

Applications for alternative non-employment uses will only be considered if it can be demonstrated that there is no reasonable prospect of a site being used for the allocated employment use. Such applications will be treated having regard to market signals and the relative need for different land uses to support sustainable local communities.

Proposals for new employment-related development on land outside of these allocations will be considered having regard to their potential to support economic growth in the district and the requirements of other policies in this Local Plan.

Additional employment land will also be identified as part of the mix of uses proposed at the Colchester Tendring Borders Garden Community within the separate Development Plan Document (DPD) for that area.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 2, 4 and 6 of this Local Plan.

6.6 Tourism, Leisure and Hotel Development

6.6.1 The Local Plan's strategic objective for Tourism Promotion is "To work with partners to provide an enhanced environment for tourism and the maritime sector and its associated services."

6.6.1 Tourism

6.6.1.1 Tourism is worth more than £276 million to Tendring District. Many of our District's jobs are related in some way to tourism, whether that is directly in hotels, caravan and chalet parks and tourist attractions or indirectly in shops, cafés and restaurants. A significant proportion of new jobs in our District could come from tourism if the right action is taken by providing an appropriate range of tourist attractions and holiday accommodation. With that in mind, the Council's Tourism Strategy identifies the following four core objectives to develop tourism in Tendring District:

- increase the amount of money visitors spend in the District;
- extend the length of time visitors stay in the District;
- attract higher spending visitors; and
- improve the perception of the District as a tourism destination.

6.6.1.2 To achieve these objectives, the Tourism Strategy sets out five priorities for action:

Priority 1: Marketing, Public Relations and E-tourism – working with businesses to make the best use of marketing and advertising, the internet, tourist information points and possible events and exhibitions to attract visitors.

Priority 2: Thematic Product Development – building on the strengths of our District to develop a series of 'themed products' such as history and heritage, food and drink, family fun, countryside and nature, and myths and folklore.

Priority 3: Visitor Economy and Experience – developing new and exciting products that will appeal to existing and new visitor markets including marinas, heritage attractions, up-market hotel and self-catering accommodation and interactive visitor facilities, along with improved public spaces, lighting and signage.

Priority 4: Responsible Tourism – making positive use of Tendring District's unique environmental assets like its countryside, coast and wildlife areas to promote activities like walking, cycling, sailing and bird watching.

Priority 5: Business Support and Community Engagement – working in partnership with businesses and other organisations to deliver projects to support growth in the Tendring District tourism industry.

6.6.1.3 This Local Plan has an important role to play in facilitating the kinds of development that will contribute positively toward economic growth in the tourism sector. The Council's approach to the development of tourism and visitors' attraction is in line with Priorities 3 and 4 set out above. Whilst the Council is keen to promote the area as a tourist destination by making best use of its assets, it is important to ensure that such assets are not exploited and potentially harmed or lost altogether. The relevant policies in this Local Plan will help to ensure that growth in the tourism industry in Tendring District is carried out in a sustainable manner that respects the wider environment and protects it for future generations to enjoy.

6.6.1.4 Another important aspect of promoting Tendring District's tourism economy will be to ensure that the District offers a range of visitor accommodation in different locations that will appeal to different people's tastes, budgets and interests. As the nature of tourism has changed so much over the years, Tendring District cannot rely purely on the provision of traditional holiday accommodation provided at seaside holiday parks, hotels, guesthouses and bed & breakfasts. Increasingly people will visit Tendring District for short weekend breaks, to visit friends and family, to attend weddings and other family functions or even for business purposes. Policies PP8-PP11 set out the Council's approach to the creation, improvement and the protection of potential loss of different types of visitor accommodation.

Policy PP 8

TOURISM

To attract visitors to the Tendring District and support economic growth in tourism, the Council will generally support proposals that would help to improve the tourism appeal of the District to visitors, subject to other relevant policies in the Local Plan. In particular, the Council will support appropriate proposals for:

- *new and improved attractions and leisure activities at the District's pleasure piers, amusement parks and holiday parks;*

- *a major new tourist attraction with good access to the A133 or A120;*
- *marinas, boat harbours, yacht havens and other facilities associated with boating and sailing;*
- *educational field centres or facilities associated with renewable energy, nature conservation, heritage, coastal protection, maritime activities and/or the enjoyment of the countryside and coast;*
- *conference facilities for business and educational purposes or to be used for functions such as weddings and other celebratory events;*
- *the provision of leisure and tourism facilities as part of farm diversification schemes;*
- *high quality restaurants, cafes and other appropriate commercial outlets on the seafront within the District's coastal towns; and*
- *outdoor recreational activities that would strengthen the function and protection of the undeveloped countryside.*

To maintain and deliver a range of accommodation that meets the varying needs, demands and expectations of potential visitors to the Tendring District, proposals that involve the creation, improvement or potential loss of visitor accommodation will be assessed based on policies set out in this Local Plan.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 10 of this Local Plan.

6.6.2 Hotels and Guesthouses

- 6.6.2.1** Hotels and guesthouses provide accommodation to visitors who come to the area for a variety of reasons including holidays, weekend trips, business, visiting friends and family or attending family events or other functions. There had been a steady decline in the number of hotels and guesthouses in the District, many of which were either converted or redeveloped for residential use or care. However, to bring about growth in the District's tourism economy, a diverse range of visitor accommodation is essential and Policy PP9 below sets out the Council's approach to protecting hotels and guesthouses from being lost to alternative uses and supporting the provision of new and improved facilities.

Policy PP 9

HOTELS AND GUESTHOUSES

The Council will support proposals for:

- *new hotels and guesthouses within defined centres (as listed in Policy PP2) and along the seafront within the District's coastal towns or on allocated mixed-use development sites where such accommodation is proposed as part of the mix of uses;*
- *visitor accommodation to be provided in the upper floors of public houses, at residential health and beauty facilities, educational field centres and function/conference venues; and*
- *proposals to improve guest facilities or increase the number of rooms at existing hotels and guesthouses.*

Within defined centres and along the seafront within the District's coastal towns, the Council will seek to retain the accommodation provided within existing hotels and guesthouses. Outside of these areas, the change of use or redevelopment of existing hotels and guesthouses to alternative uses will only be permitted if the applicant can demonstrate that the current use is no longer economically viable.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 10 of this Local Plan.

6.6.3 Holiday Parks, Camping and Caravanning

6.6.4 Camping and Caravanning

- 6.6.4.1** Although the Tendring District has a lot of static caravan sites, there is limited provision of sites for camping and touring caravans/motorhomes. Supporting the establishment of new camping and caravanning sites and encouraging the provision of camping and caravanning pitches at existing holiday parks will help to diversify the range of accommodation available to visitors to the area which, in turn, will support growth in the economy.

Policy PP 10

CAMPING AND TOURING CARAVAN SITES

Outside of holiday parks (considered under Policy PP11 in this Local Plan) and subject to consideration against other relevant Local Plan policies, if the necessary tests are met in regard to any known flood risk, the Council will support proposals for:

- *new camping and / or touring caravan/motorhome sites; and*
- *extensions to existing camping and/or touring caravan/motorhome sites.*

Applications will only be permitted where they are in accordance with the Biodiversity Policy PPL4 in this Local Plan. Prior to submission of proposals for new or extended sites in the vicinity of designated sites (which should be taken to mean holiday parks within 2 km of such sites) applicants should seek the advice of Natural England as to the likely requirements for Appropriate Assessment and the tests of the Habitats Regulations.

Proposals for the use of land as a camping and/or touring caravan/motorhome site (which may incorporate recreational vehicles) must include an electricity hook-up point for each touring caravan/motorhome and facilities for potable water, toilets, showers, washing and waste water disposal. The Council will support proposals for ancillary recreational facilities subject to consideration under other relevant policies in this Local Plan.

To ensure that any tents and/or touring caravans/motorhomes are not used as permanent dwellings, camping and touring caravan/motorhome sites will be subject to holiday occupancy conditions and their use limited to certain periods of the year.

6.7 Holiday Parks

6.7.1 Holiday Parks play a very important role in the District's tourism economy but in promoting a diverse range of visitor accommodation, the Council recognises that trends are changing along with the aspirations and demands of caravan and chalet owners.

6.7.2 The Council has reviewed the District's stock of holiday parks and has identified a number of 'safeguarded sites' on the Policies Maps that play a significant role in supporting the local tourism economy and that will therefore be protected from redevelopment for alternative uses. Not all of the District's parks are shown as safeguarded sites because the Council recognises that changing economic conditions and tourism trends could have a negative effect on some of the smaller sites being able to remain viable and, in some cases, redevelopment for an alternative use might be more beneficial to the local economy.

- 6.7.3** One trend that is having a significant impact on some of the District's caravan parks is that modern static caravans are becoming increasingly large, luxurious and technologically advanced. The modern caravan owner also demands better standards of layout and spaciousness. Many of the District's safeguarded and other existing sites either have pitches that are too small to accommodate these modern caravans or layouts that are too dense to take the larger vans and achieve reasonable areas of space between them. For this reason, the Council will support proposals for both safeguarded and any other existing sites to extend onto adjoining undeveloped land outside of defined Settlement Development Boundaries as long as it ensures that the overall layout, amenity, appearance and quality of accommodation will be improved for the entire site (both the existing site and the area proposed for expansion) as part of a comprehensive programme. The Council will have regard to other policies in the Local Plan to ensure the impacts of development are minimised and/or mitigated and may use planning conditions or legal agreements to ensure that the extension of a site is carried out alongside comprehensive improvements to the overall site layout.
- 6.7.4** As Tendring District is already home to a high number of static caravan parks and the Council is anxious to promote a diverse range of visitor accommodation, the Council will not support any proposals to establish new static caravan parks in the District. The Council will however support proposals for new high quality holiday villages comprising well designed timber chalets set on plinths and with pitched roofs, located preferably in a predominantly wooded and undulating landscape setting with water features with high quality leisure facilities and activities. There is also potential to upgrade existing holiday parks to improve their quality and their facilities and/or to provide similar or alternative accommodation typologies such as chalets or cabins. 'Centerparcs' at Elveden Forest in Suffolk provides a good indication of the type of facility and the level of quality that the Council wants to establish in Tendring District.
- 6.7.5** The loss of holiday accommodation to permanent residential use displaces accommodation intended for tourism use, which has a knock-on effect on the District's economy. The Council will therefore use planning conditions/legal agreements to ensure that this does not occur and in order for a site to comply with its licence, the site owner/operator will be expected to share the responsibility of managing and enforcing this requirement. Additionally, because holiday accommodation is often unsuitable for permanent occupation and located in areas that often lack the necessary and appropriate infrastructure and services for longer occupation, the Council will restrict the holiday occupancy period and; where sites are located in an area vulnerable to flooding, the period of restricted occupancy will be expected to take place during the winter months when there is a greater likelihood of higher tides and severe weather. The length of occupancy period set will take 'into account the site's location and the character and merits of the proposal such as the degree of flood risk, its relationship to an existing site (e.g. if it is a proposed extension), proposals for flood risk mitigation, design, the quality of accommodation provided and emergency planning. Change of use to permanent residential and extended

periods of holiday occupation can also impact on protected wildlife sites, which are often located close to existing holiday parks. Where parks are proposed to be expanded to increase their level of provision, an element of park home provision to support the overall viability of the park might be considered so long as an appropriate mix is maintained which ensures the focus is firmly on tourism uses, rather than residential uses, and other policy requirements around flood risk, quality, infrastructure provision and sustainability are met.

Policy PP 11

HOLIDAY PARKS

Some of the District's holiday parks are shown as 'safeguarded sites' on the Policies Map. These sites will be protected against redevelopment for alternative uses either in part or in whole.

On 'other sites' that are operating as holiday parks but are not specifically shown as safeguarded sites or allocated for an alternative use, proposals for redevelopment, including the change of use of caravans and chalets to permanent residential dwellings, will only be considered favourably if the applicant can demonstrate all of the following:

- *the current use is no longer economically viable or that the economic benefits of the proposed development would outweigh the loss of the existing operation, having regard to other policies in this Local Plan;*
- *the proposals will not materially harm the provision of tourist accommodation in the district;*
- *for residential proposals, the new development will provide acceptable living conditions; and*
- *the development will not cause material harm (including cumulatively) to local services and facilities, flooding, and wildlife.*

Subject to consideration against other relevant Local Plan policies, if necessary tests are met in regard to any known flood risk, the Council will support proposals for:

- *the extension of safeguarded sites or other existing sites onto adjoining land provided that the development would result in improvements to the overall layout, amenity, appearance, mix of renting and touring capacity and quality of accommodation over the whole site; and*
- *improvements to the range and quality of attractions and facilities at safeguarded sites and other sites;*

Proposals for new static caravan/chalet parks will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated by the applicant how the proposal would help strengthen and diversify the District's tourist economy or that they are being specifically created for the relocation of an existing site away from flood risk areas.

Applications will only be permitted where they are in accordance with the Biodiversity Policy PPL4 in this Local Plan. Prior to submission of proposals for new or extended sites in the vicinity of designated sites (which should be taken to mean holiday parks within 2km of such sites), applicants should seek the advice of Natural England as to the likely requirements for Appropriate Assessment and the tests of the Habitats Regulations.

To ensure that new caravan and chalet developments are not used for permanent residential dwellings, the Council will impose holiday occupancy conditions and limit use to certain periods of the year.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 10 of this Local Plan.

6.8 Improving Education and Skills

- 6.8.1** The Local Plan's strategic objectives for Education are "To improve and provide good quality educational opportunities and prospects for Tendring's residents as part of sustainable community strategy. This includes practical vocational training and apprenticeship".
- 6.8.2** The skills base of the District's residents is another factor that is critical to economic growth and future prosperity. The number of young people who reach adulthood with few, or no, qualifications or skills is a real concern for the Council because it can lead to unemployment and other social problems which could have the effect of discouraging business investment. The Council will therefore continue to work in partnership with local schools, colleges and Essex County Council as the Local Education Authority to ensure that the educational needs of Tendring's growing population are met and that all Tendring's youngsters have the opportunity to realise their full potential.
- 6.8.3** Apart from ensuring that the planned growth in housing development is supported by investment in either building new or creating capacity in our primary and secondary schools through the planning system, the Council is very conscious that the environment in which young people are brought up will have a major bearing on their aspirations for the future and their willingness to work hard and achieve a good education. The proposals in this plan to deliver high-quality aspirational housing, embrace the digital revolution, improve transport and create jobs all form part of an overall strategy which, over time, will improve the educational and employment prospects of future generations.
- 6.8.4** Alongside primary and secondary education, the Council supports investment in sixth-form, adult education and training centre facilities and the planned growth of Essex University, which is close to the Tendring border with Colchester. In addition, the emergence of digital technology and renewable energy technology is expected

to yield significant job opportunities in the coming years, so the Council will work with education providers and the industries involved to set up vocational training courses and will support appropriate proposals for dedicated training facilities.

- 6.8.5** Existing educational facilities will be protected from potential loss through the Community Facilities Policy of this Local Plan and support will be given to proposals that will result in improved facilities, including proposals to expand existing facilities or create new facilities. Given the importance of education to the future prosperity of our District and the limited public funding available to deliver necessary improvements, the Council will also consider proposals for the redevelopment of existing educational facilities or ancillary land for housing or other appropriate uses where that development will fund the delivery of new and/or improved facilities within a reasonable proximity to the original facility. The Council may consider using legal agreements to ensure that the new or improved facilities are delivered alongside any redevelopment proposal.
- 6.8.6** Alongside the development and improvement of educational facilities, the Council is keen that any development projects provide employment and training prospects for local people. To do this, the Council will require applicants for residential and non-residential development to sign an Employment and Skills Charter/Local Labour Agreement which would require developers to recruit and train Tendring residents as an integral part of the construction process, as well as for longer term opportunities (including apprenticeships) resulting from the operation of the development. Developers will also be required to work with small and medium size businesses and the Council will use planning conditions (or legal agreements) to ensure that, as far as is possible and practical, local people are employed.

Policy PP 12

IMPROVING EDUCATION AND SKILLS

To improve education and employment prospects for Tendring District's residents, the Council will work with its partners including Essex University, Colchester Institute, local schools and academies, and Essex County Council as the education authority and other educational establishments, to deliver new and improved facilities for early years, primary, secondary, further and higher education. The Council will support proposals that will result in new, expanded or improved education facilities and facilities for vocational training, particularly in the growing care and assisted living and renewable energy sectors. This will include expansion of the University as part of the Garden Community development.

Planning permission will not be granted for new residential development unless the individual or cumulative impacts of development on education provision can be addressed, at the developer's cost, either on-site or through financial contributions (potentially through the Community Infrastructure Levy) towards off-site improvements. Essex County Council

as the local education authority will be a key consultee in this regard. Where appropriate, the Council will also consider the use of legal agreements to secure any necessary improvements in education provision arising as a result of development.

Proposals involving the redevelopment of educational facilities for alternative uses will be considered against Policy HP 2: Community Facilities of this Local Plan.

In granting planning permission for residential and non-residential developments, the Council will use Employment and Skills Charters/Local Labour Agreements to ensure that, as far as is possible and practicable, local contractors are employed to implement the development and that any temporary or permanent employment vacancies (including apprenticeships) are advertised through agreed channels to reach and prioritise local people.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 5 of this Local Plan.

6.9 Rural Economy

- 6.9.1** Whilst the thrust of both local and national policy is to direct new jobs to existing built up areas and centres of employment, it is recognised that the District's rural areas and open countryside also make an important contribution to the overall economy of the District and so the Council should seek to achieve sustainable economic growth of its rural economy. Agriculture, in particular, which generally requires a countryside location, remains a source of local employment and continues to play an important role in the local economy and so the Council will continue to support proposals for agricultural-related development (where permission is required) provided adverse impacts on the environment are kept to a minimum.
- 6.9.2** It is also acknowledged that the District's rural areas and countryside are used for certain activities that need to take place in these areas, some of which can bring about positive outcomes for the rural economy and so the Council will support proposals for appropriate development in the countryside that would help strengthen the rural economy, subject to meeting other policies in this Local Plan and national planning policy.

Policy PP 13

THE RURAL ECONOMY

To support growth in the rural economy, the Council may grant planning permission for the following types of development in the countryside outside of defined Settlement Development Boundaries, subject to detailed consideration, including against other policy requirements in this Local Plan:

- a. *Where appropriate to the historic environment, conversion or re-use of rural buildings in the countryside to employment, leisure or tourism use;*
- b. *business and domestic equine related activities;*
- c. *agricultural and key workers' dwellings; and*
- d. *buildings that are essential to support agricultural, aquaculture, horticulture and forestry; and farm diversification schemes.*

The Council will permit sustainable development proposals for farm and other land based diversification schemes that benefit the rural area. Proposals for re-use or redevelopment of rural buildings for employment purposes will be considered against the following criteria unless the economic benefits outweigh these criteria:

- e. *the building is structurally sound and capable of accommodating the proposed use without the need for significant extension or alteration or reconstruction;*
- f. *the proposed use (including any proposed alteration or extensions to the building), its associated operational area, the provision of any services, and/or any amenity space or outbuildings, would not harm its appearance as a rural building or adversely affect the rural setting of the building in the locality;*
- g. *the proposed use would not create significant levels of traffic, particularly lorries, on rural roads (proposals for employment uses will be required to provide a sustainability assessment which may include a Travel Plan designed to maximise the opportunities to reduce the need to travel by private car);*
- h. *proposals which would create a significant number of jobs should be readily accessible by public transport; and*
- i. *it will not lead to unacceptable levels or types of traffic or problems of road safety or amenity and will not require highway improvements which will harm the character of rural roads in the area.*

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 2, 6, 8 and 10 of this Local Plan.

6.10 Priority Areas for Regeneration

- 6.10.1** Certain parts of the District require focused attention in order to improve the quality of life, the economy and the physical environment, to make these better places to live, work and visit. The Council has identified five 'Priority Areas for Regeneration' which will be a focus for new initiatives. It will work with its partners to help deliver key improvements in those areas.

Policy PP 14

PRIORITY AREAS FOR REGENERATION

The following areas are identified on the Policies Maps and Local Maps as 'Priority Areas for Regeneration':

- *Clacton Town Centre and Seafront*
- *'Brooklands', 'Grasslands' and 'the Village' areas of Jaywick Sands*
- *Harwich Old Town*
- *Dovercourt Town Centre and adjoining areas*
- *Walton-on-the-Naze*

These areas will be a focus for investment in social, economic and physical infrastructure and initiatives to improve vitality, environmental quality, social inclusion, economic prospects, education, health, community safety, accessibility and green infrastructure.

As well as this, the Council will seek to: preserve or enhance the heritage assets of these areas, including the at risk conservation areas. The at risk conservation areas are: Clacton Seafront, Dovercourt, St Osyth, Thorpe-le-Soken and Thorpe-le-Soken Station and Maltings.

The Council will support proposals for new development which are consistent with achieving its regeneration aims.

6.10.2 The Current progress of the Priority Areas for Regeneration are as follows:-

6.10.3 Clacton Town Centre and Seafront: The Council has been working with local businesses and other stakeholders to develop a vision and action plan for rejuvenating Clacton Town Centre and Seafront in the face of declining footfall, shop closures and issues with social-economic deprivation. The positive vision for Clacton in 2030 (the 'Love Clacton' vision) is for it to become a well-loved, year-round destination positively promoting the town's seaside heritage, the beaches and famous attractions. The Council and its partners are seeking to deliver short-term improvements in the town centre around transport and the public realm to support local businesses and improve footfall whilst developing a longer-term spatial plan for development of new homes, more modern business space, community facilities, improved transport access and space for arts and entertainment which will guide planning decisions to attract private investment and government funding. The Council's objectives for Clacton Town Centre and the Seafront are to:

- Make the town centre a destination associated with fun and enjoyment where people are just as likely to go to meet socially and be entertained, as for shopping;

- Turn the town centre into an all-weather shopping and leisure destination where, come rain or shine, there are things to enjoy and reasons to visit, and to stay longer;
- Make the town centre vibrant - concentrating activity in its central core and increasing the resident population through quality housing above shops and in side streets;
- Make sure the town centre works in seamless harmony with the town's beaches and seaside attractions with activity and trade in both areas extending into the evenings;
- Actively promote the 'Love Clacton' brand both physically throughout the town centre and through a variety of digital and other communication channels;
- Positively promote the town's unique history and seaside heritage through its branding, public realm, architecture, events and activities – to set it apart from other places;
- Make the town centre a place that people can get to easily and conveniently by all forms of transport and prepare it for the predicted rise in the ownership of electric cars;
- Make the town centre safe, easy and convenient to navigate for pedestrians of all ages and physical abilities and improve connectivity to surrounding assets;
- Bring the town centre into the digital age to enable people to work remotely and access online and app-based services and information; and
- Make the town centre a hub for education, public services, community activities and clubs and manage the transition from a retail destination to a more varied and mixed offer.

6.10.4 Jaywick Sands: Jaywick Sands was originally built as a seaside resort for Londoners in the 1930's with small chalets built on private un-adopted roads; this being a classic example of plot land development. Over time, many of the holiday homes were converted to permanent dwellings, partly as a result of people moving from bombed out homes in the Second World War. As they were never intended as permanent homes, many being of wooden construction, the housing does not meet building regulation requirements and the infrastructure is substandard. While Jaywick Sands suffers from considerable social and economic problems, it also has a core of longstanding residents with a strong sense of community who are extremely keen to see improvements to the area. The Council's objectives are to:

- Transform housing quality and the built environment;
- Ensure long term flood resilience;

- Create greater connectivity to neighbouring areas;
- Attract commerce & new economic opportunities; and
- improve people's life chances, access to public services & health & wellbeing

6.10.5 In order to achieve this, the Council in collaboration with the Coastal Communities Team, is producing the Jaywick Sands Place Plan. This will provide a development framework for the physical regeneration of Jaywick Sands facilitating the provision of new flood resilient homes built to modern building standards which will provide a high standard of accommodation for existing residents as well as providing land for employment opportunities and recreation and amenity areas. Public consultation will be key to its production and the Council recognise that only with the support of the local community will the proposals be deliverable. The Council will also produce a design SPD to guide replacement dwellings and small infill development.

6.10.6 As part of the work for the Place Plan and additional work undertaken by Essex County Council, a requirement was identified for employment opportunities and retail to meet the needs of local residents. This resulted in a £2.12 million project to create a 9,500 square-foot covered market, commercial space and new public realm improvements. Plans for the market, 13 affordable business units, community garden and hard landscaping on the seafront at Jaywick Sands received £1.972m from the South East Local Enterprise Partnership (SELEP) and the Getting Building Fund (GBF) in November 2020.

6.10.7 A second scheme involves improved cycling links between Jaywick Sands and Clacton. This will also involve the launch of a community bike scheme to loan bicycles to residents providing an affordable means of travel to work or college. This project received £2.3m from the GBF, and will be supported with £100,000 from the Sport England Local Delivery Pilot.

6.10.8 **Harwich Old Town:** The Economic Development Strategy seeks to balance the evolution of Harwich as a port with the ongoing evolution of the visitor economy in the town and surrounding area. Aims for regeneration of Old Harwich include:

- Maximising the opportunity offered by 'Freeport' status and the proposals for expansion at Harwich International Port and Bathside Bay;
- Preserve and enhance the Conservation Area and heritage assets within it with public realm improvements and appropriate redevelopments of under-utilised and unsympathetic sites and premises close to the waterfront;
- Promote the town's history and association with the Mayflower voyages as a means of increasing tourist activity, footfall and economic activity;

- Deliver residential and commercial opportunities to support economic growth in the old town area; and
- Support opportunities to improve water-based recreation facilities in the area.

6.10.9 Freeport East was announced on the 3 March 2021 by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, in his budget speech. Freeport East offers a unique opportunity to build a truly global trade hub at the same time as accelerating opportunities in green energy and helping level-up the economy.

6.10.10 The Old Town within Harwich was the subject of a master planning approach which sought to provide a long term plan for the regeneration of Harwich. In line with this, a grant scheme has also been introduced by the Council offering funds to independent businesses in Harwich and Dovercourt to refurbish. Match-funding is available to businesses in the two town centres looking to enhance or improve their premises under the Harwich and Dovercourt Bay Business Grant Scheme. The grants can be used, for example, to redecorate the exterior of the building, new signage, lighting and window repairs. The scheme is targeted at Harwich and Dovercourt, improving the visitor attraction as part of the 400th anniversary of the sailing of The Mayflower, the Harwich ship which carried the Pilgrims to America in 1620.

6.10.11 Dovercourt Town Centre and adjoining areas: The Dovercourt Town Centre Masterplan seeks to improve the economic performance and vitality of the town by creating a more appealing environment, with the focus on vacant, derelict and rundown sites. The vision for Dovercourt is that it will be a thriving town with an attractive High Street, a range of shops and cafes and regular street markets: a town which is proud of its heritage but also able to respond to new opportunities. A town with a high quality public realm and open spaces, stunning beaches and good connections - an attractive place to live, work, shop and visit.

6.10.12 The masterplan sets out a town centre strategy that identifies a number proposals and initiatives for the regeneration of Dovercourt Town Centre. An example of such is the redevelopment of the Starlings site located on Dovercourt High Street. The project will provide new public space, public toilets and a surface car park with 51 car parking spaces, including four for disabled use and four for electric vehicle charging.

6.10.13 Walton-on-the Naze: Walton-on-the Naze, like many seaside towns has suffered from social and economic decline; issues which the Council will continue to address through the following objectives for its regeneration which seeks to:

- Build a strong all year round economy - diversifying and extending the local economy to create new business and employment opportunities;

- Create a unique destination which maximises its environmental and heritage assets - realising the largely untapped potential of Walton, presented by its natural environment and heritage, to create a destination unlike any other in the region;
- Make Walton a place where people will choose to live and realise their potential - a town with a good range of housing, retail, community and leisure facilities which will attract people of all ages and encourage them to stay; and
- Ensure a sustainable future for Walton - maintaining a balance between economic growth and environmental management.

6.10.14 The Walton-on-the-Naze Regeneration Framework proposes a series of key projects that will help to deliver these objectives in Walton including proposals for tourist attractions, new housing, new commercial development, new leisure facilities, improvements to sea defences, new parking and opportunities for environmental enhancements and better pedestrian and cycle networks. Some of the projects, including the redevelopment of the former Martello Caravan Park and the creation of Crag Walk have already been implemented.

CHAPTER 7

PROTECTED PLACES

7 Protected Places

7.0.1 It is very important to protect the quality of the District's most special natural and built environments. There are many reasons for this, including the international importance and vulnerability of its extensive coastal and estuarine areas and the historic quality of its numerous designated conservation areas and listed buildings. Protecting the quality of both the natural and built environments is necessary to ensure that the Council meets its legal obligations in those regards and that the District is a safe and attractive place to live, work and visit, thereby helping to underpin the local economy and attract inward investment seeking a quality environment. To ensure that new development is sustainable, it is essential that proposals have regard to, amongst other things, the need to avoid causing harm to sensitive areas and that it takes the opportunities available to enhance the quality of places.

7.0.2 In order to deliver a positive future for the District's environment, the policies in this chapter will focus upon:

- minimising the risk to human life and property from flooding and coastal erosion, taking into account the likely effects of climate change;
- protecting and enhancing the District's biodiversity, countryside and its coastal assets;
- expanding the District's network of Green Infrastructure, to encourage a net gain for nature, achieve sustainable drainage and deliver green corridors and open spaces to improve the quality of the natural environment;
- conserving natural resources through the promotion of low-carbon energy and water-efficiency in new development and local renewable energy; and
- preserving the District's historic assets.

7.1 Development and Flood Risk

7.1.1 The Local Plan's strategic objective for Water and Climate Change is "To reduce the risk of flooding by securing the appropriate location and design of new development, having regard to the likely impact of climate change."

7.1.2 As a peninsula, Tendring District has coastal and estuarine water on three sides. With over 37miles/60km of coastline, many parts of the District are at risk of tidal flooding, including some very built-up areas. The National Planning Policy Framework makes it clear that inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding should be avoided. New development should be directed away from areas at highest risk of flooding, but where such development is necessary it should be made safe – without increasing flood risk elsewhere. The policies and proposals in this Local Plan have therefore been informed by the national planning policy requirements, the findings of the Strategic Flood Risk Assessments (SFRA) and advice from the Environment Agency.

- 7.1.3** The areas of the District considered to be at greatest risk of flooding according to the Environment Agency's flood risk maps are shown within a 'Flood Zone' on the Policies Maps and Local Maps. This information should be used only as a guide, as areas at risk may change during the Local Plan period. The Environment Agency Flood Risk Maps should always be used for the latest flood risk information and to distinguish between Flood Zones 2 and 3. The government's 'Technical Guidance to the National Planning Policy Framework' provides more detail on how the 'Sequential Test' should be applied to new development proposals. The Council will work with the Environment Agency to consider how existing development and proposed new development, in flood risk areas, including in Jaywick Sands, can be made more flood-resilient and sustainable.
- 7.1.4** Where safe access cannot be achieved, or if the development would be at residual risk of flooding in a breach, an emergency flood plan that deals with matters of evacuation and refuge should demonstrate that people will not be exposed to flood hazards. The emergency flood plan should be submitted as part of a FRA and will need to be agreed with TDC. Refuge should ideally be located 300mm above the 0.1% (1 in 1000) annual probability event flood level including allowances for climate change.
- 7.1.5** New development proposals should: - retain at least an 8m wide undeveloped buffer strip alongside Main Rivers and explore opportunities for riverside restoration. Any proposed development within 8m of a main river will require an environmental permit from the Environment Agency. - retain at least a 3m buffer strip on at least one side of an Ordinary watercourse. Any development that could impact the flow within and ordinary watercourse will require consent from Essex County Council (as LLFA).

Policy PPL 1

DEVELOPMENT AND FLOOD RISK

All development proposals should include appropriate measures to respond to the risk of flooding on and/or off site. Within the Flood Zone (which includes Flood Zones 2 and 3, as defined by the Environment Agency) shown on the Policies Map and Local Maps, or elsewhere involving sites of 1ha or more, development proposals must be accompanied by a Flood Risk Assessment. Where development is classified as "more vulnerable" the Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) should demonstrate that there will be no internal flooding in the event of a "design event flood". The FRA should demonstrate that in the event of a breach or failure of flood defence infrastructure, refuge will be available above flood levels and that a means of escape is possible from first floor level.

All development classified as "More Vulnerable" or "Highly Vulnerable" within Flood Zone 2 and 3 should set finished floor levels 300mm above the known or modelled 1 in 100 annual probability (1% AEP) flood level including an allowance for climate change.

All new development within Flood Zones 2 and 3 must not result in a net loss of flood storage capacity, unless there is compensation on site or, if not possible, adjacent off site capacity. Where possible opportunities should be sought to achieve an increase in floodplain storage.

All major development proposals should consider the potential for new Blue and Green Infrastructure to help mitigate potential flood risk and include such Green Infrastructure, where appropriate.

All development proposals will be considered against the National Planning Policy Framework's 'Sequential Test', to direct development toward sites at the lowest risk of flooding, unless they involve land specifically allocated for development on the Policies Maps or Local Maps.

Where new development cannot be located in an area of lower flood risk and is otherwise sustainable, the Exception Test will be applied in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework so that it is safe and meets wider sustainability needs.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 9 of this Local Plan.

7.2 Coastal Protection

- 7.2.1** The National Planning Policy Framework states that local planning authorities should avoid inappropriate development in vulnerable areas. Tendring District contains areas which are under threat from coastal erosion and, although the Coastal Protection Belt (as shown on the Policies Maps and Local Maps) in this Local Plan was originally intended to protect landscape character, it now serves a further purpose in regard to helping ensure that any new development which does not need to be located within that area is directed to more sustainable locations.
- 7.2.2** The undeveloped coast of Tendring District has an important role in terms of quality of life for residents and visitors, not only in terms of visual amenity but in terms of access to the natural environment. Natural England is working on its proposals for the England Coast Path in Essex, with a view to improving access to the District's coastline early in the Plan period and the Council will support suitable proposals which will encourage coastal access.
- 7.2.3** In considering proposals for new development affecting the coast, the Council will have regard to the latest Shoreline Management Plan to assess their compatibility. National Planning Practice Guidance provides guidance on what sort of development is appropriate in a Coastal Change Management Area. This guidance is considered to have relevance to development proposals within the Tendring Coastal Protection Belt.

Policy PPL 2

COASTAL PROTECTION BELT

Within the Coastal Protection Belt, as shown on the Policies Maps and Local Maps, the Council will:

- a. protect the open character of the undeveloped coastline and refuse planning permission for development which does not have a compelling functional or operational requirement to be located there; and*
- b. where development does have a compelling functional or operational requirement to be there, its design should respond appropriately to the landscape and historic character of its context and applicants will be required to demonstrate that any development proposals will be safe over their planned lifetime.*

The Council will take an 'adaptive approach' to coastal protection, where required, having regard to an assessment of the impact of coastal change and consideration of any applicable Shoreline Management Plan.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 7 of this Local Plan.

7.3 The Rural Landscape

- 7.3.1** In order to promote sustainable development, in considering where to select sites for new development in this Local Plan, the Council has taken particular care to assess the value of the landscape and, where practical, allocate sites with the lowest sensitivity, thereby helping to protect valued landscapes and the best and most versatile agricultural land.
- 7.3.2** The Landscape Character Assessment (2001) identified 30 areas with different landscape characteristics and highlighted key sensitivities which need to be considered when assessing development proposals in the rural area. Proposals within the rural landscape should have regard to the Landscape Character Assessment (and any subsequent updates) and protect and re-inforce historic landscape features and important characteristics identified within it.
- 7.3.3** As a largely rural area, Tendring District's countryside is one of its main assets and maintaining an attractive rural environment is important to the quality of life experienced by both residents and visitors. It can also be an important consideration for the location of some businesses and help to expand the tourist economy and related services.

7.3.4 Parts of the District to the north are designated as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) – The Dedham Vale and the recently extended Suffolk Coast and Heaths which are therefore subject to special landscape protection. On 7th July 2020 the Secretary of State confirmed the designation of three extensions to the Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (SC&H AONB). The three new boundary extensions will increase the size of the existing AONB by approximately 38 sq. km or 9.5%. The areas now confirmed as forming part of the SC&H AONB are:

- the Stour Estuary including the estuary itself, northern estuary valley slopes at Brantham and the majority of the southern estuary valley slopes in Essex;
- the Freston Brook Valley, a tributary of the Orwell Estuary which extends inland from the existing AONB boundary westwards and includes surrounding plateau woodlands; and,
- the Samford Valley, a tributary of the Stour Estuary, which extends further inland from the existing AONB boundary at Stutton Bridge and includes some areas of neighbouring Shotley Peninsula Plateau

The newly extended AONB can be seen as a single designation on the proposals maps within this Local Plan.

7.3.5 Tendring has four Registered Parks and Gardens (see Appendix D) lie within the rural area and are particularly sensitive to change. Planning proposals which might affect them and any other Registered Park and Garden that is designated during the plan period should therefore have regard to their history and the reason for inclusion on the Historic England Register.

Policy PPL 3

THE RURAL LANDSCAPE

The Council will protect the rural landscape and refuse planning permission for any proposed development which would cause overriding harm to its character or appearance, including to:

- a. estuaries, rivers and undeveloped coast;*
- b. skylines and prominent views including ridge-tops and plateau edges;*
- c. traditional buildings and settlement settings;*
- d. native hedgerows, trees and woodlands;*

- e. *protected lanes, other rural lanes, bridleways and footpaths; and*
- f. *designated and non-designated heritage assets and historic landscapes including registered parks and gardens.*

Development proposals affecting protected landscapes must pay particular regard to the conservation and enhancement of the special character and appearance of the Dedham Vale and Suffolk Coast and Heaths AONBs, and their settings, including any relevant AONB Management Plan objectives. Elsewhere, development proposals should have regard to the Natural England Character Area profiles for the Greater Thames Estuary (No.81) and the Northern Thames Basin (No.111) and the Council's Landscape Character Assessments, as relevant, and should protect and reinforce identified positive landscape qualities.

New development within the rural landscape should minimise the impact of light pollution on the site and its surroundings, in order to protect rural amenity and biodiversity.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 7 and 8 of this Local Plan.

7.4 Biodiversity and Geodiversity

7.4.1 Tendring District includes a wide range of habitats, including (in part) the Stour, Orwell and Colne Estuaries and Hamford Water which are recognised as wetlands of international importance for endangered and migrating birds. Hamford Water is a designated Special Area of Conservation for Fisher's Estuarine Moth. At the international level, the Ramsar Convention requires the conservation and wise use of wetlands, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development. European legislation requires the establishment of Special Protection Areas (SPAs) for birds, under the Birds Directive, and Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) for other species and habitats, under the Habitats Directive. SPAs and SACs together form 'Natura 2000' sites, which themselves create a European-wide network. The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (the 'Habitats Regulations') apply both in the terrestrial environment and territorial waters out to 12 nautical miles. Marine Protected Areas (MPA) exist offshore beyond 12 nautical miles. The Blackwater, Crouch, Roach and Colne Marine Conservation Zone includes the Clacton Cliffs and foreshore, a geological feature of international importance.

7.4.2 It is necessary to apply the 'precautionary principle' to new development, as a matter of law, and assess new projects or plans for any impacts upon any of the above sites – both alone and in combination. Proposals and plans with the potential to have a significant impact upon such sites will need to be supported by a Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) to provide the information necessary for the decision makers to establish the likelihood and nature of impacts before a decision is taken. If significant impacts are identified, an 'Appropriate Assessment' may be necessary to assess whether the proposals would adversely affect the integrity of a site, having

regard to its conservation objectives. The Council will only grant planning permission where there would be no adverse effects on biodiversity (including any mitigation), unless there is considered to be an overriding public interest (such as the port expansion at Bathside Bay, Harwich) – in which case a compensatory habitat must be provided. The Essex Coast Recreational disturbance Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy (RAMS) Strategy Document was adopted in 2019. The Essex Coast RAMS aims to deliver the mitigation necessary to avoid adverse effects on integrity from the in-combination impacts of residential development in Essex. The Essex Coast RAMS identifies a detailed programme of strategic avoidance and mitigation measures which are to be funded by developer contributions from all residential development within the Zones of Influence.

- 7.4.3** Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) are protected under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, as amended, and the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 and are shown on the Policies Map.
- 7.4.4** The Colne Estuary and Hamford Water are designated as National Nature Reserves (NNR). At the local level, the Council has worked with the Essex Wildlife Trust to identify over 100 ‘Local Wildlife Sites’ (LoWS) within the District, along with ‘Special Roadside Verges’, managed by Essex County Council specifically to conserve rare plant species and support a wider variety of plants. This benefits local fauna, providing food and shelter and can help to create ‘wildlife corridors’, allowing species to move between different sites. LoWS are not protected by law but, being worthy of conservation, are protected by this Local Plan, along with irreplaceable habitats, including unimproved grasslands and veteran trees.
- 7.4.5** All areas designated for their value to biodiversity and/or geodiversity are shown on the Policies Maps. A site does not have to be designated, however, to have importance to nature conservation. All new development proposals should have regard to a ‘mitigation hierarchy’ approach, which requires consideration to be given: firstly, to avoiding environmental harm; then mitigating for any adverse impacts; and then, as a last resort; compensating for residual impacts alongside the need to seek environmental enhancement and a ‘net gain’ in biodiversity in line with latest Natural England advice. The need to consider alternative options, particularly options that are less damaging to the environment, is relevant to all these steps, as options can be either strategic or more detailed in nature. Where a proposed development might harm biodiversity on the site, an Ecological Appraisal will be required to be undertaken and the potential for harm should be considered and addressed in the application. Appraisals should be undertaken in accordance with nationally recognised guidance, by a suitably qualified ecologist.
- 7.4.6** Conservation work now considers whole landscapes as the way to conserve biodiversity, and the Council is working with Essex County Council, Essex Wildlife Trust and other partners on projects to benefit habitats and species across Essex. The Biodiversity Framework and Living Landscapes Project seek to improve the wider countryside for wildlife, rather than just concentrating on small nature reserves, and this will bring benefits for Priority Habitats and Priority Species.

Policy PPL 4

BIODIVERSITY AND GEODIVERSITY

Sites designated for their international, European and national importance to nature conservation: including Ramsar sites; Special Protection Areas (SPAs); Special Areas of Conservation (SACs); Marine Conservation Zones (MCZs); National Nature Reserves (NNRs); and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) will be protected from development likely to have an adverse effect on their integrity.

Where proposals for development are likely to significantly impact upon International and European sites, applications must be supported by a Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) to provide sufficient information to the Council to establish the likelihood and nature of impacts before a decision can be made. If necessary, this may need to be followed by a more detailed 'Appropriate Assessment' of the impacts. An Essex Coast Recreational disturbance Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy (RAMS) has been completed in compliance with the habitats Directive and Habitats Regulations. Contributions will be secured from residential development, within the Zones of Influence, towards mitigation measures identified in RAMS.

As a minimum, there should be no significant impacts upon any protected species, including European Protected Species and schemes should consider (and include provision, as may be relevant for) the preservation, restoration or re-creation of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species populations. Proposals for new development should also have regard to any published local Recreational Disturbance Avoidance and Mitigation Strategies and include any measures which may be necessary to support the aims of the strategy, to help to mitigate any likely recreational impacts arising from the development. Proposals for enhancement of special interest and features will be supported, subject to other material planning considerations.

Sites designated for their local importance to nature conservation, including Local Wildlife Sites (LoWS), Ancient Woodlands Protected Verges and aged or veteran trees will be protected from development likely to have an adverse impact on such sites or features. Proposals for enhancement of special interest and features will be supported, subject to other material planning considerations.

Proposals for new development should be supported by an appropriate ecological assessment. Where new development would harm biodiversity or geodiversity, planning permission will only be granted in exceptional circumstances, where the benefits of the development demonstrably outweigh the harm caused and where adequate mitigation or, as a last resort, compensation measures are included, to ensure a net gain, in biodiversity.

Proposals for new infrastructure and major development should consider the potential for enhanced biodiversity, appropriate to the site and its location, including, where appropriate, within Green Infrastructure.

Any proposed development on sites which may support protected species will require a relevant survey(s), undertaken by a suitably qualified ecologist. If protected species are present, a suitable mitigation plan will be required prior to planning permission being granted.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 8 of this Local Plan.

7.5 Water Conservation, Drainage and Sewerage

- 7.5.1** Although Tendring District has to manage issues of ‘excess’ water causing coastal erosion and flooding, it also experiences the lowest average level of annual rainfall in the country and therefore maintaining a supply of fresh water for drinking and the irrigation of crops is a high priority. It follows that the provision of an adequate water supply, and appropriate methods of disposal of water and sewage, are very important considerations when planning for growth and central to the need to deliver sustainable development. Changes in climate also can cause sudden and intense rainfall causing localised flooding which will be made worse if new development does take account of the need to lessen its impact.
- 7.5.2** Major new developments may require upgrades to existing sewage treatment works, known as Water Recycling Centres, which may be funded by Anglian Water. Such works will need to be planned and funded through Anglian Water’s 5-year business plans and approved by the regulator (OFWAT). The Council is committed to ensuring that critical infrastructure is delivered at the right time to support development on allocated sites, in particular at Hartley Gardens (Policy SAMU2) and Oakwood Park (Policy SAMU3) where reinforcements and additional infrastructure will be required.
- 7.5.3** The National Planning Policy Framework requires local planning authorities to mitigate and adapt to climate change, which includes having pro-active strategies in respect of water supply and demand. Development proposals should therefore include a plan to conserve water supplies by managing demand and ensure its appropriate disposal at all stages of development, including construction and after occupation, using Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) where possible. SuDS are designed to replicate natural drainage systems, to drain surface water run-off, ideally as part of a Green Infrastructure network and can also have significant benefits for amenity and biodiversity.
- 7.5.4** SuDS techniques may not be appropriate in circumstances where infiltration may cause a hazard to groundwater quality, such as groundwater source protection zones, on known contaminated land and on sites with a shallow water table. The Environment Agency’s Source Protection Zone maps should be checked to ensure

there is no risk to groundwater quality. Surface water treatment will be required before infiltration to groundwater is permitted. A risk assessment should be undertaken when using Infiltration components in areas of contaminated land.

Policy PPL 5

WATER CONSERVATION, DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

All new development must make adequate provision for drainage and sewerage and should include Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) as a means of reducing flood risk, improving water quality, enhancing the Green Infrastructure network and providing amenity and biodiversity benefits. Applicants should explain and justify the reasons for not using SuDS if not included in their proposals, which should include water inputs and outputs designed to protect and, where possible, enhance the natural environment. New dwellings will be required to incorporate measures to achieve a water consumption rate of not more than 110 litres, per person, per day.

Proposals for development must demonstrate that adequate provision exists, or can be provided in time, for sewage disposal to a public sewer and water recycling centre (sewage treatment works).

Applicants should explain their approach to water conservation, including the potential for the re-use of 'greywater' and rainwater 'capture and use' within their development, to help maintain the supply of drinking water. The Council will require such measures to be implemented in all new development.

Private sewage treatment facilities will not be permitted if there is an accessible public foul sewer. Where private sewage treatment facilities are the only practical option for sewage disposal, they will only be permitted where there would be no harm to the environment, having regard to preventing pollution of groundwater and any watercourses and odour.

Proposals for agricultural reservoirs may be permitted, subject to a detailed assessment against relevant policies in this Local Plan.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 8 and 9 of this Local Plan.

7.6 Strategic Green Gaps

7.6.1 Strategic Green Gaps have been identified in this local plan in specific locations between settlements. The Strategic Green Gaps are valued for the role they will play in preventing the coalescence of settlements and retaining the distinct identity of settlements. The areas identified have the following characteristics

- The open and undeveloped character of the land;

- They form a visual break between settlements;
- Their boundaries follow physical features on the ground floor; and/or
- Only land required to secure the objectives of the Strategic Green Gaps has been included

Policy PPL 6

STRATEGIC GREEN GAPS

The Strategic Green Gaps as shown on the Policies Maps and Local Maps will be protected in order to retain the separate identity and prevent coalescence of settlements. Any development permitted must be consistent with other policies in the plan and must not (individually or cumulatively) lead to the coalescence of settlements.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 7 and 8 of this Local Plan.

7.7 The Historic Environment

- 7.7.1** The Local Plan's strategic objective for Cultural Heritage is "To conserve and enhance Tendring District's heritage, respecting historic buildings and their settings, links and views."
- 7.7.2** Tendring District has a truly rich and diverse history, reflected in archaeological deposits and features and much of its built heritage, which includes: the early planned development of the District's major town, Clacton-on-Sea, as a Victorian seaside holiday resort; the later select development of Frinton-on-Sea with its many examples of notable Arts and Crafts architecture and Modernist houses; the historic port of Harwich and town of Manningtree, England's smallest; or the District's most important single group of listed buildings at St Osyth's Priory and its Registered Historic Park and Garden.
- 7.7.3** The Council has specific legal duties to preserve and enhance the historic environment. Proposals affecting buildings listed for their special architectural or historic interest ('listed buildings') or designated Conservation Areas, or their settings, Scheduled Monuments, archaeology, or Registered Historic Parks and Gardens will therefore be subject to particular scrutiny. The setting of a heritage asset may include sites or areas a considerable distance away from the boundary of an application site and it is necessary, therefore, to consider the potential for development to have an effect upon the wider setting of a Conservation Area or listed building. Protection of the District's heritage assets is crucial to its cultural identity and the quality of life and can help to sustain its economic attraction for new investment by both residents and businesses. The Council will seek to reduce the number of heritage assets included in the Heritage at Risk Register and will consider designating additional heritage assets which are of local importance. The Council will seek to manage change within the Historic Environment by: requiring proposals to respond appropriately to the significance of any affected heritage assets; identifying where interventions within the Historic Environment would be beneficial to it; and by working with partners to secure sources of funding to aid delivery of enhancements to heritage assets.
- 7.7.4** The best way to ensure the future preservation of a listed building is often by ensuring an appropriate beneficial use of the heritage asset, which may be its original intended use. Sometimes an appropriate new use will be needed to ensure preservation and this might also present opportunities for the enhancement of significance of the heritage asset. Historic buildings may also evolve over time and sometimes it can be those distinct elements of change which are particularly valued. Although the preservation of unique historic assets is crucial to connect with the past and maintain a high quality environment there may be the opportunity for a high quality contemporary design solution in an historic context. It might, therefore, be appropriate in this Local Plan period to propose a development 'of its time' - much will depend on the expertise of the designer. However, the scope for a listed building to adapt

to modern life and requirements will itself depend upon a number of considerations and it will not always be possible to incorporate modern design solutions without also causing harm to its special character, fabric, or appearance.

- 7.7.5** As with listed buildings, a contemporary design might, be appropriate in a Conservation Area. Such solutions can help to avoid pastiche or the potential 'confusion' of new and can misinform an understanding of place. However, particular skill is required of the designer to ensure that new development is appropriate to its site and setting. New development which would affect a Conservation Area should always pay regard to any relevant Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Conservation Area Management Plan. This includes proposals for new development within the District's four Registered Historic Parks and Gardens: Clacton Seafront (owned and managed by the Council); St Osyth Priory; Thorpe Hall and Beth Chatto Gardens all which (except Beth Chatto) are within Conservation Areas. The Council will review all designated Conservation Areas early in the plan period and consider whether any new areas should be designated. New Conservation Area Management Plans will be prepared in addition to updates to the existing Conservation Area Character Appraisals.
- 7.7.6** Some parts of the District are known for their particular importance to archaeology and the Council will protect those areas from harmful development. However, new development can provide an opportunity to discover, record and protect evidence of the District's history in the form of archaeological deposits. Where the archaeological record indicates the likely presence of deposits or features, the Council will be advised by Essex County Council and the developer will be required to carry out any necessary survey work, excavation and recording in that regard, before and/or after any planning permission is granted. New development may be required to respond to archaeological finds uncovered during the construction process.
- 7.7.7** The National Planning Policy Framework sets out government policy for conserving and enhancing the historic environment. The following policies PPL7, PPL8 and PPL9 will be applied alongside and having regard to the specific requirements of the Framework in respect of development affecting designated and non-designated heritage assets including Archaeology, Conservation Areas and Listed Buildings.
- 7.7.8** Within Tendring District there is a wealth of historic structures, landscapes and other features which are not formally designated as heritage assets on the national list prepared by Historic England. The Council does however recognise their local historic significance. These kinds of 'non-designated' heritage assets can be 'locally listed' by the Council. The Council has therefore commenced work on a 'local list' which will identify and protect these assets of local importance. The Council will work with community groups, landowners and Historic England to prepare a local list for the district.

7.8 Buildings and Archaeology

Policy PPL 7

ARCHAEOLOGY

Any new development which would affect, or might affect, designated or non-designated archaeological remains will only be considered where accompanied by an appropriate desk-based assessment. Where identified as necessary within that desk-based assessment, a written scheme of investigation including excavation, recording or protection and deposition of archaeological records in a public archive will be required to be submitted to, and approved by, the Local Planning Authority.

Proposals for new development affecting a heritage asset of archaeological importance or its setting will only be permitted where it will protect or where appropriate enhance the significance of the asset. Where a proposal will cause harm to the asset, the relevant paragraphs of the NPPF should be applied dependent on the level of the harm caused. Proposals will be treated favourably where they:

- a. are explained and justified through an informed assessment and understanding of the significance of the heritage asset (including any contribution made to that significance by its setting); and*
- b. are of a scale, design and use materials and finishes that respect the heritage asset.*

Within the District the Council keeps a record of scheduled monuments at risk of degradation. The Council will support proposals that protect and enhance heritage assets at risk.

Proposals for new development which are not able to demonstrate that known or possible archaeological remains will be suitably protected from loss or harm, or have an appropriate level of recording, will not be permitted.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 7 of this Local Plan.

Policy PPL 8

CONSERVATION AREAS

New development within a designated Conservation Area, or which affects its setting, will only be permitted where it has regard to the desirability of preserving or enhancing the special character and appearance of the area, especially in terms of:

- a. scale and design, particularly in relation to neighbouring buildings and spaces;*
- b. materials and finishes, including boundary treatments appropriate to the context;*

- c. *hard and soft landscaping;*
- d. *the importance of spaces and trees to the character or appearance; and*
- e. *any important views into, out of, or within the Conservation Area.*

Proposals should be explained and justified through an informed assessment and understanding of the significance of the heritage asset (including any contribution made to that significance by its setting).

Proposals for new development involving demolition within a designated Conservation Area must demonstrate why they would be acceptable, particularly in terms of the preservation and enhancement of any significance and impact upon the Conservation Area.

Where a proposal will cause harm to a Conservation Area, the relevant paragraphs of the NPPF should be applied dependent on the level of harm caused.

Within the District the Council keeps a record of conservation areas that are at risk of degradation. The Council will support proposals that protect and enhance the conservation areas at risk.

Development should conserve or enhance the significance of the registered parks and gardens (noting that significance may be harmed by development within the setting of an asset).

In collaboration with community groups and other interested parties, the Council will consider and support the designation of new Conservation Areas in line with the relevant criteria as set out within the NPPF and legislation. New Conservation Area Management Plans will be prepared in addition to updates to the existing Conservation Area Character Appraisals.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 7 of this Local Plan.

Policy PPL 9

LISTED BUILDINGS

Proposals for new development affecting a listed building or its setting will only be permitted where they will protect its special architectural or historic interest, its character, appearance and fabric. Where a proposal will cause harm to a listed building, the relevant paragraphs of the NPPF should be applied dependent on the level of harm caused. Proposals will be treated favourably where they:

- a. *are explained and justified through an informed assessment and understanding of the significance of the heritage asset (including any contribution made to that significance by its setting); and*

- b. are of a scale, design and use materials and finishes that respect the significance of the listed building (including any contribution made to that significance by its setting).*

Within the District the Council keeps a record of listed structures and buildings that are at risk of degradation. The Council will support proposals that bring heritage assets into viable use.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 7 of this Local Plan.

7.9 Renewable Energy Generation and Energy Efficiency Measures

7.9.1 The National Planning Policy Framework requires local planning authorities to adopt proactive strategies to mitigate climate change and promote sustainable development. By effectively exploiting the free resources of wind and sun, in particular, renewable energy can reduce the demand for fossil fuels, which are a finite resource and release carbon into the atmosphere and accelerate global warming.

7.9.2 Tendring District supports renewable energy generation in terms of wind energy, solar energy and biomass installations. It currently has one wind farm comprising five large-scale wind turbines at Earls Hall Farm, west of Clacton, and a number of medium and small-scale turbines throughout the District. Several solar farms are concentrated in the northern part of the District, with smaller arrays adjacent to several farms. A significant biomass generator also exists at Elmstead. The Council has supported the offshore windfarm at Gunfleet Sands which required on-shore infrastructure. Subsequent changes in government policy, both in respect of planning and subsidies for renewables, mean that applications for new large-scale renewable energy schemes might not come forward in this Local Plan period. However, it remains necessary to plan for renewable energy generation, in order to meet national climate-change commitments and to this end the Council may prepare a further development planning document (DPD) identifying how such development can be supported.

7.9.3 In 2019, the Council declared a climate emergency, committing it to the preparation of an action plan with the aim of making its own activities carbon neutral by 2030 and acting as a community leader to encourage communities and developers to reduce carbon emissions and tackling climate change. Policy PPL10 below requires proposals for new development to consider the potential for a range of renewable energy solutions and for proposals for residential development in particular to be accompanied by a 'Renewable Energy Generation Plan' (REGP) setting out measures that will be incorporated into the design, layout and construction aimed at maximising energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy. The REGP must demonstrate how different measures have been considered and incorporated which could and should include:

- Triple Glazing;

- Solar Roof Panels or Solar Tiles;
- Air Source Heating Systems;
- Ground Source Heating Systems; Super Insulation (walls and loft void)
- Rainwater Capture System;
- Electric Vehicle Rapid Charging Points (provided to an individual dwelling or through and appropriate communal facility);
- Superfast Broadband and a flexible space within each home to enable home working and a reduction in the need to travel;
- Mechanical Heat Recovery Ventilation
- Solar Thermal Systems;
- Solar and Battery Storage Systems; and where appropriate
- Any other newer or alternative technologies and measures aimed at maximising energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy.

7.9.4 The Council is particularly supportive of the use of Solar Panels and will expect them to be incorporated into new development wherever possible and practicable. To maximise the effectiveness of Solar Panels, buildings should be planned and orientated to have a strong southerly aspect and for the south side of pitched roofs to be rectilinear and uncluttered. Dormer Windows, hipped roofs and corner tower elements should be confined to the northern side of pitched roofs.

7.9.5 Given the importance of tackling climate change and promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency measures and the rapid speed in which technology is evolving and improving, the Council may provide further guidance in the form of a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) to assist in the implementation of Policy PPL10, which can be updated as necessary to future changes in approach.

Policy PPL 10

RENEWABLE ENERGY GENERATION AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY MEASURES

Proposals for renewable energy schemes will be considered having regard to their scale, impact (including cumulative impact) and the amount of energy which is to be generated.

All development proposals should demonstrate how renewable energy solutions, appropriate to the building(s) site, and location have been included in the scheme and for new buildings, be designed to facilitate the retro-fitting of renewable energy installations.

For residential development proposals involving the creation of one or more dwellings, the Council will expect detailed planning applications to be accompanied by a 'Renewable Energy Generation Plan' (REGP) setting out the measures that will be incorporated into the design, layout and construction aimed at maximising energy efficiency and the use of renewable energy.

Planning permission will only be granted where the applicant can demonstrate that all reasonable renewable energy and energy efficiency measures have been fully considered and, where viable and appropriate, incorporated into the design, layout and construction. The Council will consider the use of planning conditions to ensure the measures are delivered.

Nothing in this policy diminishes or replaces the requirements of Energy Performance Certificates (EPC) and Standard Assessment Procedures (SAP) for constructed buildings and compliance with the relevant building regulations.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 6 and 9 of this Local Plan.

7.10 The Avenues Area of Special Character, Frinton-on-Sea

7.10.1 'The Avenues' to the west of Connaught Avenue shopping centre and north of the Esplanade, form a sedate residential area of outstanding Arcadian character, with wide, straight, tree and hedge lined avenues, grass verges and large, spacious detached houses set in mature gardens. This residential character forms an important quality of this part of the Frinton and Walton Conservation Area where new development affecting its character or appearance is subject to special scrutiny. If changes of use, subdivision to flats, or redevelopment for higher-density housing were to continue to occur, the area's outstanding character and the quiet enjoyment of residents in the locality would be eroded and therefore this Local Plan affords additional protection. 'The Avenues' was laid out originally with regular plots 50ft wide; as land was sold and developed some variations occurred but a minimum plot width of 15.24m remains highly characteristic of the area. Well-designed infill development might, exceptionally, be permitted on larger plots of at least 15.24m width, if the special character of the area would be safeguarded.

Policy PPL 11

THE AVENUES AREA OF SPECIAL CHARACTER, FRINTON-ON-SEA

Within 'The Avenues' area of Frinton-on-Sea, new development must preserve or enhance the special character and appearance of the Conservation Area. Proposals must respect the special character and appearance of the area, including the scale, aspect and design of adjoining buildings and the density of existing development. To ensure that this special character is safeguarded new development must:

- a. conform to the spacious residential character of development and not appear cramped or incongruous in the street scene;*
- b. not include any flats; and*
- c. not include any uses other than Use Class C3 'Dwelling Houses'.*

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 7 of this Local Plan.

7.11 The Gardens Area of Special Character, Clacton-on-Sea

- 7.11.1** 'The Gardens' area of the seafront in east Clacton was laid out in the 1920's and 1930's as a low-density area of high quality enhanced by long formal gardens which total 2.8 hectares. It is important that the Arcadian character of this area is preserved by ensuring that it remains an area of large detached houses on spacious plots in a well landscaped setting.

Policy PPL 12

THE GARDENS AREA OF SPECIAL CHARACTER, CLACTON-ON-SEA

Within "The Gardens" area of east Clacton, new development shall have particular regard to the special character and appearance of the area. To ensure that this special character is safeguarded, new development shall:

- a. conform generally to the existing building line;*
- b. be of two-storey scale;*
- c. conform to the existing density of development and not appear cramped or incongruous in the street scene;*
- d. not include any flats; and*
- e. be residential, or retain a residential appearance. Commercial uses, including private hotels, guesthouses and offices will not normally be considered appropriate.*

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 7 of this Local Plan.

7.12 Ardleigh Reservoir Catchment Area

- 7.12.1** Ardleigh Reservoir is located in open countryside, south west of Ardleigh village. It is important that new development in its vicinity does not harm water quality in the reservoir. The Policies Map shows a defined catchment area, within which new proposals may be subject to particular scrutiny in regard to the potential for water pollution to result.

Policy PPL 13

ARDLEIGH RESERVOIR CATCHMENT AREA

The Council will support proposals which involve the role, function and operation of Ardleigh Reservoir, its Treatment Works and associated networks subject to consideration against other policies in this Local Plan.

Ardleigh Reservoir is surrounded by a catchment area within which certain proposals for development will be subject to consultation with the operator of the site. This may result in restrictions being imposed or planning permission being refused if the development could materially affect the quality of water draining into the reservoir.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 9 of this Local Plan.

7.13 Safeguarding of Civil Technical Sites, North East of Little Clacton / South of Thorpe-le-Soken

- 7.13.1** An important civil aviation navigation beacon and technical site is located in open countryside to the north east of Little Clacton and south of Thorpe-le-Soken. In order to fulfil its function, it is necessary to ensure that new development nearby does not interfere with it. The site and surrounding safeguarded area are shown on the Policies Map.

Policy PPL 14

SAFEGUARDING OF CIVIL TECHNICAL SITE, NORTH EAST OF LITTLE CLACTON/SOUTH OF THORPE-LE-SOKEN

The civil technical site located to the north east of Little Clacton and south of Thorpe-le-Soken is surrounded by a safeguarded area, within which certain proposals for development will be subject to consultation with the operator of the site. This may result in restrictions being imposed or planning permission being refused if the development could materially affect the proper functioning of the technical site.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 7 of this Local Plan.

7.14 Safeguarding of Hazardous Operations Site, Bramble Island

- 7.14.1** An important hazardous substance site is located at Bramble Island to the south east of Great Oakley and south west of Harwich. In order to continue to fulfil its function, new development proposed at the site to facilitate its operation will be

supported in principle. New development proposals within the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) safeguarding zone shown on the Policies Map will be subject to scrutiny to ensure that no conflict would arise in relation to both public safety and the effective operation of the site.

Policy PPL 15

SAFEGUARDING OF HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCE SITE, SOUTH EAST OF GREAT OAKLEY/SOUTH WEST OF HARWICH

The hazardous substance site located at Bramble Island to the east of Great Oakley and south west of Harwich is surrounded by a safeguarded area, within which certain proposals for development will be subject to consultation with the operator of the site. This may result in restrictions being imposed or planning permission being refused, if safety issues arise or the development could materially affect the proper functioning of the hazardous substance site.

During the continued operation of Bramble Island as a high hazard site, planning permission within the area subject of the Health and Safety Executive licence will be granted where:

- a. the new development is required to ensure appropriate operation of the site;*
- b. development would not extend the area affected by the safeguarding zone;*
- c. it can be demonstrated that there would be no harmful effects upon the national, European and international environmental designations which exist; and*
- d. the proposal would comply with all other relevant national and local planning policies.*

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 7 of this Local Plan.

CHAPTER 8

CONNECTED PLACES

8 Connected Places

- 8.0.1** The Local Plan's strategic objectives for Infrastructure Provision are "To make efficient use of existing transport infrastructure and ensure sustainable transport opportunities are promoted in all new development. Where additional capacity is required in the form of new or upgraded transport infrastructure, to ensure this is provided alongside new development"; "To enable provision of upgraded broadband infrastructure and services" and "To ensure that new growth brings opportunities to enhance existing services, facilities and infrastructure for the benefit of existing and new communities".
- 8.0.2** The main growth objectives for this Local Plan period are to ensure delivery of new housing to meet demand and help to create new employment for the growing population. To help achieve these objectives, the policies in this chapter of the Local Plan focus upon tackling possible barriers to economic and housing growth caused by weaknesses in our transport and telecommunications networks. The policies are focused upon:
- protecting the main strategic roads in the District and improving these roads where the opportunity/need arises;
 - supporting proposals which will enhance the strategic transport network;
 - encouraging travel by sustainable modes of transport;
 - promoting improved access to, and facilities for, public transport; and
 - further developing the provision of higher speed broadband services.
- 8.0.3** In order to help support the principles of sustainable development, it is important to ensure that everyone living in, working in or visiting Tendring District is able to travel and communicate efficiently. Effective telecommunications can reduce the need to travel and thereby help to reduce congestion on the roads, making journeys more efficient and convenient. Where journeys are necessary, providing opportunities for alternative means of transport to the private car is an essential consideration for proposals for new development. Even small-scale developments can increase the likelihood of more car journeys being made unless provision is made within schemes to encourage alternatives.
- 8.0.4** Although most journeys are made by car, most are over relatively short distances (sometimes as part of a much longer journey) and could often be made by other, more sustainable, modes of transport. Therefore making good provision within the design of new developments to encourage walking, cycling and public transport use is crucial to achieving sustainable development. Such solutions can have wider public benefits, not only in terms of transportation choices but also for public health and safety, with increased physical activity, well-being and levels of use of public spaces.

- 8.0.5** New development can provide the opportunity to link places in a sustainable way and contribute to the development of a more efficient transport network. Equally important is to ensure that the existing transport network is protected from any proposed new development which would harm efficiency and safety.

8.1 Sustainable Transport and Accessibility

- 8.1.1** The National Planning Policy Framework promotes sustainable transport solutions. It states that the transport system needs to be balanced in favour of sustainable transport modes, giving people a real choice over how to travel. The Council will work with its partners, including Essex County Council, bus and train operators and the development industry, to improve accessibility, promote sustainable means of transport and reduce dependence upon private car transport.

- 8.1.2** To achieve sustainable communities, homes, jobs, services and facilities should, ideally, be accessible by a variety of different modes of transport, including: walking; cycling; and public transport – not just private cars. Locating development in accessible places gives people the option to use more sustainable modes of transport, which contribute less to global warming, and benefits those members of society who do not have access to a car. Additionally, there are public health and safety benefits to walking and cycling.

- 8.1.3** The Essex Transport Strategy (2011) is the Local Transport Plan (LTP) and includes Tendring District within the 'Haven Gateway'. It sets out the transport priorities for the area, which include 5 key outcomes to be achieved:

1. Provide connectivity for Essex communities and international gateways to support sustainable economic growth and regeneration;
2. Reduce carbon dioxide emissions and improve air quality through lifestyle changes, innovation and technology;
3. Improve safety on the transport network and enhance and promote a safe travelling environment;
4. Secure and maintain all transport assets to an appropriate standard and ensure that the network is available for use; and
5. Provide sustainable access and travel choice for Essex residents to help create sustainable communities. The Local Transport Plan (LTP) is supported by a suite of more specific documents including the Bus Strategy, the Cycling Strategy, the Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy, and implementation plans that are also periodically updated by Essex County Council.

- 8.1.4** To reduce greenhouse gas emissions, the Council will support development which uses sustainable modes of transport. Whilst most journeys are made by road, Tendring District is served by 14 railway stations, providing a range of electrified

London main line and local branch line services, with regular services from Clacton, Walton and Harwich/Dovercourt to the Colchester railway stations and beyond. The railway is important as both a public transport mode which can provide a sustainable alternative to private car use for work and leisure purposes and an alternative to HGV use for freight transport to and from Harwich International Port.

- 8.1.5** The Council will support and encourage measures which will make rail use a more attractive and sustainable alternative to the use of private cars for both local journeys and longer commutes and to the use of HGVs for freight transportation. The Council will work with Network Rail to improve rail connectivity in the context of their Industrial Rail Strategy/Route Strategy. Specific infrastructure projects will be integrated into the Infrastructure Delivery Plan.
- 8.1.6** The main urban areas within the District are located along the coastal fringes and the area has a strong rural heartland where the main means of sustainable transport is by bus. Local buses running within and between settlements are crucial to providing access to jobs and services for many people in towns, villages and rural areas.
- 8.1.7** The Council will work with Essex County Council and bus operators to ensure coverage across the District, improve services and frequency and seek opportunities to improve bus-stop facilities and provide additional services to support new major development.
- 8.1.8** Cycling and walking should also be seen as transport modes in their own right and an integral part of the transport network. Increasing the options for travelling by those modes can benefit both the environment and public health, reducing pollution and increasing fitness levels. In this way, planning and transportation outcomes can help to support the wider health and wellbeing agenda. Many car journeys are over short-distances which could be travelled on foot or by cycle if these are attractive options, possibly as part of longer journeys.
- 8.1.9** Proposals for new development will be required to take account of the need to ensure accessibility, having regard to its location in relation to existing services and facilities, and by providing safe pedestrian and cycle connections to existing networks. As the Tendring District is mainly rural, reliance upon private cars will be inevitable to some extent within its remoter parts. However, the Council will require that measures for sustainable travel at all new developments are investigated and implemented where practicable.
- 8.1.10** As the Highway Authority for the area, Essex County Council is a consultee in regard to many planning applications. New developments will be required to be acceptable in terms of highway capacity, safety and convenience and to meet the requirements for access and parking which are contained in the latest version of the Essex County Council Development Management Policies, Travel Plan and Parking Standards, or equivalent amended or replacement policies or standards, or any overriding

policies in this Local Plan, along with relevant Essex Accessibility strategies and Design guides. To be sustainable, developments should also be accessible by public transport, cycling and walking.

- 8.1.11** Parking standards can support measures which promote sustainable transport choices and help to protect amenity. The Council will work with Essex County Council to ensure that local parking standards are fit for purpose and that its assessment of planning applications takes account of factors such as: the accessibility of development, the type, mix and use of development; the availability of and opportunities for public transport.

Policy CP 1

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT AND ACCESSIBILITY

Proposals for new development must be sustainable in terms of transport and accessibility and therefore should include and encourage opportunities for access to sustainable modes of transport, including walking, cycling and public transport. Providing options for non-motorised vehicles is especially important for the large-scale developments at Clacton and the Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community.

Planning applications for new major development likely to have significant transport implications will normally require a Transport Statement. If the proposal is likely to have significant transport implications or a Transport Assessment, the scope of which should be agreed in advance between the District Council and the applicant, in consultation with Essex County Council as the Highway Authority. In order to reduce dependence upon private car transport, improve the quality of life for local residents, facilitate business and improve the experience for visitors, all such applications should include proposals for walking and cycling routes and new or improved bus-stops/services. Where relevant, improvements to railway station passenger facilities should be included and greater connectivity between places and modes of transport demonstrated.

Travel Plans and Residential Travel Information Packs should be provided as appropriate and in accordance with Essex County Council published guidance.

The Essex Cycling Strategy will be used as a guide to ensure the provision of appropriate cycling infrastructure.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 4 and 6 of this Local Plan.

8.2 Improving the Transport Network

- 8.2.1** An efficient and effective strategic transport network is critical for achieving economic growth, supporting trade and attracting inward investment, and reducing carbon emissions to help to reduce increases in global warming. Conversely, a network

which is unsafe, slow or inconvenient can deter business investment and could harm the area's tourist economy, which attracts many thousands of visitors, particularly during the main summer holidays.

- 8.2.2** The Council will work with its partners, including Highways England, Essex County Council, bus and train operating companies, Network Rail and landowners, to safeguard and to explore opportunities to improve the District's strategic transport network. It will seek to make the transport network safer and more efficient, in order to: facilitate growth, trade and inward investment; help to improve the quality of life for local residents; and improve the experience for visitors to the District and will encourage improvements to the quality and frequency of rail and bus services and station facilities and their appearance.
- 8.2.3** The major roads forming part of the District's strategic transport network are the A120 and A133. Both routes include sections which require upgrading in order to improve safety and convenience and to function efficiently in the context of significant future housing growth. For the A133, between Colchester and Clacton, the Council will work with Essex County Council (the Highway Authority) to identify the nature and cost of improvements needed, seek sources of public funding and consider the use of the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) to secure contributions towards these works. An upgrade of the A120 is a requirement of the planned port expansion at Bathside Bay, Harwich although this is not expected to take place early in the plan period. The Council will work with Highways England and other partners to investigate ways of funding and delivering possible early improvements and will resist any development proposals in the vicinity of the A120 which could jeopardise its upgrading, widening or re-routing.
- 8.2.4** Major growth areas in West Tendring/East Colchester and Clacton will require new strategic highway and public transport infrastructure, which will not only serve the development areas themselves but also provide for two major new roads, to ensure that traffic is able to move through and between settlements efficiently, thereby helping to ease traffic congestion that otherwise would occur. A strategic link road between the A120 and A133 and Rapid Transit System will be required to support the Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community. Strategic access improvements will be required in Clacton to connect the A133 to the western area of the town improving accessibility and circulation around the town and supporting further planned growth. The agreed route and specification of this connection/s (including for public transport and active travel) will be subject to further transport planning and assessment with Essex County Council and its planning and delivery detailed in future plans.
- 8.2.5** The Council will explore, in partnership with Essex County Council, Suffolk County Council, Babergh District Council and Network Rail, opportunities to improve the A137 and railway crossing/underpass at Manningtree Station. Any new developments likely to increase use of this route may be required to contribute towards such improvements.

Policy CP 2

IMPROVING THE TRANSPORT NETWORK

- *Proposals for new development which contribute to the provision of a safe and efficient transport network that offers a range of sustainable transport choices will be supported. Major development proposals should include measures to prioritise cycle and pedestrian movements, including access to public transport.*
- *The Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community will require a strategic link road between the A120 and A133 and a Rapid Transit System to support the new Garden Community. These infrastructure works have secured funding from the Housing Infrastructure Fund and are currently subject to further and more detailed planning and delivery. Further transport assessment work will be undertaken by Essex County Council (the highway authority) and Tendring District Council to identify the optimal route, specification and design of access improvements (including public transport and active travel) to Clacton from the A133 to the western side of the town. This will improve existing accessibility and support new growth areas and future development.*
- *Proposals will not be granted planning permission if there would be an unacceptable impact on highway safety, or the residual cumulative impact on the road network would be severe.*

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objectives 4 and 6 of this Local Plan.

8.3 Improving the Telecommunications Network

- 8.3.1** The National Planning Policy Framework promotes the expansion of electronic communications networks, including both telecommunications and high speed broadband. Smarter use of such technologies can reduce the need to travel and thereby contribute to sustainability objectives.
- 8.3.2** In recent years, major improvements in computer and mobile phone technology and the growing use of the internet have radically changed the way business is carried out and how people shop, learn and socialise. This technology has become essential for businesses and a fundamental part of everyday life. In the future, it will make geographic location less of a consideration for some types of businesses and for areas like Tendring District. Where geography has been a disadvantage in attracting certain kinds of business in the past, embracing the digital revolution is one of the most positive things the District can do to make the area more viable as a place to do business, in offices, shops, factories and warehouses, or people's homes.
- 8.3.3** Ensuring that Tendring District's communications network achieves wide coverage and is fast and reliable is critical to achieving growth of the local economy; helping existing businesses to expand and new businesses to establish, whilst improving

access for residents to online shopping, services and information. The Council will work with the telecommunications industry to ensure that as many parts of the District as possible have access to the internet (particularly superfast broadband, wireless hotspots in public spaces and at least 4G mobile coverage) and to encourage the use of this technology (or superior new technology), not only for business but also Council and other public services, information and educational resources.

- 8.3.4** The District will see the evolution of digital provision in relation to Primary Care as a result of the 'Digital First' approach to primary care investment. Practices within Primary Care networks will enable digital first options to improve fast access to primary care, reducing waiting and travelling time for patients, services will include outpatient follow up appointments and medication reviews. Consequently, the need for high speed broadband access and flexibility in terms of the provision of digital health infrastructure to any new housing development is crucial in order to ensure the success of the Digital First approach.

Policy CP 3

IMPROVING THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

- *Proposals for new telecommunications infrastructure will be supported where they utilise existing masts, buildings and other structures and where the applicant can demonstrate that:*
 - a) *they will not cause significant and irremediable interference with other electrical equipment, air traffic services or instrumentation operated in the national interest; and*
 - b) *the possibility of other planned development in the area interfering with broadcast and telecommunications has been considered and addressed.*
- *Proposals for new masts, buildings or other structures associated with the communications network will only be approved where the applicant, in addition to meeting criteria a) and b) above, can demonstrate that:*
 - c) *the development cannot, for practical or economic reasons, be incorporated into or onto existing masts, buildings and other structures; and*
 - d) *the development will be sympathetically designed, having regard to its appearance and impact upon local visual amenity and camouflaged if necessary.*
- *All new dwellings and non-residential buildings must be served by at least a 'superfast' broadband* (fibre optic) connection, installed on an open access basis and directly accessed from the nearest British Telecom exchange and threaded through resistant tubing to enable easy access to the fibre optic cable for future repair, replacement or upgrading, unless the applicant can demonstrate that this would not be possible, practical or economically viable. In those cases, the Council may utilise Community*

Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds, or seek a developer contribution, towards off-site works that would enable those properties access to superfast broadband, either via fibre optic cable or wireless technology in the future.

- *New development that may cause interference to the broadcast and telecommunications network will not be permitted unless the applicant can demonstrate how such interference will be mitigated, at the developer's cost.*

**As new versions of broadband - such as 'ultrafast' - become available, provision must be the best possible speed.*

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 4 of this Local Plan.

CHAPTER 9

DELIVERING PLACES

9 Delivering Places

The Local Plan's strategic objective for Employment/Commercial is:

“To provide for the development of employment land on a variety of sites to support a diversity of employment opportunities and to achieve a better balance between the location of jobs and housing, which will reduce the need to travel and promote sustainable growth up to the period of 2033.”

and for Housing is:

“To provide new dwellings within Tendring District up to 2033 of sufficient variety in terms of sites, size, types, tenure and affordability to meet the needs of a growing and ageing population.” and “To deliver high quality sustainable new communities.”

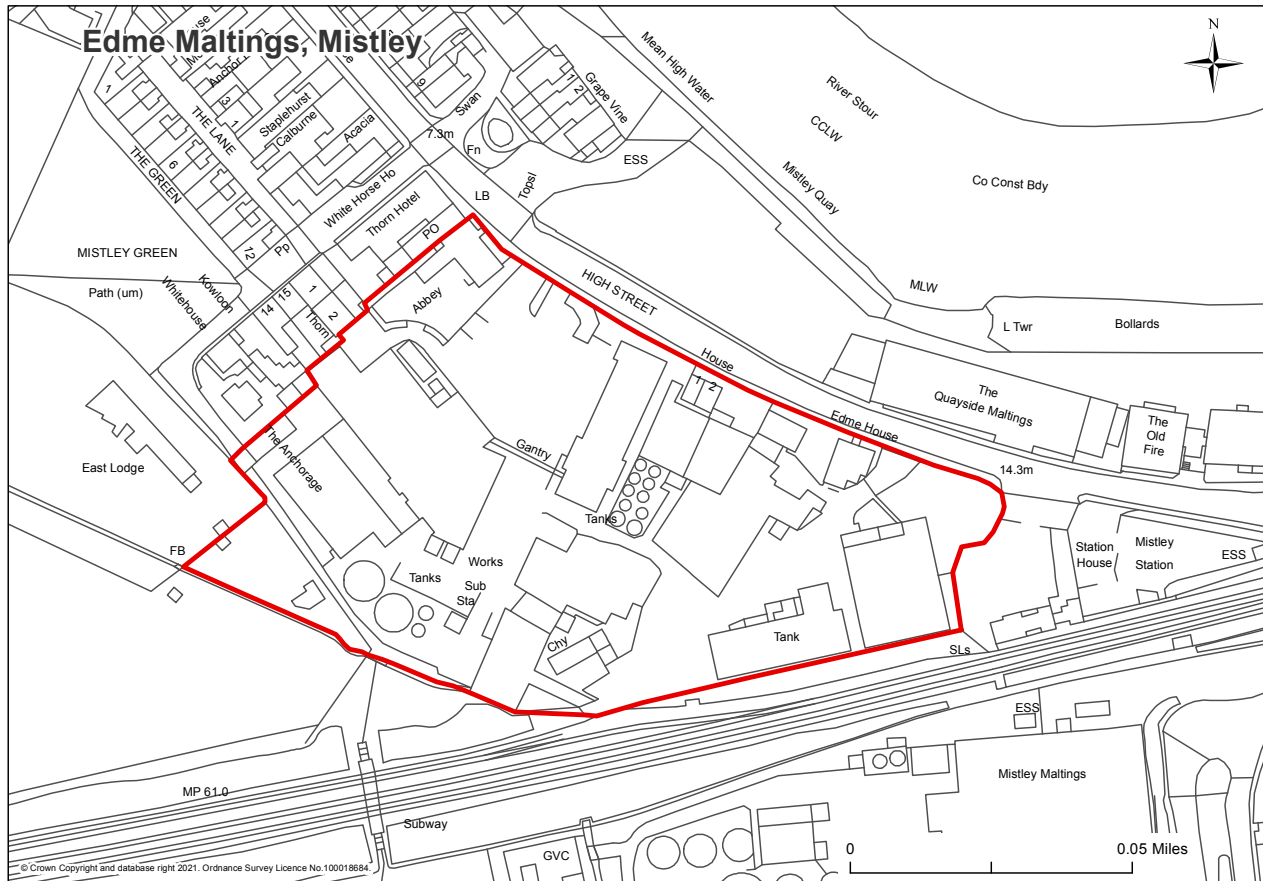
This chapter takes forward policies within Chapters 5 – Living Places and Chapter 6 – Prosperous Places, through site specific policies to achieve:

- Strategic Allocation Mixed Use Sites: Sites that are expected to accommodate homes, jobs and community assets. These are listed as Policies SAMU1 – 5;
- Strategic Allocation Housing: Sites that are expected to principally deliver between 100-300 homes. See Policy SAH2;
- Medium Site Allocations: Sites that are expected to principally deliver between 10 -100 homes; and
- Strategic Allocations for Employment: Sites expected to deliver jobs principally in the B category of the Use Class Order; namely office, light industrial, distribution and storage.

Note: Housing small sites of 9 or less are accommodated by windfall and current consent allowances in Chapter 5 and therefore do not have site specific policies.

9.1 EDME Maltings, Mistley

Map SAMU1 - EDME Maltings Mistley



- 9.1.1** Policy SAMU1 below sets out specific requirements for this development. Any planning application for development will be expected to comply with this policy, along with other relevant policies, in the Local Plan. The Council will work with relevant landowners, developers and other partners, in consultation with the local community, to ensure that the development is delivered in a way that brings economic, social and environmental benefit to the community and the wider district.
- 9.1.2** The Council is working with EDME Maltings to help it relocate to more suitable premises within the Tendring District that meet the modern-day requirements of the business. The current site is expected to become vacant and available for redevelopment during the Plan period.
- 9.1.3** Given the Conservation Area status of the site, the listed buildings and its central location in Mistley, emphasis must be placed on a high quality of design and the integration of any development with the existing character and appearance of the village.

- 9.1.4** A Transport Assessment must be submitted with any planning application to identify suitable means of access and, where necessary, appropriate highway capacity and/or safety enhancements; improvements to public transport services; infrastructure; cycle; pedestrian and bridleway infrastructure enhancements.

Policy SAMU1

DEVELOPMENT AT EDME MALTINGS, MISTLEY

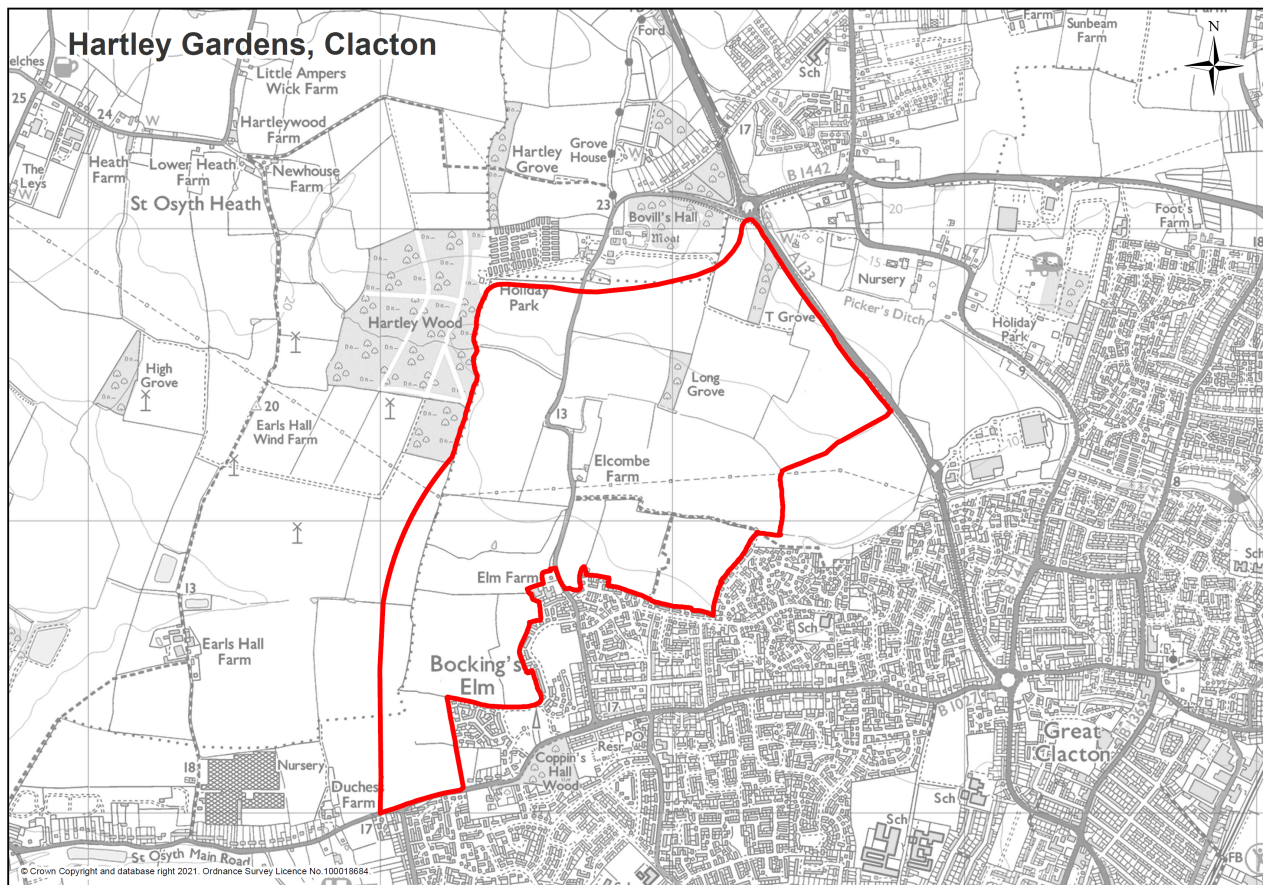
Land to the south of High Street, Mistley (EDME Maltings), shown on the Map SAMU1, is allocated for a residential led mixed-use development including, employment, recreation and leisure uses.

Proposals must accord with the following:

- a. assessment of any impact on nature conservation, including on the Stour and Orwell Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site, should be undertaken. Development will only be permitted where a project level assessment has demonstrated in accordance with the Habitat Regulations, that any proposal will not adversely affect the integrity of the Stour and Orwell Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site, either alone or in-combination. If significant effects are considered likely, an appropriate mitigation strategy should be submitted or compensatory habitat provided;*
- b. the principal point of vehicular access will be via the existing accesses off High Street (with improvements where necessary and/or appropriate);*
- c. capacity and/or safety enhancements to the local highway network where necessary;*
- d. where necessary, enhancements to public transport, cycle, pedestrian, and bridleway infrastructure. In particular, enhancement of the Essex Way must be delivered;*
- e. views across the Stour Estuary must be maintained;*
- f. delivery of opportunities for the protection and enhancement of the historic environment (having particular regard to the maritime heritage of the area);*
- g. protection of the adjoining nature conservation interests, biodiversity and landscape quality during construction work and thereafter;*
- h. financial contributions to primary and secondary education provision as required by the Local Education Authority either through the Community Infrastructure Levy or Section 106 Planning Obligations;*
- i. financial contributions to healthcare provision as required by the NHS/CCG either through the Community Infrastructure Levy or Section 106 Planning Obligations.*

9.2 Hartley Gardens, Clacton

Map SAMU2 - Hartley Gardens, Clacton



- 9.2.1** Hartley Gardens is the largest proposed area for mixed use development in the Local Plan. It is anticipated that housing delivery on the site will not commence until years 2025-2030 of the plan period. The Council wishes to deliver a sustainable urban extension on the site that is planned and delivered through a master-planned approach to be set out in a site specific Hartley Gardens Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) or a comprehensive masterplan, prepared for approval by the Council. This will ensure a comprehensive and co-ordinated approach that identifies the land use, design, environmental and infrastructure requirements for the site and will be used to inform, assess and determine planning applications and co-ordinate a comprehensive, integrated and sustainable development and a high quality well designed place. The greenfield site comprises c. 80 hectares of arable land on the north west edge of Clacton. The land is predominantly open arable farmland. There is an area of ancient woodland (Hartley Woods) to the north west of the site and areas of woodland, hedges and trees within the site with both ecological and landscape value. Pickers Ditch is a notable site feature which runs along the south of the site and has been enhanced as a green infrastructure corridor through the

Brook Park West development. The development of Hartley Gardens will need to both expand and integrate this green corridor. There are a number of footpaths that extend into the site and are used by local walkers. In terms of heritage assets Bovills Hall contains grade II listed buildings and archaeological remains to the direct north of the site, Bluehouse Farm a Grade II listed building is located to the south of the site and the Grade II listed farms or former farmhouses of Earls Hall Lodge and Duchess Farmhouse are to the south and west of the site.

- 9.2.2** Policy SAMU2 below sets out specific requirements for this development site including the matters to be addressed through the Hartley Gardens SPD or masterplan. The overall vision for this location is to deliver a high quality comprehensively planned new sustainable neighbourhood to include 1,700 homes and supporting physical, social and green infrastructure. Not all of these homes will be delivered within this Plan period and it is expected that the majority of development will take place after 2033. Any planning applications for development should be consistent with Policy SAMU2 and other requirements set out in the SPD or masterplan. The SPD or masterplan will deal with the whole site and its integration with its surrounding communities, wider countryside and the town centre. Policy SAMU2 allows for the potential for some development to come forward in advance of the preparation and adoption of the SPD or comprehensive masterplan where applications conform with the wider master-planned approach and would not prejudice to the overall delivery of the Hartley Gardens development. The Council will work with relevant landowners, developers and other partners, in consultation with the local community, to ensure that the development is delivered in a way that brings the supporting economic, social and environmental benefits to the community and the wider district.
- 9.2.3** As there currently is insufficient capacity available in the wider area for the treatment of foul water, it is important that negotiations take place with Anglian Water at an early stage to ensure that sufficient capacity in the local foul water system is being created to accommodate the new development. In particular, this development must ensure increased capacity at the water recycling centres in Clacton or Jaywick to accommodate the additional growth.
- 9.2.4** A Transport Assessment must be submitted with any planning application to identify suitable means of access. Where necessary, appropriate highway capacity and/or safety enhancements; improvements to public transport services and infrastructure; cycle; pedestrian and bridleway infrastructure enhancements will be provided. The development will necessitate a new road to be constructed from the B1442/A133 roundabout to the B1027 (St Johns Road).
- 9.2.5** The Council will work with Network Rail, bus and train operators, Essex County Council and developers to explore opportunities to make improvements to Clacton-on-Sea train station; including improvements to facilities, frequency of services and the interchange between bus and rail transport.

Policy SAMU2

DEVELOPMENT AT HARTLEY GARDENS, CLACTON

Land north of Bockings Elm and west of A133 shown on the Map SAMU2, is allocated for long term mixed use development for the phased and comprehensive delivery of the following:

- a. approximately 1,700 new homes of mixed sizes and types to meet evidenced local housing need within the Council's most up to date Strategic Housing Market Assessment and to include 30% affordable housing as set out in Policy LP5 ;*
- b. up to 7 hectares of land for employment;*
- c. 2.1 hectares of land for a new two-form entry primary school with co-located 56 place early years and childcare facility, 1.3 hectares of land for a second 56 place stand-alone early years and childcare nursery and/or financial contributions towards primary school and secondary school provision as required by the Local Education Authority based on evidenced need;*
- d. New facilities and/or financial contributions to support new health provision based on evidenced need;*
- e. Green infrastructure which should provide a multi-functional and connected network, including amenity green space, parks, allotments and natural and semi natural green space (meeting the standards set out in Policy HP5) and providing for attractive green walking and cycling routes;*
- f. To deliver at least 10% biodiversity net gain;*
- g. A sustainable movement network, including principal points of highway access, a hierarchy of streets, facilitating public transport and prioritising the connection of walking and cycling routes within the site and beyond; and*
- h. The provision of sufficient utility infrastructure working with the relevant infrastructure providers to ensure that such provision is achieved in a timely manner.*

The development will follow a comprehensively master-planned approach to be set out in a site-specific Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) or comprehensive masterplan which has been prepared for approval by the Council. The purpose of the SPD or masterplan will be as follows:

- i. provide further detail on the geographical extent and boundary of the allocation, ensuring a defensible and sensitive boundary to the open countryside beyond;*
- ii. provide the means to inform, assess and determine planning applications and secure comprehensive, co-ordinated and integrated sustainable development; and*

- iii. *facilitate and support the co-ordination and timely delivery of the green, social and physical infrastructure necessary to facilitate growth in this location.*

The above requirements aim to ensure the comprehensive and co-ordinated development of the site, to ensure the masterplanning principles below are addressed and to provide a clear delivery plan to ensure the right infrastructure is funded and delivered at the right place and at the right time.

In addition, development in advance of the Hartley Gardens SPD or masterplan may be permitted provided that:

- *There would be no conflict or prejudice to the delivery of the wider Hartley Gardens development (including its infrastructure requirements) and would not undermine the integrated and co-ordinated approach to the wider development;*
- *The development demonstrably conforms to the policy requirements and principles of Policy SAMU2 Hartley Gardens;*
- *The proposal can demonstrate that it would not compromise the delivery of a site wide highway infrastructure strategy, or the delivery of sustainable modes of transport within the scheme and that the residual impacts upon the transport network will not be severe.*

Masterplanning Principles

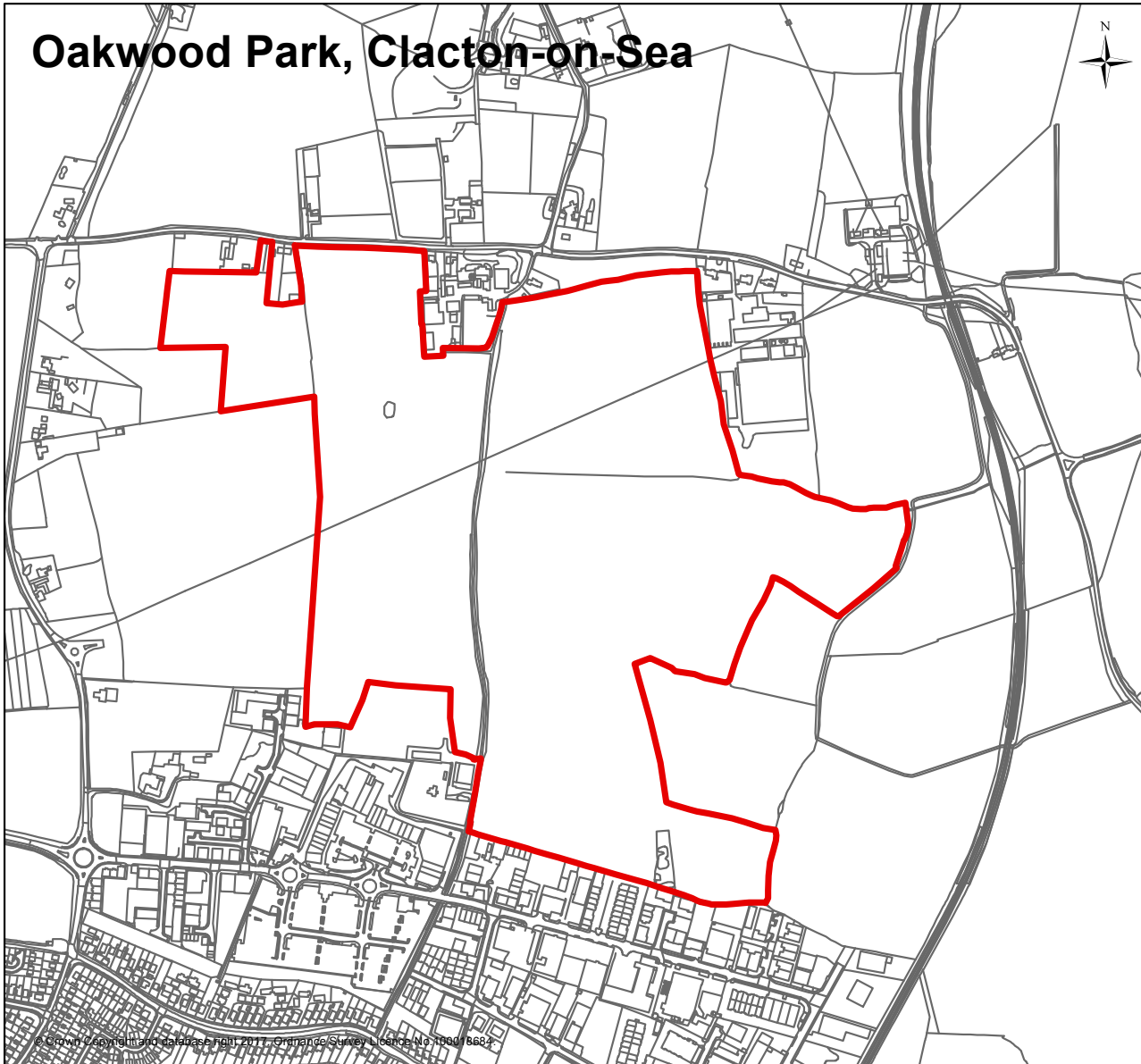
The Hartley Gardens SPD or masterplan will provide further guidance to meet the following principles and all development proposals should accord with these:

- i. *create a series of permeable and legible well defined streets which prioritise cycle and pedestrian routes which link into the existing built up area and local facilities (e.g. retail and schools);*
- j. *identify off site highway works required to support new development, their phasing and funding;*
- k. *identify public transport measures to ensure sufficient access to the site by bus, rail, walking and cycling routes within the site with strong and positive linkages to the existing network;*
- l. *create a high quality built and natural environment that respects the built and landscape character and context of the local area and which reflects the guidance in the National Design Guide and the Essex Design Guide;*
- m. *incorporate in the design of new development measures to minimise the contribution to climate change and to ensure new development is resilient and adaptable to the effects of climate change;*

- n. create a connected multi-functional green infrastructure network which protects and enhances existing site features of landscape and ecological value and any veteran trees, hedgerows and other important landscape features and important habitats;*
- o. ensure no net loss of biodiversity, and to deliver a 10% net gain as well as securing positive benefits to biodiversity through the restoration, enhancement and creation of appropriate semi-natural habitats within and through the site to maintain, restore and create functional ecological networks;*
- p. establish a sustainable drainage system across the site that integrates with the green infrastructure network and utilises where practicable existing watercourses (e.g. Hartley Brook and Pickers Ditch), ponds, ditches and any greenways associated with retained hedgerows and maximised habitat value;*
- q. create a landscape structure that retains and utilises existing landscape features (such as hedgerows, trees, Hartley Brook and Pickers Ditch) and uses new planting and landscaping to sensitively integrate new built development and provide an attractive green setting;*
- r. use structural planting and the location, orientation and design of new buildings to maintain the landscape setting and separate identity of Little Clacton and to carefully screen and sensitively integrate new infrastructure and buildings from the open countryside to the west to minimise any visual impact;*
- s. identify opportunities to preserve and enhance the setting and significance of heritage assets, including at Bovills Hall, Earls Hall and Dutchess Farmhouse and Bluehouse Farm;*
- t. where an archaeological evaluation (trial trenching where necessary) identifies surviving archaeological deposits, an appropriate mitigation strategy for preservation in situ or by excavation should be submitted;*
- u. demonstrate that no internationally designated sites would be adversely affected by the development either alone or in combination with other proposals as per the requirements of Policy PPL4 and future proposals will need to demonstrate no adverse impact on water quality as per the requirements of Policy PPL5; and*
- v. demonstrate how a phased approach to development can deliver the required infrastructure in a coordinated and timely manner and to create an integrated and sustainable community.*

9.3 Oakwood Park, Clacton

Map SAMU3 - Oakwood Park, Clacton



- 9.3.1** Policy SAMU3 below sets out specific requirements for the extension of a committed development site at Oakwood Park (15/01781/OUT) which is under construction for 250 homes. This extended mixed-use development includes a further 900 homes, of which around half are expected to be delivered within this Plan period to 2033.
- 9.3.2** Any planning applications for future development will be expected to comply with and assist in the delivery of this housing requirement along with other relevant policies in the Local Plan. The Council will work with relevant landowners, developers

and other partners, in consultation with the local community, to ensure that the development is delivered in a way that brings economic, social and environmental benefit to the community and the wider district.

- 9.3.3** A watercourse crosses the site which creates an opportunity to deliver a water feature within the site which could serve as a sustainable surface water management system, including an attenuation lagoon. As there will be insufficient future capacity available in the wider area for the treatment of foul water, it is important that engagement with Anglian Water takes place at an early stage to ensure that sufficient capacity in the local foul water system is created to accommodate the new development.
- 9.3.4** A Transport Assessment must be submitted with any planning application to identify suitable means of access with the firm preference being to utilise the recently built, high capacity, roundabout on Thorpe Road which serves the adjacent commitment to the west. Where necessary, appropriate highway capacity and/or safety enhancements; improvements to public transport services and infrastructure; cycle; pedestrian and bridleway infrastructure enhancements will be provided.

Policy SAMU3

DEVELOPMENT AT OAKWOOD PARK, CLACTON

Land north of Clacton-on-Sea, between Holland Road and the Oakwood Business Park (Oakwood Park, Clacton), shown on the Map SAMU3, is allocated for a mix of residential development, community facilities and public open space as follows:

- a. approximately 900 new homes of mixed sizes and type to include affordable housing and dwellings designed to address the needs of older residents;*
- b. approximately 3 hectares of public open space;*
- c. approximately 2.1 hectares of land for a new two-form entry primary school with co-located 56 place early years and childcare facility (D1 use) as required by the Local Education Authority through Section 106 Planning Obligations;*
- d. approximately 2 hectares of land for care and extra care facilities;*
- e. approximately 2 hectares of land for a neighbourhood centre to include local shops, services and community facilities; and*
- f. approximately 1.0 hectares of land for health care facilities;*

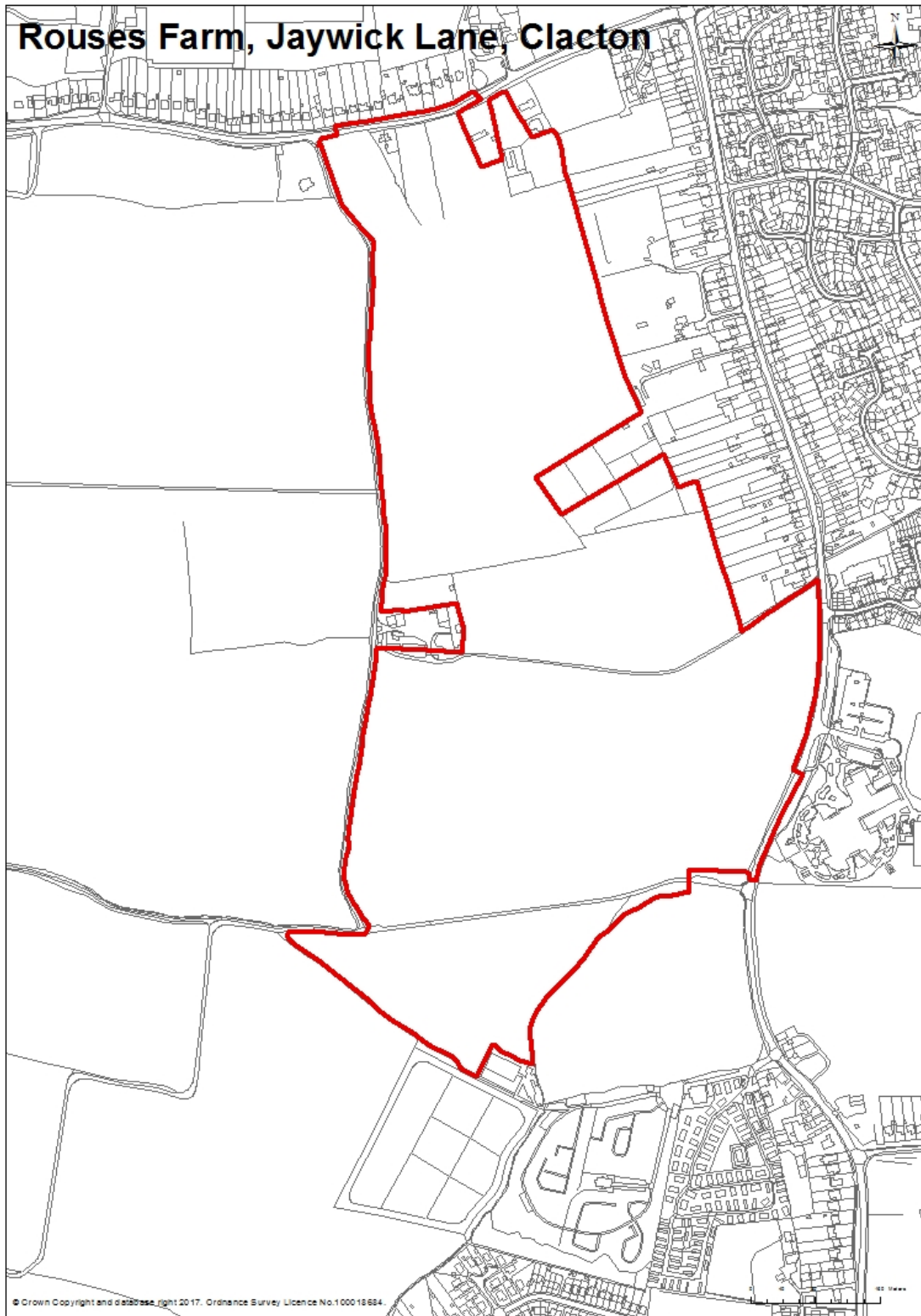
Proposals must accord with the following:

- g. inclusion of development at urban to suburban densities (average of 30 dph) and include a master planned approach which addresses the opportunities for further development post-2033 and does not preclude any future development on adjoining land.*

- h. the principal point of vehicular access should be off Thorpe Road through the approved housing development on land to the west utilising the recently constructed roundabout and only if necessary a secondary access off Holland Road to the north;*
- i. capacity and/or safety enhancements to the local highway network where necessary;*
- j. where necessary, enhancements to public transport, cycle, pedestrian, and bridleway infrastructure;*
- k. delivery of opportunities for the protection and enhancement of the historic environment features and settings including the built and archaeological environment as well as the rural character of the bridleway running through the centre of the site;*
- l. where an archaeological evaluation (trial trenching where necessary) identifies surviving archaeological deposits, an appropriate mitigation strategy for preservation in situ or by excavation should be submitted;*
- m. the design and layout of the development must have regard to the surrounding landscape, seeking to minimise visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures to deliver links with the existing landscape and access features. As part of this, appropriate landscaping treatment along the northern and eastern fringes of the site is required to minimise visual impacts;*
- n. financial contributions to early years and childcare, primary and secondary education provision, as required by the Local Education Authority primarily through Section 106 Planning Obligations or the Community Infrastructure Levy;*
- o. early engagement with Anglian Water to secure upgrades to both treatment infrastructure and network and to formulate a water and drainage strategy to serve the new development;*
- p. financial contributions towards community facilities such as health provision as required by the NHS/CCG either through the Community Infrastructure Levy or Section 106 Planning Obligations.*

9.4 Rouses Farm, Clacton

Map SAMU4 - Rouses Farm, Clacton



- 9.4.1** Policy SAMU4 below sets out specific requirements for this site. The western and north-western periphery of Clacton is relatively unaffected by significant physical and environmental constraints. As well as providing a mix of new housing, this development will provide land for a new primary school, a new primary health care centre and a significant area of new open space. The non-housing elements of the development will deliver a number of local jobs in the public and private sector, particularly in health and education. The overall increase in new households will help support growth in the wider economy including spending and investment in the town centre and other service-sector industries.
- 9.4.2** A Transport Assessment must be submitted with any planning application to identify suitable means of access. Where necessary, appropriate highway capacity and/or safety enhancements; improvements to public transport services and infrastructure; cycle; pedestrian and bridleway infrastructure enhancements will be provided.
- 9.4.3** Any planning applications for development will be expected to comply with, and assist in the delivery of these concepts and requirements along with other relevant policies in the Local Plan. The Council will work with relevant landowners, developers and other partners, in consultation with the local community, to ensure that the development is delivered in a way that brings economic, social and environmental benefit to the community and the wider district.
- 9.4.4** As there is currently insufficient capacity available in the wider area for the treatment of foul water, it is important that engagement with Anglian Water takes place at an early stage to ensure that sufficient capacity in the local foul water system is being created to accommodate the new development. In particular, it should be ensured that there is sufficient capacity at the water recycling centre in Jaywick to accommodate the additional growth.

Policy SAMU4

DEVELOPMENT AT ROUSES FARM, JAYWICK LANE, CLACTON

Land at Rouses Farm, west of Jaywick Lane and south of St. John's Road, Clacton-on-Sea, as defined on Map SAMU4, is allocated for a mix of residential development, community facilities and public open space as follows:

- a. up to 950 new homes of mixed sizes and types to include affordable housing as per the Council's requirements up to 2033 and features to support a range of housing sizes and types to reflect the needs of the area requirements;*
- b. a new two-form entry primary school with co-located 56 place early years and childcare facility (D1 use) on 2.1 hectares of land as required by the Local Education Authority through Section 106 Planning Obligations;*
- c. a new neighbourhood centre;*

d. infrastructure or a financial contribution towards the delivery of healthcare capacity to meet the needs of the growing population in West Clacton;

e. a minimum of 5 hectares of public open space;

Proposals must accord with the following:

f. inclusion of a master planned approach;

g. the principal points of vehicular access will be off St John's Road in the north and Jaywick Lane in the south;

h. the design and layout of the development must have regard to the surrounding landscape, seeking to minimise visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures to deliver links with the existing landscape and access features. As part of this, a minimum 20 metre landscaping buffer along the western edge of the site is required to minimise visual impacts;

i. the layout of the site is expected to include a new spine road with a carriageway width of 6.75 metres, linking St John's Road and Jaywick Lane, which is capable of accommodating buses and other large vehicles, enabling traffic calming measures or access restrictions to be implemented in Jaywick Lane which will benefit existing residents in that area;

j. where necessary and/or appropriate, incorporation of highway capacity, safety, public transport, cycle, pedestrian and bridleway service and/or infrastructure enhancements. A safe cycle path/footpath between the development and the Clacton Coastal Academy and new primary school is required;

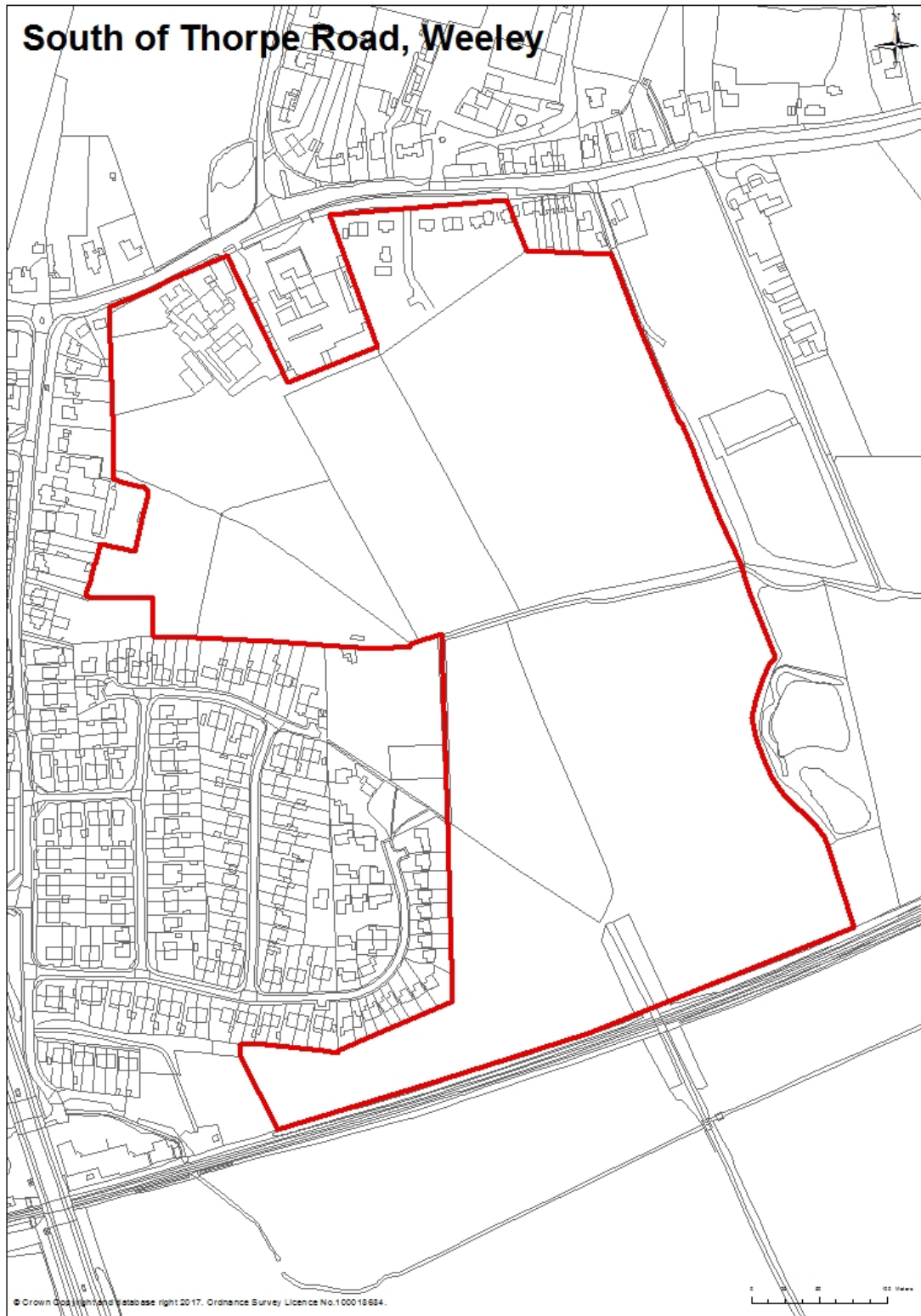
k. a financial contribution to early years and childcare and secondary education provision, as required by the Local Education Authority through Section 106 Planning Obligations;

l. delivery of opportunities for the protection and enhancement of the historic environment features and settings including the built and archaeological environment;

m. early engagement with Anglian Water to secure upgrades to both treatment infrastructure and network and to formulate a water and drainage strategy to serve the new development.

9.5 South of Thorpe Road, Weeley

Map SAMU5 - South of Thorpe Road, Weeley



- 9.5.1** Policy SAMU5 below sets out specific requirements for this site. Any planning applications for development will be expected to comply with, and assist in the delivery of these concepts and requirements along with other relevant policies in the Local Plan. The Council will work with relevant landowners, developers and other partners, in consultation with the local community, to ensure that the development is delivered in a way that brings economic, social and environmental benefit to the community and the wider district.
- 9.5.2** A Transport Assessment must be submitted with any planning application to identify suitable means of access. Where necessary, appropriate highway capacity and/or safety enhancements; improvements to public transport services and infrastructure; cycle, pedestrian and bridleway infrastructure enhancements will be provided.
- 9.5.3** The Council will work with Network Rail, bus and train operators and developers to explore opportunities to make improvements at Weeley station. This will include improvements to facilities, frequency of services, the interchange between bus and rail transport and to support development around the railway station that would help to facilitate this.
- 9.5.4** In 2019 outline planning permission was granted for development in accordance with Policy SAMU5 (reference 19/00524/OUT). Before development commences, the Council will need to approve detailed plans but it is expected that development will commence in 2022/23 and will be completed in full by 2033.

Policy SAMU5

DEVELOPMENT SOUTH OF THORPE ROAD, WEELEY

Land south of Thorpe Road, Weeley, shown on the Map SAMU5, is allocated for mixed use development as follows:

- a. at least 280 new homes of a mixed size and type to include affordable housing as per the Council's requirements;*
- b. 1 hectare of land for employment (potentially utilising buildings at Ash Farm);*
- c. 1 hectare of public open space;*
- d. 2.1 hectares of land for a new primary school with co-located 56 place commensurate early years and childcare facility (D1 use) as required by the Local Education Authority through Section 106 Planning Obligations;*

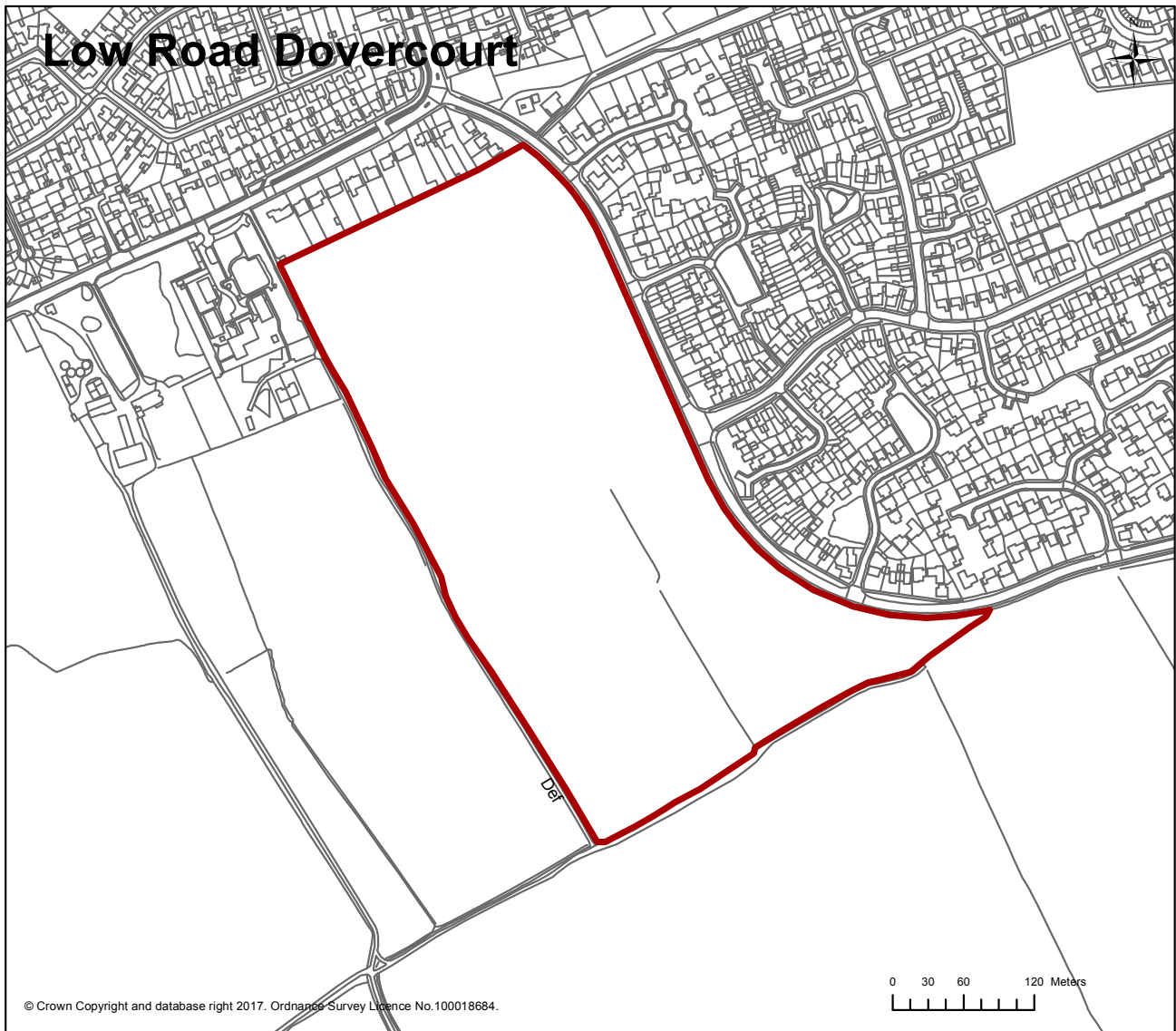
Proposals must accord with the following:

- e. the principal point of vehicular access will be off Thorpe Road;*
- f. capacity and/or safety enhancements to the local highway network where necessary;*

- g. where necessary, enhancements to public transport, cycle and pedestrian infrastructure;*
- h. provision of a pedestrian/cycle bridge over the railway line, as a replacement for the existing level crossing prior to the occupation of the one-hundredth dwelling;*
- i. the design and layout of the development must have regard to the surrounding landscape, seeking to minimise visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures;*
- j. delivery of opportunities for the protection and enhancement of the historic environment including the built and archaeological environment;*
- k. early engagement with Anglian Water to secure upgrades to both treatment infrastructure and network and to formulate a water and drainage strategy to serve the new development;*
- l. a financial contribution to early years and childcare, primary and secondary education provision, as required by the Local Education Authority through Section 106 Planning Obligations;*
- m. financial contributions towards other community facilities such as health provision as required by the NHS/CCG either through the Community Infrastructure Levy or Section 106 Planning Obligations.*

9.6 Low Road, Dovercourt

Map SAH2 - Low Road, Dovercourt



- 9.6.1** Policy SAH2 below sets out specific requirements for this development site. Any planning applications for development will be expected to comply with, and assist in the delivery of these concepts and requirements along with other relevant policies in the Local Plan. The Council will work with relevant landowners, developers and other partners, in consultation with the local community, to ensure that the development is delivered in a way that brings economic, social and environmental benefit to the community and the wider district.
- 9.6.2** A Transport Assessment must be submitted with any planning application to identify suitable means of access. Where necessary, appropriate highway capacity and/or safety enhancements; improvements to public transport services and infrastructure; cycle; pedestrian and bridleway infrastructure enhancements will be provided.

- 9.6.3** The Council will work with Network Rail, bus and train operators and developers to explore opportunities to make improvements at Dovercourt station. This will include improvements to facilities, frequency of services, the interchange between bus and rail transport and to support development around the railway station that would help to facilitate this.
- 9.6.4** In 2019 outline planning permission was granted for development in accordance with Policy SAH2 (reference 17/0218/OUT). Before development commences, the Council will need to approve detailed plans for the development but it is expected that development will commence in 2022/23 and will be completed in full by 2030.

Policy SAH2

DEVELOPMENT LOW ROAD, DOVERCOURT

Low Road, Dovercourt, shown on the Map SAH2, is allocated for housing development as follows:

- a. at least 300 new homes of a mixed size and type to include affordable housing as per the Council's requirements;*
- b. minimum of 5 hectares of public open space;*

Proposals must accord with the following:

- c. the principal point of vehicular access will be off Low Road;*
- d. capacity and/or safety enhancements to the local highway network where necessary;*
- e. where necessary, enhancements to public transport, cycle, pedestrian, and bridleway infrastructure*
- f. the design and layout of the development must have regard to the surrounding landscape, seeking to minimise visual impacts through the inclusion of mitigation measures;*
- g. the development must also pay specific regard to the topography of the site;*
- h. the design and layout of the development incorporates or enhances important existing site features of ecological or amenity value. Where these features are identified, the applicant must avoid, then mitigate and, as a last resort compensate for adverse impacts upon these;*
- i. financial contribution to early years and childcare, primary and secondary education provision, as required by the Local Education Authority primarily through Section 106 Planning Obligations or the Community Infrastructure Levy;*

j. early engagement with Anglian Water to secure upgrades to both treatment infrastructure and network and to formulate a water and drainage strategy to serve the new development;

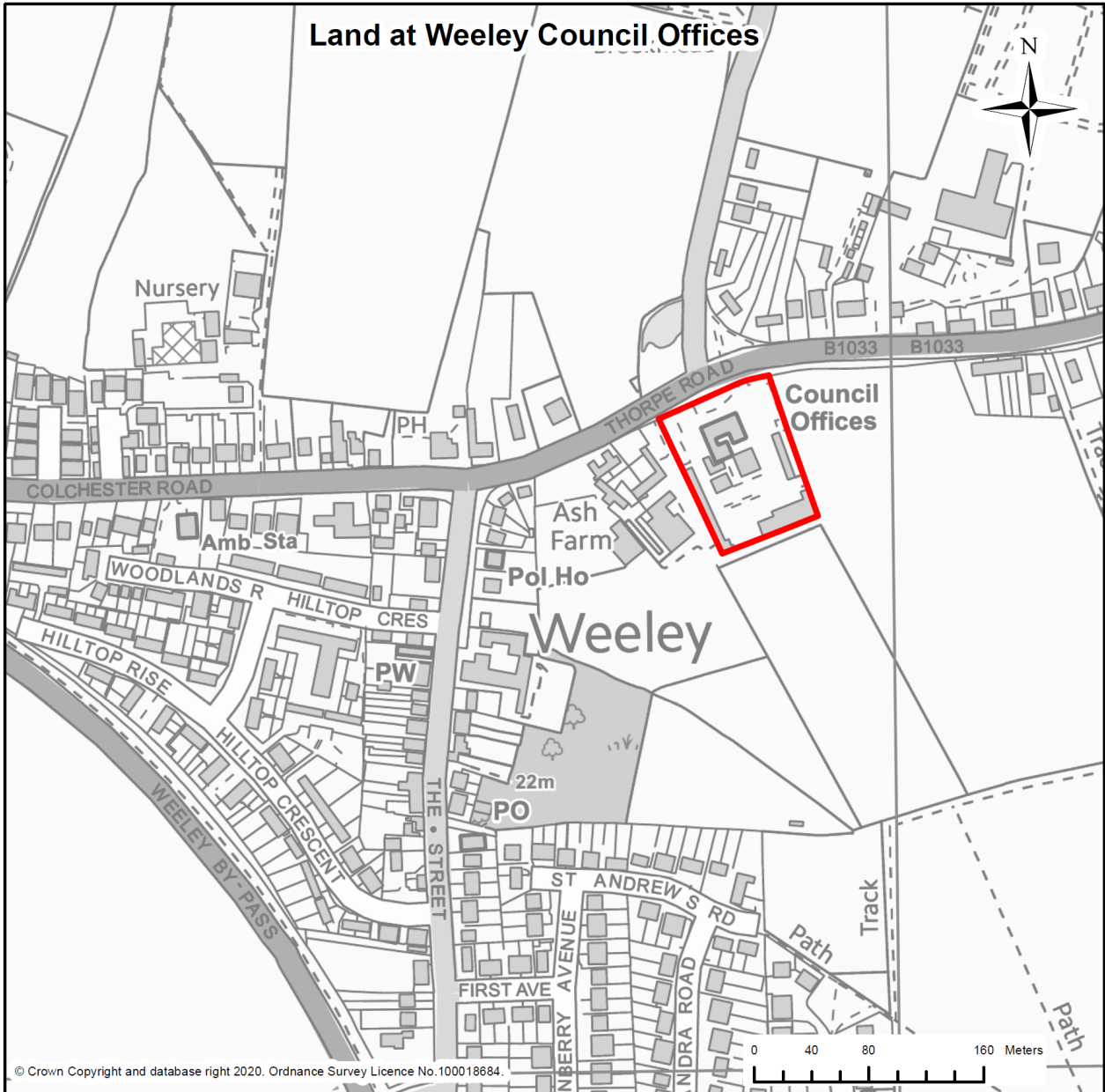
k. financial contributions towards other community facilities such as health provision as required by the NHS/CCG either through the Community Infrastructure Levy or Section 106 Planning Obligations.

9.7 Medium Site Allocations

The following maps identify the boundaries of the Medium Site Allocations (MSA).

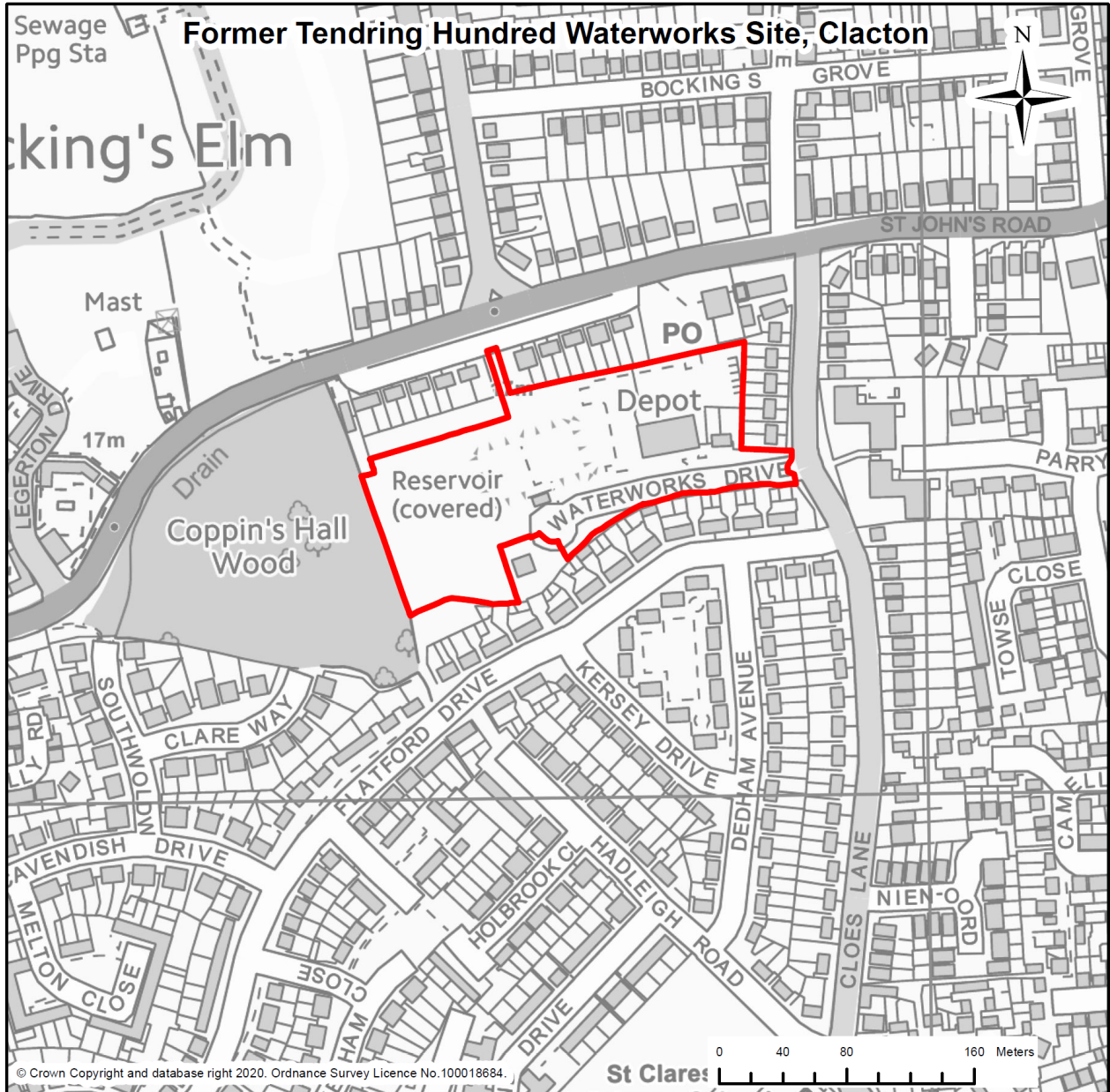
9.7.1 MSA1 Land at Weeley Offices

Map MSA1 - Land at Weeley Council Offices



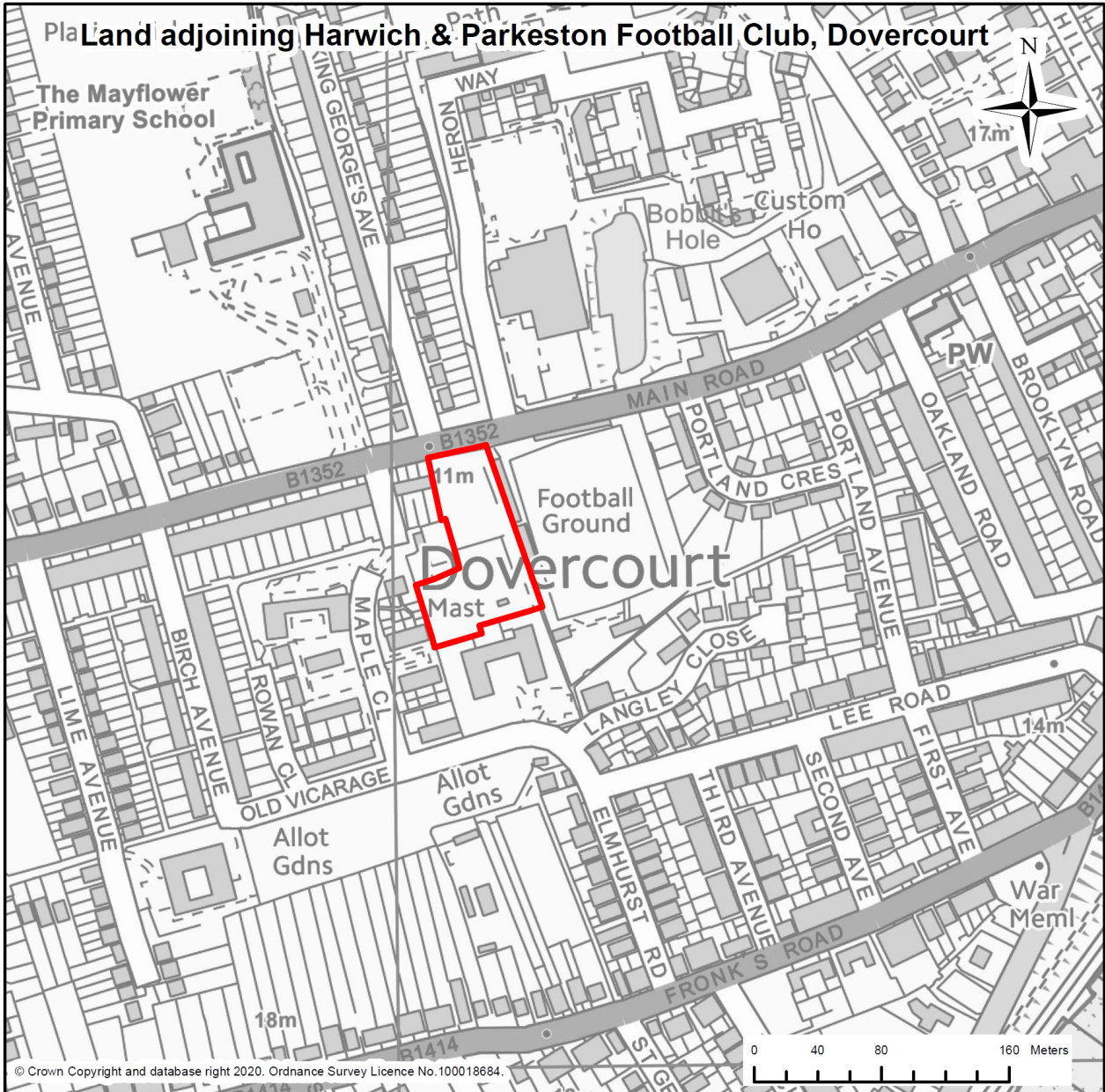
9.7.2 MSA6 Former Tendring Hundred Waterworks Site, Clacton

Map MSA6 - Former Tendring Hundred Waterworks Site, Clacton



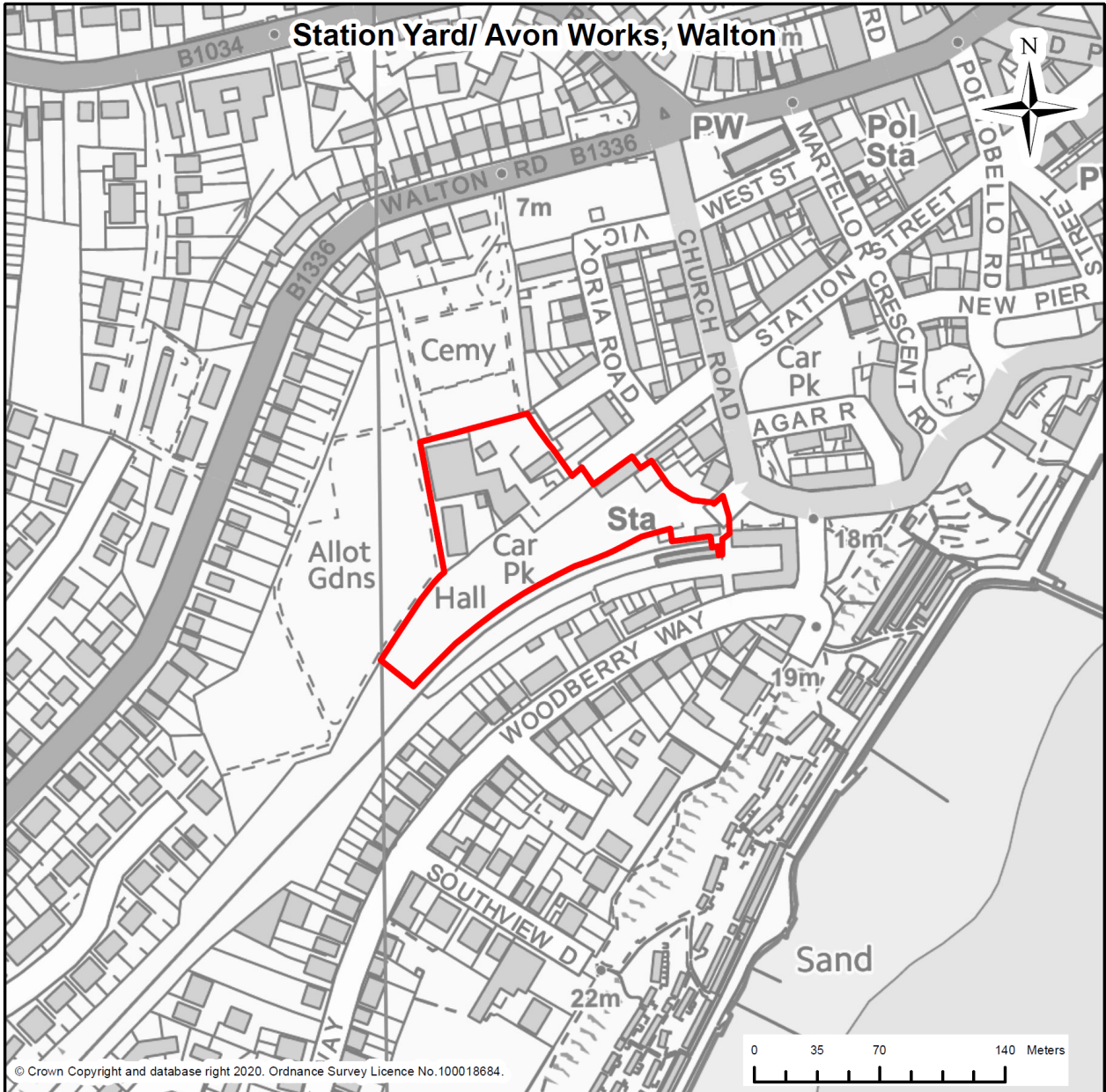
9.7.3 MSA8 Land adjoining Harwich & Parkeston Football Club, Dovercourt.

Map MSA8 - Land adjoining Harwich & Parkeston Football Club, Dovercourt



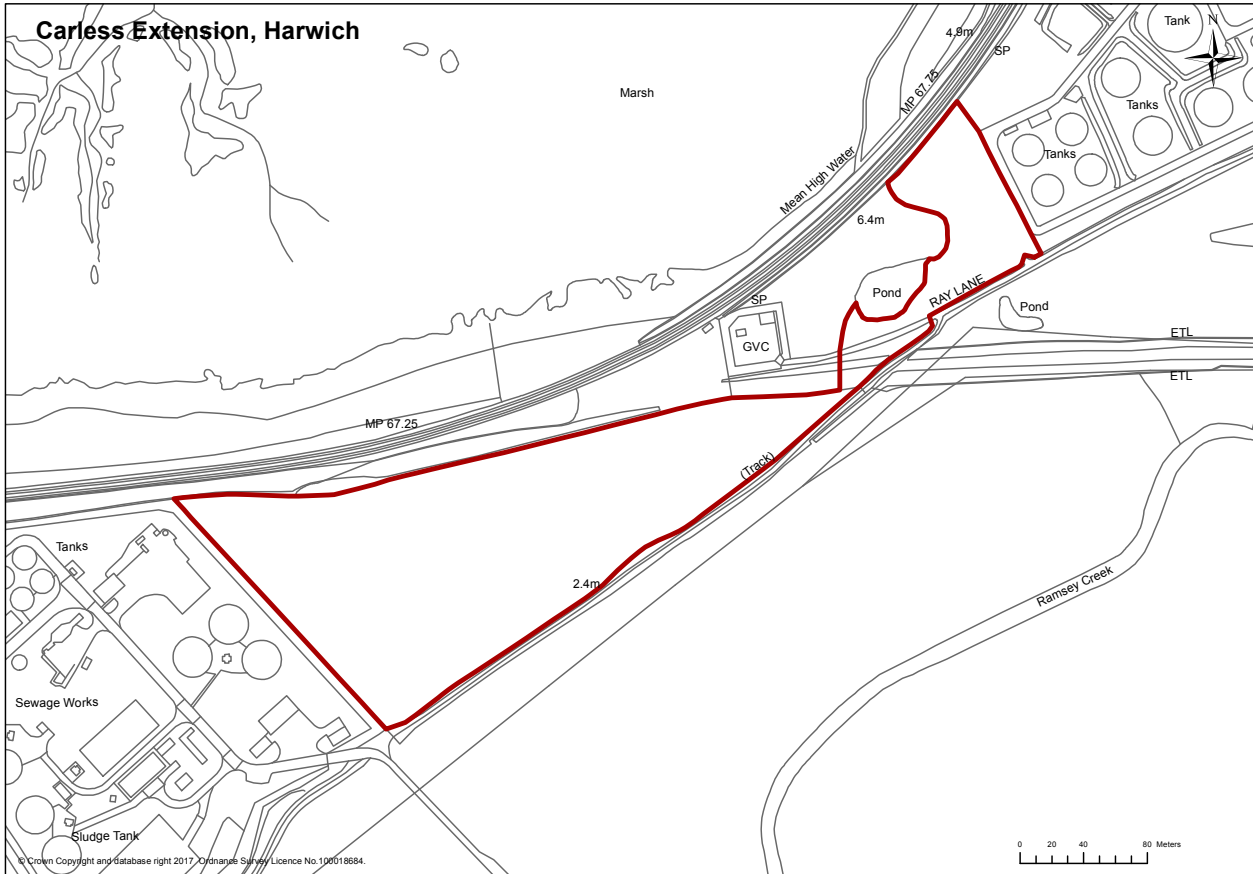
9.7.4 MSA11 Station Yard / Avon Works, Walton.

Map MSA11 - Station Yard / Avon Works, Walton



9.8 Carless Extension, Harwich

Map SAE1 - Carless Extension, Harwich



- 9.8.1** The Carless Refinery to the west of the village of Parkeston contains a range of large storage tanks to enable the mixing of solvents and other materials. The land incorporating the existing refinery is safeguarded for this continued use. In view of health and safety requirements relating to the operation of the refinery and the need for safeguarded areas around it, only a limited expansion will be possible between the northern boundary of the site and the railway line.
- 9.8.2** Owing to the varied nature of land ownership in the proposed area between Carless Refinery and National Rail, it will be necessary to engage with all parties in order to deliver the most suitable proposal.

Policy SAE1

CARLESS EXTENSION, HARWICH

Land west of Carless Refinery, shown on the Map SAE1, is proposed for an extension of the existing refinery.

Proposals must accord with the following:

- a. assessment of any impact on nature conservation, including on the Stour and Orwell Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site, and the recently extended Suffolk Coast and Heaths Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) should be undertaken. Development will only be permitted where a project level assessment has demonstrated in accordance with the Habitat Regulations, that any proposal will not adversely affect the integrity of the Stour and Orwell Estuaries SPA and Ramsar site, either alone or in combination. If significant effects are considered likely, an appropriate mitigation strategy should be submitted;*
- b. assessment of any impact on the landscape character should be undertaken and where impacts are identified, mitigation measures should be submitted including structural landscaping at the southern boundary;*
- c. the proposed development must not compromise the safeguarded mineral transshipment site located in the vicinity. Early engagement with the Minerals Planning Authority is therefore encouraged; and*
- d. that there would be no material adverse impacts on the adjacent wildlife sites.*

CHAPTER 10

DELIVERING INFRASTRUCTURE

10 Delivering Infrastructure

10.0.1 This chapter explains how the policies and proposals within this Local Plan will be implemented, how the Council will monitor their effectiveness in bringing positive changes to the District, how the Council may use its enforcement powers to deal with unauthorised development and how the Council may choose to review the Local Plan to respond to changes in the economy and deal with longer-term development requirements.

10.1 Implementation

10.1.1 This Local Plan will form the ‘Development Plan’ for the District against which all applications for new development will be judged. The Council will use the Local Plan in determining planning applications alongside the National Planning Policy Framework and will take into account any other material considerations.

10.1.2 The implementation of the policies and proposals detailed within this Local Plan will be achieved in a variety of ways. As the Local Planning Authority, Tendring District Council will play a key role. However, the Council will also work with a number of bodies to ensure the implementation of this plan in an integrated and efficient way.

10.1.3 The National Planning Policy Framework emphasises that plans must be deliverable. Local Planning Authorities need to demonstrate, within reason, that infrastructure is provided to support the delivery of the development planned. The infrastructure planning process seeks to:

- identify infrastructure needs and costs (including where possible phasing of development, funding sources and responsibilities for delivery);
- improve lines of communication between key delivery agencies and the Local Planning Authority, including identifying opportunities for integrated and more efficient service delivery and better use of assets;
- provide evidence for the setting of a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL);
- be a ‘live’ document that will be used as a tool for helping to deliver infrastructure; and
- set out a process for policy monitoring and review.

10.1.4 In order to ensure that new development delivers sustainable communities, the facilities and service needs must be planned for and monitored. A document called the ‘Tendring - Infrastructure Delivery Plan’ sits alongside this Local Plan. It reviews Tendring’s infrastructure needs for the plan period to 2033. Monitoring of the Local Plan is carried out (at least) annually, through the ‘Tendring District – Authority Monitoring Report’.

10.1.5 The following organisations will be involved in the implementation of this Local Plan:

Table 10.1 Implementation

Organisation	Involvement in the Implementation of this Local Plan
<p>Tendring District Council Braintree, Chelmsford, Colchester, Essex and Tendring Councils</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Determining planning applications in accordance with the Local Plan and any other material considerations. • Preparing and implementing Supplementary Planning Documents and design briefs. • Publishing of registers, schedules, leaflets etc. as appropriate and as resources permit. • Responding to suspected breaches in planning control, investigating alleged cases of unauthorised development and taking action where appropriate. • Liaising and co-operating with statutory undertakers, including Essex County Council as the Highways and Transport Authority and other appropriate agencies (including those listed below) to aid the integration of services and facilities and to ensure sustainable development. • Ensuring evidence across the Housing Market Area is up to date. • Facilitating growth through Local Delivery Vehicles as appropriate. • Preparing joint Development Plan Documents, Masterplans, Supplementary Planning documents as appropriate.
<p>Essex County Council (ECC)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Road and transport matters as the Highways and Transport Authority, including the provision of new facilities, on-street parking, road closures, highway safety and other traffic management. • Education and Social Services. • Minerals and waste management as the Minerals and Waste Planning Authority and the Waste Disposal Authority. • Liaising with TDC to aid the integration of services between the two authorities.

Organisation	Involvement in the Implementation of this Local Plan
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead Local Flood Authority. • Lead advisors on Public Health.
Public utilities including: British Gas, electricity providers, British Telecommunications plc and Anglian Water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taking account of the proposals within this Plan in the provision of their services and facilities, which are essential to sustainable, well planned developments. • Liaising with TDC regarding their proposals.
Health authorities including the North East Essex Clinical Commissioning Group and any future health bodies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The provision of health facilities in the District. • Liaising with TDC regarding the various proposals for new facilities in the District.
Environment Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The protection and improvement of the environment. • Controlling pollution. • Implementing environmental legislation. • Regulating the environmental effects of industry. • Advice and guidance as statutory consultee to the local planning authority. • Advice and guidance in relation to drainage and flood protection implications of new development.
Highways England	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improvements / new connections to the A120.
Network Rail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of rail infrastructure. • Liaising with TDC regarding their proposals.
Conservation Organisations including Historic England, Natural England and others	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The protection and improvement of the historic / natural environment.

Organisation	Involvement in the Implementation of this Local Plan
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementing historic / natural environment legislation. Advice and guidance in relation to listed buildings, conservation areas and other heritage assets / environmental designations and other important habitats.
Town and Parish Councils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Providing and managing recreation and community facilities. Providing an important link between the local community and TDC.
The Private Sector	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Majority of development carried out during the Local Plan period, including development of new residential properties, new employment and commercial development, and tourist and leisure facilities.

10.1.6 The Local Planning Authority appreciates that the delivery of new homes and jobs needs to be supported by necessary infrastructure, including a wide range of transport options, utilities, and community facilities. Throughout the consultation of this Local Plan, this issue has been of particular concern to our residents and businesses. The Local Planning Authority has commissioned an Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP), to inform the Local Plan, based on other evidence work; studies prepared for the Garden Communities; relevant, topic based national and local studies; and discussions with infrastructure providers. The IDP will sit alongside this Plan and provide specifics on the main items of infrastructure required for larger sites, when they are likely to be provided and who will pay for them. Additionally, the policies within Chapter 9 of this Plan highlight essential pieces of site specific infrastructure as relevant for certain sites.

The broad categories of necessary infrastructure covered in the IDP include:

- Water and drainage - water supply, waste water, flood risk management and resilience, and water quality.
- Energy - electricity, gas and renewable energy.
- Communications - broadband coverage and provision.
- Leisure and green infrastructure - sport, open space and community facilities.
- Education - early years and childcare, primary, secondary, further education, and higher education.

- Health - hospitals, health centres, GP surgeries, dentists, public health and preventative health care.
- Transport - highways, cycle and pedestrian facilities, rail, bus, park and ride, travel management and car parking.

- 10.1.7** Infrastructure and community facilities are mainly provided by partner agencies and service providers, such as water and energy provision by the utility companies; highways and social services by Essex County Council; education by a range of public and private sector providers; healthcare services and facilities by the North East Essex Clinical Commissioning Group and National Health Service England Midlands and East (NHSE) England. The IDP identifies the different investment and development time scales for these providers allowing us to work with them to help deliver a co-ordinated approach to new infrastructure delivery.
- 10.1.8** Telecommunications and digital infrastructure technologies are evolving rapidly, and proposals will need to enable sites to access high quality digital infrastructure including fibre and wireless services (5G and Long Term Evolution i.e. successor technologies) which are accessible from a range of providers.
- 10.1.9** Developers will be expected to contribute towards meeting appropriate infrastructure costs, having regard to overall consideration of viability. This will include contributions to both on-site costs and strategic off-site infrastructure costs. Contributions will be secured under S106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended) and/or secured through a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) as appropriate. CIL will complement and not duplicate planning obligations. A CIL charging schedule linked to this Plan would stipulate a charge, per square metre of gross internal floorspace, for relevant classes of development. A proportion of CIL funds would be passed to Parish/Town councils.
- 10.1.10** In the event that essential infrastructure cannot be appropriately delivered to support new development despite best efforts to secure it, this policy will be used to restrict development from being commenced or, in certain cases, from being permitted, in the absence of proven infrastructure capacity. When infrastructure cannot be provided within, or is not appropriate to be located on, the development site itself, developers will be expected to make a contribution to the cost to provide what is necessary to support new development.
- 10.1.11** Policy DI1 below sets out generic infrastructure requirements for new development within the District.

Policy DI1

INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY AND IMPACT MITIGATION

All new development should be supported by, and have good access to, all necessary infrastructure. Permission will only be granted if it can be demonstrated that there is sufficient appropriate infrastructure capacity to support the development or that such capacity will be delivered by the proposal. It must further be demonstrated that such capacity, as is required, will prove sustainable over time both in physical and financial terms. Where a development proposal requires additional infrastructure capacity to be deemed acceptable, mitigation measures must be agreed with the Local Planning Authority and the appropriate infrastructure provider. Such measures may include (not exclusively):

- a. financial contributions towards new or expanded facilities and the maintenance thereof;*
- b. on-site construction of new provision;*
- c. off-site capacity improvement works; and/or*
- d. the provision of land.*

Developers will be expected to contribute towards the delivery of relevant infrastructure. They will either make direct provision or will contribute towards the provision of local and strategic infrastructure required by the development either alone or cumulatively with other developments. Developers and land owners must work positively with the Local Planning Authority, neighbouring authorities and other infrastructure providers throughout the planning process to ensure that the cumulative impact of development is considered and then mitigated, at the appropriate time, in line with published policies and guidance. Exceptions to this policy will only be considered whereby:

- a. it is proven that the benefit of the development proceeding, without full mitigation, outweighs the collective harm;*
- b. a fully transparent, open book viability assessment has proven that full mitigation cannot be afforded, allowing only for the minimum appropriate level of developer return and land owner receipt necessary for the development to go ahead, having regard to Planning Practice Guidance and noting that this will be lower for any affordable portion of the development,*

- c. *full and thorough investigation has been undertaken to find innovative solutions to issues and all possible steps have been taken to minimise the residual level of unmitigated impacts; and*
- d. *obligations are entered into by the developer that provide for appropriate additional mitigation in the event that viability improves prior to completion of the development.*

The Council may consider introducing a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and may implement such for areas and/or development types where a viable charging schedule would best mitigate the impacts of growth. Section 106 will remain the appropriate mechanism for securing land and works along with financial contributions where a sum for the necessary infrastructure is not secured via CIL. For the purposes of this policy the widest reasonable definition of infrastructure and infrastructure providers will be applied. Exemplar types of infrastructure are provided in the glossary appended to this plan.

This Policy contributes towards achieving Objective 4 and 5 of this Local Plan.

10.2 Design Briefs

- 10.2.1** Throughout this Local Plan there have been several references to the District Council's intentions to prepare design and development briefs or masterplans for particular sites allocated in this plan, often in partnership with the landowner/developer. These design and development briefs provide guidance to ensure developments meet the requirements of policies in the Local Plan and more detailed design and development requirements. These documents are very important components of the implementation process to ensure the correct kind of development occurs at key strategic allocations.
- 10.2.2** During the life of this Local Plan additional design and development briefs may be required to aid the implementation of the policies and proposals within this plan, along with the preparation of Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD) as and when required. These will all be prepared in accordance with the National Planning Policy Framework (along with any subsequent replacements or amendments) and will be subject to the necessary procedures prior for their adoption to be used alongside this Local Plan.

CHAPTER 11
MONITORING & REVIEW

11 Monitoring and Review

- 11.0.1** Monitoring and review are key aspects of the planning system, with the emphasis on delivering sustainable development and self-reliant local communities. It will be necessary to monitor policies within the Local Plan to determine the extent to which they are, or are not working. This is an important process to establish whether part, or all, of the Local Plan will be reviewed in the future. They are crucial to the successful delivery of the spatial vision and spatial objectives and policies set out in the Tendring Local Plan.
- 11.0.2** Monitoring will be undertaken on an annual basis, with the result being published at the end of each calendar year in an annual monitoring review. The Local Plan is operating within a Local Development Scheme (LDS).
- 11.0.3** In accordance with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended), the Council produces an Annual Monitoring Report. This contains an assessment of Development Plan documents that are being prepared against the milestones set out in the Local Development Scheme, and the extent to which policies are being achieved and targets met.
- 11.0.4** The Authority Monitoring Report is the main mechanism for assessing the Local Plan performance and effect. If, as a result of monitoring, areas are identified where a policy is not working, or key targets are not being met, this may give rise to a review of the Local Plan. In addition, this Local Plan through the Annual Monitoring Plan will establish and monitor the implementation and impact of local planning policies in the District.
- 11.0.5** The Local Plan has been subject to sustainability appraisals designed to identify where policies and allocations could have significant effects. It is noted that no significant negative effects were identified. The overarching monitoring framework will be the basis for monitoring the policies in the Local Plan.
- 11.0.6** The objectives of the local plan will be monitored as follows:

Table 11.1

Policy Area	Local Plan Objectives/Targets	Key Indicators
Housing Delivery (Living Places)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide new dwellings within Tendring District up to 2033 of sufficient variety in terms of sites, size, types, 	Housing completions by type, location and availability of land for housing in the Future.

	<p>tenure and affordability to meet the needs of a growing and ageing population.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To deliver high quality sustainable new communities 	
Employment/Commercial (Prosperous Places / Sustainable Places)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide for the development of employment land on a variety of sites to support a diversity of employment opportunities and to achieve a better balance between the location of jobs and housing, which will reduce the need to travel and promote sustainable growth up to the period of 2033. 	The completion of serviced employment floorspace, creation of jobs and availability of land for future employment use.
Retail Development (Prosperous Places)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To promote the vitality and viability of the town centres through the promotion of retail and other related uses, exploiting the benefit of enhanced growth of the towns whilst retaining the best and valued aspects of their existing character. 	Updated assessments of retail floorspace capacity.
Infrastructure Provision (Connected Places / Sustainable Places)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To make efficient use of existing transport infrastructure and ensure sustainable transport opportunities are promoted in all new development. Where additional capacity is required in the form of new or upgraded transport infrastructure, to ensure this is provided as necessary in connection with new development. 	<p>Key infrastructure projects delivered.</p> <p>The delivery of infrastructure projects and spending of financial contribution towards such schemes.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To enable provision of upgraded broadband infrastructure and services. • To ensure that new growth brings opportunities to enhance existing services, facilities and infrastructure for the benefit of existing and new communities. • To ensure that flood defence infrastructure is considered so that future developments take into consideration the impacts of climate change. • To ensure there is adequate capacity in the foul water sewerage infrastructure. 	
Education and Health (Healthy Places / Prosperous Places)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To improve and provide good quality educational opportunities and prospects for Tendring's residents as part of sustainable community strategy. This includes practical vocational training and apprenticeships. • To work with partners in the National Health Service, local health organisations, Essex County Council and local community groups to ensure adequate provision of healthcare facilities to support growing communities. • To work with Public Health to promote and encourage healthy lifestyles through developments and planning to 	The delivery of community and health facilities and spending of contributions secured through planning obligations.

	ensure that the people of Tendring have opportunities to be as healthy as able.	
Sustainability (Healthy Places / Sustainable Places)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To locate development within Tendring District where it will provide the opportunity for people to satisfy their day-to-day needs for employment, shopping, education, and other services locally or in locations which minimise the need to travel and where there are modes of transport available in addition to the use of car. 	Monitor modal splits and self-containment via Census and take-up of Travel Plans.
The Historic Environment (Protected Places / Sustainable Places)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To conserve and enhance Tendring District's historic environment, including: heritage; respecting historic buildings and their settings; heritage assets; landscapes; links; and views. 	The delivery of projects and proposals set out within the Councils adopted Heritage Strategy 2020 (as amended).
Biodiversity (Protected Places)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide a network of interconnected multi-functional natural green and blue spaces which secures a net gain in biodiversity and geodiversity; promotes healthy lifestyles; and enhances the quality of the natural and built environment. 	<p>The delivery of projects contained within the Essex RAMS SPD.</p> <p>Monitor facilities secured through planning obligations.</p>
Water and Climate Change (Protected Places)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To reduce the risk of flooding (all types) by securing the appropriate location and design of new development (including SuDs), having regard to the likely impact of climate change. 	<p>Number of major developments incorporating water management schemes.</p> <p>Number of developments approved contrary to advice from Environment Agency.</p>

Tourism Promotion (Prosperous Places / Protected Places)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• To work with partners to provide an enhanced environment for tourism and the maritime sector and its associated services	Regularly updated assessment of the Holiday Parks study. Delivery of the aims of the Tourism Strategy.
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CHAPTER 12

POLICIES MAPS

12 Policies Maps

12.0.1 Please see below links to the Policies Maps; please note, the files sizes for the maps are very large therefore you will need to wait for the download to complete before viewing. A list of Local maps relating to specific settlements is available in Appendix B.

Policies Maps

12.0.2 [Policies Map - Key](#)

12.0.3 [Policies Map - West Tendring District](#)

12.0.4 [Policies Map - South East Tendring District](#)

12.0.5 [Policies Map - North East Tendring District](#)

12.0.6 [Policies Map - Tendring District](#)

A Glossary of Terms

This glossary of terms is only intended to provide a guide. It is not a statement of the law, nor does it make any claim to be an official definition.

Adoption: The process following consultation and examination by which the Council will finally make the Local Plan the statutory 'development plan' for the District.

Affordable Housing: Homes provided in perpetuity to meet the housing needs of people who cannot afford to buy or rent property on the open market. Affordable housing can include Council Housing, social rented accommodation, intermediate housing and shared-ownership.

Amenity: A positive component that contributes to the overall character of an area, e.g. open land, trees, historic buildings and the inter-relationship between all elements of the local environment.

Ancient Woodland: Areas of woodland identified by Natural England as having had continuous woodland cover since 1600 AD resulting in the survival of certain rare plants and animals and therefore afforded special protection.

Ancillary Use: A subsidiary use connected to the main use of a building or piece of land, e.g. storage space within a factory.

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB): An Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty contains landscape of national importance as designated by the Government on advice from Natural England.

Article 4 Direction: A power available under the 1995 Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order allowing the Council to limit or remove permitted development rights of properties and land. Such a direction therefore requires planning permission to be obtained for certain works that would otherwise not require permission.

Avoidance: Action taken to avoid a possible impact by either relocating the works to an area that will not have an impact or timing them to avoid the impact i.e. outside of the bird breeding season, amphibian mating season, etc.

Backland Development: Development of land which lies generally behind the line of existing frontage development, has little or no frontage to a public highway and would constitute piecemeal development in that it does not form part of a large area allocated for development.

Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land: The most flexible, productive and efficient agricultural land as graded by the Department of Environment, Farming and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) as being between 1 and 3a, with 1 being excellent and 3a being good.

Biodiversity: "Biodiversity is the variability among living organisms from all sources including, among other things, terrestrial, marine and other aquatic ecosystems, and the ecological complexes of which they are part; this includes the diversity within species, between species and of ecosystems" (EU Convention on Biological Diversity Definition).

Biodiversity Offsetting: A standardised system – using conservation credits – to measure residual impacts of development and compensate by providing new wildlife habitat off-site.

Bridleway: A highway over which the public have a right of way on foot, bicycle and on horseback or leading a horse.

Coastal Protection Belt: An area originally defined within the Essex Coast Protection Subject Plan (1984) comprising the undeveloped rural areas of a coastline where there are greater controls over development to ensure the character of the open landscape is protected or enhanced.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL): A mechanism which enables local authorities to obtain financial contributions from landowners and developers undertaking new building projects toward be the provision of infrastructure.

Compensation: Measures provided to offset residual adverse impacts that remain after the application of mitigation. This can be the provision of an area of like-for-like habitat directly or providing financial contributions to achieve it.

Conditions: Clauses attached to a planning permission considered necessary, relevant, enforceable, precise and reasonable to enable development to proceed where it might otherwise be necessary to refuse permission.

Conservation Area: An area designated by the Council under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990 as possessing special architectural or historical interest. The Council is required to preserve or enhance the character and appearance of these areas.

Dwelling: A self-contained residential unit, occupied by either a person or group of people living together as a family, or by not more than six residents living together as a single household (including a household where care is provided for residents).

Enabling Development: Development promoted primarily as a way of saving an important Listed Building, registered garden or scheduled monument that is neglected, dilapidated, or otherwise perceived to be “at risk”. The term enabling development can also apply to development specifically designed to raise money to achieve other community benefits.

Environmental Impact Assessment: Process by which information about the likely environmental effects of certain projects is collected, assessed and taken into account by both the applicant, as part of a project design, and by the decision making body in deciding whether permission should be granted.

Evidence Base: The name given to the range of technical information including surveys, studies and consultation results that have been gathered to inform the preparation of the Local Plan.

Flood Risk Areas: Land that is at risk of tidal or fluvial flooding. Flood risk maps are produced by the Environment Agency which grade the level of risk in each area.

Flood Risk Assessment: Assessment required to accompany planning applications for development in areas of identified flood risk that both determines the level of risk and whether mitigation measures can address any flood risk problems that may be brought about by development.

Geodiversity: A range of rocks, minerals, fossils, soils and landforms.

Green Infrastructure: 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.

Greenfield Site: Land that is not considered to be previously developed (see definition of 'previously developed land').

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

Infilling: Development of sites that have adjacent buildings – usually the redevelopment of a plot in an otherwise continuously built-up road frontage of buildings.

Important Hedgerow: A hedgerow meeting the criteria set out in the Hedgerow Regulations 1997.

Infrastructure: Any structure, building, system facility and/or provision required by an area for its social and/or economic function and/or well-being including (but not exclusively): footways, cycleways and highways; public transport; drainage and flood protection; waste recycling facilities; education and childcare; healthcare; sports, leisure and recreation facilities; community and social facilities; cultural facilities, including public art; emergency services; green infrastructure; open space; affordable housing; live/work units and lifetime homes; broadband; facilities for specific sections of the community such as youth or the elderly.

Institutional Uses: Uses that can include care homes, nursing homes and other non-custodial institutions.

Irreplaceable Habitats: Habitats which is it not possible to re-create, due to their age and/or condition and/or composition. Includes Ancient Woodland and Veteran Trees in Essex.

Landscaping: The treatment of land for the purposes of enhancing and protecting amenities, and including fencing, walls or other means of enclosure, the planting of trees, hedges, shrubs or grass, and the formation of gardens and courtyards.

Legally Protected Species: Those species protected under: The Protection of Badgers Act 1992 (as amended); the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended); or the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (as amended).

Listed Building: A building designated by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport as being of special architectural or historic interest often on the advice of Historic England. There are three grades of listed building: I, II* and II.

Living Landscape: Living Landscapes are large landscape-scale areas of the countryside, such as river valleys, estuaries, forested ridges, and grass and heath mosaics, which form ecological networks. The networks allow wildlife to move through them and increase their resilience to threats such as climate change, floods, drought, sea-level rise and development pressure. There are 80 Living Landscapes within Essex.

Local Area for Play (LAP): This is small landscaped areas of open space designated for young children (under 6 years old) and their parents or carers for play activities and socialisation close to where they live. A LAP should be a safe, attractive and stimulating environment which will give young children the opportunity to play and interact with their peers away from their own back garden, thus encouraging the development of a range of social and educational skills.

Local Enterprise Partnership: A body, designated by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government, established for the purpose of creating or improving the conditions for economic growth in an area.

Local Equipped Area for Play (LEAP): is an unsupervised play area mainly for children of early school age (4-12 years) but with consideration for other ages. Unlike LAP, a LEAP is equipped with formal play equipment and it should provide a focal point for children when they are responsible enough to move away from the immediate control of parents.

Local Nature Reserve (LNR): A reserve declared and managed by a local authority under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act (1949). LNRs are usually declared on land which has some actual or potential wildlife interest in a local context, and which is well suited to public access and interpretation.

Local Planning Authority: The public authority whose duty it is to carry out specific planning functions for a particular area. All references to local planning authority apply to the District council, London borough council, county council, Broads Authority, National Park Authority and the Greater London Authority, to the extent appropriate to their responsibilities.

Local Plan: The plan for the future development of the local area, drawn up by the Local Planning Authority in consultation with the community.

Local Wildlife Site (LoWS): Non-statutory designation for a site of county-wide significance for wildlife or geology that is afforded special protection through the Local Plan.

Major proposal: A major development proposal as defined by Article 8(7) of The Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995.

Material Consideration: A matter that should be taken into account in deciding on a planning application or on an appeal against a planning decision.

Mineral Safeguarding Area: An area designated by Minerals Planning Authorities which covers known deposits of minerals which are desired to be kept safeguarded from unnecessary sterilisation by non-mineral development.

Mitigation: Action taken to reduce the severity of adverse impacts. Mitigation can include minimising impacts by limiting the degree or magnitude of an action, or rectifying impacts by restoring, rehabilitating, or repairing the affected environment or reducing or eliminating impacts over time.

National Nature Reserve (NNR): Sites managed by English Nature or an approved body, established as reserves under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act (1949).

Neighbourhood Equipped Area for Play (NEAP): This will serve a substantial residential development and as such should cater for a wide range of children including those with special needs. Play equipment should be aimed primarily at those aged between 4 and 14 and should aim to stimulate physical, creative, intellectual, social and solitary play. Teenage provision should be in the form of kickabout/basketball areas, opportunities for wheeled play (skateboarding, roller-skating, etc.) and meeting areas.

Neighbourhood Plans: A plan prepared by a Parish Council or Neighbourhood Forum for a particular neighbourhood area.

Objectively Assessed Needs: Objectively assessing and evidencing development needs for housing (both market and affordable); and economic development (which includes main town centre uses).

Occupancy Conditions: Conditions attached to a planning consent that restrict the occupation of a dwelling, or permanent holiday accommodation to either certain times of the year or to certain parties.

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

Original building: A building as it existed on 1 July 1948 or, if constructed after 1 July 1948, as it was built originally.

Out of Town: A location out of centre that is outside the existing built up area.

Permitted Development: Limited forms of development allowed without the need to make an application for planning permission, as granted under the terms of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) Order 2010.

Planning Obligations: Legal agreements between a planning authority and a developer, or offered unilaterally by a developer, ensuring that certain extra works related to a development are undertaken, usually through Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act (1990).

Pollution: Anything that affects the quality of land, air, water or soils, which might lead to an adverse impact on human health, the natural environment or general amenity. Pollution can arise from a range of emissions, including smoke, fumes, gases, dust, steam, odour, noise and light.

Previously Developed Land: Land which is or was occupied by a permanent structure, including the curtilage of the developed land (although it should not be assumed that the whole of the curtilage should be developed) and any associated fixed surface infrastructure. This excludes: land that is or has been occupied by agricultural or forestry buildings; land that has been developed for minerals extraction or waste disposal by landfill purposes where provision for restoration has been made through development control procedures; land in built-up areas such as private residential gardens, parks, recreation grounds and allotments; and land that was previously-developed but where the remains of the permanent structure or fixed surface structure have blended into the landscape in the process of time.

Priority Species and Habitat: Species and Habitats of Principal Importance included in the England Biodiversity List published by the Secretary of State under section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006.

Policies Map: An obligatory component of a Local Plan showing the location of proposals and policy boundaries on an Ordnance Survey map.

Protected Lane: Lanes designated by the County Council as having particular historic value or making a significant contribution to the character of the countryside.

Protected Species: Plant and animal species protected under the Conservation (Natural Habitats and Conservation) Regulations 1994, the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 and subsequent amendments, or other species protected under legislation specific to them.

Private Amenity Space: Private outdoor sitting area attached to a residential dwelling that is not overlooked by adjacent or opposite living rooms or outdoor sitting areas.

Public Right of Way: A way where the public has a right to walk, and in some cases ride horses, bicycles, motorcycles, or drive motor vehicles.

Ramsar Site: Wetlands of international importance, designated under the 1971 Ramsar Convention.

Regeneration: The re-use or redevelopment of decaying or run-down buildings or urban area to bring them new life and economic vitality.

Renewable and Low Carbon Energy: Includes energy for heating and cooling as well as generating electricity. Renewable energy covers those energy flows that occur naturally and repeatedly in the environment – from the wind, the fall of water, the movement of the oceans, from the sun and also from biomass and deep geothermal heat. Low carbon technologies are those that can help reduce emissions (compared to conventional use of fossil fuels).

Residential Amenity: The normal and reasonable satisfaction people expect from their local living environment.

Ribbon Development: A narrow band of development extending along one or both sides of a road.

Rural Diversification: Activities undertaken on surplus land and the utilisation of redundant and unused rural buildings to support farming incomes, including, for example, forestry, leisure and tourism.

Scheduled Monument: A historic or archaeological structure placed on a schedule compiled by the Department of Culture, Media and Sport for protection under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.

Sequential Approach: A process used to direct development toward the most appropriate locations before other areas are considered.

Settlement Development Boundary: Boundary shown on the Local Plan Policies Maps that shows the extent of defined towns and villages within which there is a presumption, in principle, in favour of development. Land outside of the Settlement Development Boundary is considered to be countryside.

Setting of a Heritage Asset: The surroundings in which a heritage asset is experienced. Its extent is not fixed and may change as the asset and its surroundings evolve. Elements of a setting may make a positive or negative contribution to the significance of an asset, may affect the ability to appreciate that significance or may be neutral.

Shoreline Management Plans: A plan providing a large-scale assessment of the risk to people and to the developed, historic and natural environment associated with coastal processes.

Significance (for Heritage Policy): The value of a heritage asset to this and future generations because of its heritage interest. That interest may be archaeological, architectural, artistic or historic. Significance derives not only from a heritage asset's physical presence, but also from its setting.

Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI): Sites designated by Natural England under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Special Area of Conservation (SAC): Areas given special protection under the European Union's Habitats Directive, which is transposed into UK law by the Habitats and Conservation of Species Regulations 2010.

Special Protection Area (SPA): Areas which have been identified as being of international importance for the breeding, feeding, wintering or the migration of rare and vulnerable species of birds found within European Union countries. They are European designated sites, classified under the Birds Directive.

Stakeholder: A person or group with a direct interest, involvement or investment in something (i.e. the future of the local area). It could be a member of the public, a business, a government body or any other organisation.

Stepping Stones: Pockets of habitat that, while not necessarily connected, facilitate the movement of species across otherwise inhospitable landscapes.

Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA): A procedure (set out in the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004) which requires the formal environmental assessment of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment.

Strategic Green Gaps: Areas of locally important strategic open land that protect the countryside between urban areas, and safeguard the separate identity, character and openness of settlements.

Supplementary Planning Document (SPD): Planning guidance that will supplement and support the implementation of policies contained in the Local Plan.

Sustainable Development: A widely used definition for sustainable development was drawn up by the World Commission on Environment and Development in 1987: 'Sustainable development is development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.'

Sustainability Appraisal (SA): An appraisal of the policies and proposals of development plans to measure their ability to deliver sustainable development.

Town Centre: Area defined on the Local Plan Policies Maps, including the primary shopping area and areas predominantly occupied by main town centre uses within or adjacent to the primary shopping area. References to town centres or centres apply to city centres, town centres, district centres and local centres but exclude small parades of shops of purely neighbourhood significance. Unless they are identified as centres in Local Plans, existing out-of-centre developments, comprising or including main town centre uses, do not constitute town centres.

Transport Assessment: A comprehensive and systematic process that sets out transport issues relating to a proposed development. It identifies what measures will be required to improve accessibility and safety for all modes of travel, particularly for alternatives to the car such as walking, cycling and public transport and what measures will need to be taken to deal with the anticipated transport impacts of the development.

Travel Plan: A long-term management strategy for an organisation or site that seeks to deliver sustainable transport objectives through action and is articulated in a document that is regularly reviewed.

Tree Preservation Order (TPO): Order made by a local planning authority that makes it an offence to cut, top, lop, uproot or wilfully damage or destroy a tree without that authority's permission.

Use Classes Order (UCO): The Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order update places different uses of land and buildings into various categories, planning permission not being required for changes of use within the same use class. Some uses do not have their own use class and therefore known as Sui Generis.

Veteran Tree: A tree which, because of its great age, size or condition is of exceptional value for wildlife, in the landscape, or culturally.

B Local Maps

- [B.1 Alresford](#)
- [B.2 Ardleigh](#)
- [B.3 Beaumont](#)
- [B.4 Bradfield](#)
- [B.5 Brightlingsea](#)
- [B.6 Clacton-on-Sea and Jaywick Sands](#)
- [B.7 Tendring Colchester Borders Garden Community](#)
- [B.8 Elmstead Market](#)
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- [B.10 Frinton, Walton, Kirby Cross and Gt Holland](#)
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- [B.28 Weeley](#)
- [B.29 Weeley Heath](#)
- [B.30 Wix](#)
- [B.31 Wrabness](#)

C Local Wildlife Sites and Ancient Woodland
Table C.1 - Local Wildlife Sites

Code	Site Name	Area (ha)	Grid Ref.
Te1	Ardleigh Reservoir Wood, Ardleigh	2.1	TM 026287
Te2	Birch Wood, Ardleigh	0.7	TM 028303
Te3	Ardleigh Reservoir Grassland, Ardleigh	3.1	TM 032284
Te4	Churn Wood Meadow, Ardleigh	1.3	TM 033256
Te5	Churn Wood, Ardleigh	26.3	TM 036259
Te6	Wall's Wood, Ardleigh	14.3	TM 037271
Te7 *	Chapel Lane Verge, Ardleigh	0.03	TM 039263
Te8 *	Pyecats Corner Verges, Elmstead	0.3	TM 043254
Te9	Manor House Meadow, Ardleigh	1.6	TM 052288
Te10	Springhead Corner Meadow, Ardleigh	2	TM 053286
Te11	Alresford Grange, Alresford	5.2	TM 055207
Te12	Villa Farm Quarry, Alresford	25.8	TM 056217
Te13	Noah's Ark Pit, Brightlingsea	11.9	TM 060186
Te14	Alresford Lodge Pits, Alresford	43.4	TM 061204
Te15	Palegate Wood, Elmstead	5.8	TM 061235
Te16	St. Peter's Church, Alresford	0.4	TM 064206
Te17	Park Wood, Elmstead	1.4	TM 064230
Te18	Crestland Wood Meadow, Alresford	2.5	TM 067210
Te19	Oldhall Wood, Alresford	6.9	TM 068203
Te20	Money Wood, Elmstead	1.7	TM 068253
Te21	Crestland Wood, Alresford	14.1	TM 069208
Te22	Thicks Wood, Thorrington	12.3	TM 070189
Te23	Tenpenny Farm Wood, Alresford	1.4	TM 073215

Code	Site Name	Area (ha)	Grid Ref.
Te24	Frating Hall/Captains Woods, Frating	14.5	TM 074228
Te25	Shir Burn Wood and Meadow, Lawford	8.6	TM 074312
Te26	Alresford Hall Woods, Alresford	34.8	TM 075200
Te27	Mill Wood, Great Bromley	4.5	TM 075248
Te28	Hockley Farm Wood, Frating	8.5	TM 077223
Te29	Wick's /Lodge Wood, Brightlingsea	8.4	TM 078177
Te30	Tenpenny Brook, Alresford	4.7	TM 079203
Te31	Thorrington Plantation, Thorrington	12.2	TM 080203
Te32	Church Road Wood, Frating	1.1	TM 081222
Te33	Manning Grove, Little Bromley	2.1	TM 081275
Te34	Judas Gap Marsh, Lawford	12.1	TM 081324
Te35	Mill Dam Meadow, Thorrington	1.6	TM 083196
Te36	Poplar Chase, Thorrington	19.8	TM 083210
Te37	Great Bromley Churchyard, Great Bromley	0.3	TM 083262
Te38	Thors Park Meadow, Thorrington	2.6	TM 085200
Te39	Rook Wood, Thorrington	3.6	TM 086190
Te40	Wignall Street Grassland, Lawford	2.5	TM 086310
Te41	Hockley Wood, Thorrington	14.8	TM 088213
Te42	Lawford Churchyard, Lawford	0.6	TM 089315
Te43	Thorrington Marshes, Thorrington	20.8	TM 091185
Te44	Little Bromley Churchyard, Little Bromley	0.3	TM 091278
Te45	Wignall Brook Grasslands, Lawford	14	TM 091314
Te46	East End Green, Brightlingsea	2	TM 097168
Te47	Robinson Road Ponds, Brightlingsea	2.7	TM 097173
Te48	Thorrington Hall Wood, Thorrington	48.5	TM 101192

C Local Wildlife Sites and Ancient Woodland

Code	Site Name	Area (ha)	Grid Ref.
Te49 *	Frating Abbey Farm Road Verge, Thorrington	0.2	TM 103199
Te50	Bentley Brook, Great Bentley / Thorrington	39	TM 105208
Te51	Lower Farm Marshes, Brightlingsea	61.2	TM 106175
Te52	Hopping Bridge Marsh, Mistley	1.2	TM 111319
Te53	Little Bentley Hall Wood, Little Bentley	43.4	TM 113244
Te54	Flag Creek Marsh, St Osyth	5.6	TM 114170
Te55	Great Bentley Pumping Station, Great Bentley	3.5	TM 114222
Te56 *	Dead Lane Verge, St Osyth	0.1	TM 116183
Te57	St. Osyth Parkland, St Osyth	91.3	TM 118163
Te58	Furze Hills Complex, Mistley	20.2	TM 118311
Te59	High Barn Wood, Great Bentley	3.3	TM 123229
Te60	Reed Pond, St Osyth	1.5	TM 124150
Te61	Martin's Grove, St Osyth	5.2	TM 124186
Te62 *	Aingers Green Verges, Great Bentley	0.6	TM 125200
Te63	St. Osyth Cemetery, St Osyth	0.7	TM 127163
Te64	Shair Wood, Great Bentley	1.1	TM 129230
Te65	Milton Wood, St Osyth	6	TM 131190
Te66	Stockets Grove, St Osyth	2.4	TM 131198
Te67 *	Pump Hill Verges, St Osyth	0.6	TM 132160
Te68	Violet Grove, St Osyth	0.3	TM 136190
Te69	Simplebirch and Bowshots Wood, St Osyth	9.5	TM 138197
Te70	Pilcox Wood, Tendring	3.1	TM 138252
Te71	Jaywick Beach, Clacton	12.8	TM 139126
Te72	Oakhurst Wood, Weeley	7.5	TM 140205

Code	Site Name	Area (ha)	Grid Ref.
Te73	High Grove, St Osyth	2.1	TM 141174
Te74 *	Goose Green Verge, Tendring	0.03	TM 141254
Te75	Gutteridge Wood, Weeley	5.2	TM 142210
Te76	Maldon Wood, St Osyth	13.8	TM 143196
Te77	Hillands Wood, Tendring	4.6	TM 143234
Te78	Jaywick Marshes, Clacton	59	TM 144134
Te79	Home Wood, Tendring	6.6	TM 149234
Te80	Hartley Wood, St Osyth	29.7	TM 151176
Te81	Tendring Grove, Tendring	4.9	TM 153243
Te82	Coppin's Hall Wood, Clacton	2.4	TM 155161
Te83 *	Weeley Bypass, Weeley/St Osyth/Lt Clacton	18.2	TM 156194
Te84	Island and Roger's Groves, Weeley	8.3	TM 158220
Te85	Stonehall Wood, Tendring	2.8	TM 158256
Te86	Simon's Wood, Tendring	3.6	TM 160239
Te87	Far Thorpe Green, Thorpe-le-Soken	2.8	TM 162226
Te88	Gravel Wood, Tendring	8.1	TM 162253
Te89	Killgrove Wood, Great Oakley	3.3	TM 163265
Te90	Wrabness Depot and Marsh, Wrabness	29.8	TM 163315
Te91	Dengewell Wood, Wix	4.2	TM 166276
Te92	Burcart's Meadow, Clacton	4.3	TM 167180
Te93	Lower Botany Farm, Weeley	4.4	TM 167208
Te94	Broadmeadow Wood, Great Oakley	3.7	TM 169263
Te95	Thorpe Green, Thorpe-le-Soken	1	TM 170231
Te96	Brakey Grove, Wrabness	6	TM 172313
Te97	Glebe Wood, Beaumont	3.4	TM 175258

C Local Wildlife Sites and Ancient Woodland

Code	Site Name	Area (ha)	Grid Ref.
Te98	Upper Holland Brook, Lt Clacton/Gt Holland	42.8	TM 177212
Te99	St. Michael's Churchyard, Thorpe-le-Soken	1.6	TM 179222
Te100	Burrsville Park, Clacton	10.6	TM 180170
Te101	Wrabness Siding, Wrabness	0.2	TM 180315
Te102	West Grove, Wrabness	2.1	TM 180319
Te103	The Grove, Great Clacton	0.7	TM 183175
Te104	East Grove, Wrabness	1.5	TM 183318
Te105	Clacton Cemetery, Clacton	5	TM 184168
Te106 *	Beaumont Bridge Verge, Beaumont	0.01	TM 185237
Te107	Clacton North Cliff, Clacton	0.8	TM 187153
Te108	Beaumont Marsh, Beaumont	4.6	TM 188250
Te109	Great Holland Pits, Great Holland	13.4	TM 202192
Te110	Soils Wood, Great Oakley	3.2	TM 203286
Te111	Copperas Wood East, Ramsey and Parkeston	3	TM 206317
Te112	Whinny Grove, Ramsey and Parkeston	1.2	TM 215302
Te113	Michaelstowe Hall, Ramsey & Parkeston	7.8	TM 218306
Te114	Holland Hall Wood, Great Holland	5.3	TM 220195
Te115	Ramsey Ray, Ramsey and Parkeston	50	TM 232317
Te116	Dockfield Avenue Allotments, Harwich	2.2	TM 236312
Te117	Frinton Cliffs, Frinton	17.2	TM 242199
Te118	Pedlars Wood, Frinton	2.7	TM 244209
Te119	The Hangings, Harwich	6.7	TM 247317
Te120	Station Lane Grassland, Harwich	4.3	TM 250317
Te122	Barnes Spinney, Walton	1.3	TM 257226

Code	Site Name	Area (ha)	Grid Ref.
Te123	Harwich Beach, Harwich	0.9	TM 262325
Te124	The Naze, Walton	16.4	TM 265237
Te125	Bentley Green (West), Great Bentley	1.3	TM 111220

* Protected Verges

Table C.2 - Ancient Woodland Inventory

Name	Grid Reference
Thick's Wood, Brightlingsea (LoWS)	071190
Wicks Wood, Brightlingsea (LoWS)	076175
Mill Wood, Alresford (LoWS)An	077199
Rook Wood, Thorrington (LoWS)	087191
Bullock Wood, Ardleigh (SSSI)	019279
Churn Wood, Ardleigh (LoWS)	036258
Walls Wood, Ardleigh (LoWS)	038274
Cockaynes Wood, Alresford (LoWS)	058218
Palegate Wood, Elmstead (LoWS)	062235
Park Wood, Elmstead (LoWS)	065231
Oldhall Wood, Alresford (LoWS)	068203
Money Wood, Elmstead (LoWS)	068252
Crestland Wood, Alresford (LoWS)	070209
Captains Wood, Frating (LoWS)	075228
Mill Wood, Great Bromley (LoWS)	075248
Boudge Hill Wood, Great Bromley	076258
Tenpenny Heath, Thorrington (LoWS)	081203
Hockley Wood, Frating (LoWS)	088213

C Local Wildlife Sites and Ancient Woodland

Name	Grid Reference
Manning Grove, Great Bromley (LoWS)	088275
Thorrington Hall Wood, Thorrington (LoWS)	101194
Martins Grove, St Osyth (LoWS)	124187
Riddles Wood, St Osyth (SSSI)	129180
Milton Wood, St Osyth (LoWS)	132191
Stockets Grove, St Osyth (LoWS)	132198
Maldon Wood, St Osyth (LoWS)	142197
Hartley Wood, St Osyth (LoWS)	152176
Coppins Hall Wood, Clacton (LoWS)	156162
Alder Car, Great Bentley	102224
Chequers Wood, Little Bromley	104291
Thirty Acre Wood, Great Bentley	109233
Little Bentley Hall Wood, Little Bentley (LoWS)	114245
High Barn Wood, Tendring (LoWS)	124230
Shair Wood, Tendring (LoWS)	130230
Gutteridge Hall Wood, Weeley (LoWS)	142209
Hillands Wood, Tendring (LoWS)	143234
Home Wood, Tendring (LoWS)	149235
Tendring Grove, Tendring (LoWS)	153244
Island Grove, Weeley (LoWS)	155218
Rogers Grove, Weeley (LoWS)	158222
Stonehall Wood, Great Oakley (LoWS)	158256
Weeley Hall Wood, Weeley (SSSI, EWT)	160210
Simons Wood, Tendring (LoWS)	162253
Killgrove Wood, Great Oakley (LoWS)	162267

Name	Grid Reference
Dengewell Wood, Great Oakley (LoWS)	167277
Broadmeadow Wood, Great Oakley (LoWS)	169263
Glebe Wood, Beaumont (LoWS)	175258
Mill Grove, Bradfield	140308
Brakey Grove, Wrabness (LoWS)	172313
West and East Grove, Wrabness (LoWS)	183319
Stour Wood, Wrabness (SSSI, WT, RSPB)	190314
Holland Hall Wood, Great Holland (LoWS)	221195
Copperas Wood, Ramsey (SSSI, EWT (pt))	203316

(Source: Natural England, February 1992, reviewed June 2012)

D Heritage Assets
Table D.1 - Conservation Areas

Location	Date of Designation	Additional Information
Ardleigh	23.03.1981	
Bradfield	21.09.1981	
Brightlingsea	30.06.1975	Extended 16.09.1985 and 14.09.1987
Brightlingsea Hall and All Saints Church	22.03.1993	
Clacton Seafront	04.12.2001	
Dovercourt	17.07.1986	Extended 16.07.1992 and 25.09.1995
Frinton and Walton	19.06.1982	Extended 20.11.1989
Great Bentley	02.10.1969	Amended 07.06.1982
Great Clacton	19.09.1983	
Great Holland	08.06.1981	Extended 21.11.1988
Great Oakley	02.11.1973	Amended 07.06.1982
Harwich	19.06.1969	Extended 08.02.1982, 14.07.1986 and 25.09.1995
Kirby-le-Soken	08.06.1981	Extended 08.06.1987
Lawford	23.03.1981	Extended 16.07.1990
Manningtree and Mistley	02.10.1969	Extended 23.03.1981, 06.06.1983, 18.12.1989, 11.07.1994 and 29.10.2010
Ramsey	21.09.1981	

Location	Date of Designation	Additional Information
St. Osyth	02.10.1969	Amended 07.06.1982, 21.11.1988 and extended 29.10.2010
Tendring	21.09.1981	Extended 16.11.1992
Thorpe-le-Soken	02.10.1969	Extended 21.11.1988
Thorpe-le-Soken Station and Maltings	26.03.1990	

The Conservation Areas at Frinton and Walton, Great Holland, Kirby-le-Soken, Manningtree and Mistley and St. Osyth are also the subject of 'Conservation Area Management Plans' (CAMP) which will be a material consideration in planning decisions. A CAMP is also proposed for Thorpe-le-Soken Station and Maltings and others may be introduced during the course of the plan period.

Note: Maps of the Conservation Area boundaries as they exist at the time of printing are shown on the Policies Maps and Local Maps. These boundaries are subject to change at any time during the lifetime of this Local Plan. Please contact the Council or check the Council's website (www.tendringdc.gov.uk) for latest information about Conservation Areas.

Table D.2 - Protected Lanes

Parish	Name
Ardleigh	Lodge Lane/Crown Lane North Spring Valley Lane
Bradfield/Wix	Cansey Lane
Elmstead	Turnip Lodge Lane
Great Oakley	Pesthouse Lane Hill Road/Rectory Road, The Soils
Lawford	Church Hill
Little Bromley	Little Bromley Road

Note: Protected Lanes were designated by Essex County Council in 2015. They were adopted by Tendring District Council in 2015.

Table D.3 - Historic Parks and Gardens

Monument Title
Clacton Seafront Gardens (Grade II)
St. Osyth Priory (Grade II)
Thorpe Hall (Grade II)
Beth Chatto Gardens (Grade II)

(Source: Historic England)

Note: Further details of these, including maps of each area, can be found on the 'National Heritage List for England' on Historic England's website (www.historicengland.org.uk).

Table D.4 - Scheduled Monuments

Parish	Monument Title	Grid Reference
Alresford	Remains of St. Peter's Church	TM064206
Ardleigh	Crop mark site south of Ardleigh	TM057284
		TM058289
Beaumont	Beaumont Quay, Hamford Water	TM189240
Frinton & Walton	Martello Tower (K) and associated Battery south west of Walton Mere	TM250220
		TM251220
Clacton	Lion Point Decoy 810m south-east of Cockett Wick Farm	TM139133
Clacton	Remains of the Medieval Parish Church and Cemetery 70m north-east of the junction of Hall Close and Frinton road, Holland-on-sea	TM209167
Clacton	Martello Tower (F) on Marine Parade West	TM174143
Clacton	Martello Tower (E) 300m south-west of Junction of Marine parade West and Wash Lane	TM167137
Clacton	Martello Tower (D) on golf links west of town	TM162133
Clacton	Martello Tower (C) west of Lion Point	TM137128

Parish	Monument Title	Grid Reference
Harwich	The Harwich Treadwheel Crane	TM262325
Harwich	The Harwich Redoubt	TM261321
Harwich	Napoleonic Coastal Battery at Bathside	TM258324
Harwich	Beacon Hill Fort	TM262317
Harwich	Dovercourt Lighthouses and Causeway	TM252308
Harwich	Harwich High Lighthouse	TM261324
Harwich	Harwich Low Lighthouse	TM262323
Lawford	Settlement site north north-east of Lawford House	TM086308
Lawford	Ring ditches south-west of Reed Island	TM086327
Lawford	Round Barrow west of Lawford Hall	TM081318
Little Oakley	Heavy Anti-Aircraft Gunsite 350m north of Little Oakley Hall	TM216288
Mistley	Mistley Towers	TM116319
Mistley	Site of Old St Mary's Church	TM128310
St Osyth	St Osyth Priory	TM120157
	(uninhabited portions and gatehouse)	TM120156
St Osyth	Martello Tower (A) and associated battery at Stone Point, Point Clear	TM083157
Thorpe-le-Soken	WWII Bombing Decoy HA2, Kirby-le-Soken	TM218239
Wix	WWII Bombing Decoy WRI Spinnels Farm	TM159302

(Source: [Historic England](#))

Note: Further details of these, including maps of each area, can be found on the 'National Heritage List for England' on Historic England's website (www.historicengland.org.uk).