Development Management DPD



Soundness Self Assessment Checklist (Revised Development Management DPD)

July 2014

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided	
Positively Prepared: the plan should be prepared requirements, including unmet requirements from development. Vision and Objectives Has the LPA clearly identified what the issues are that the DPD is seeking to address? Have priorities been set so that it is clear what the DPD is seeking to achieve? Does the DPD contain clear vision(s) and objectives which are specific to the place? Is there a direct relationship between the identified issues, the vision(s) and the objectives? Is it clear how the policies will meet the objectives? Are there any obvious gaps in the policies, having regard to the objectives of the	 A based on a strategy which seeks to meet objectively assessed de neighbouring authorities where it is reasonable to do so and constructions of the DPD and other documents which set out (where applicable) the vision, strategic objectives, key outcomes expected, spatial portrait and issues to be addressed. Relevant sections of the DPD which explain how policies derive from the objectives and are designed to meet them. The strategic objectives of the DPD, and the commentary in the DPD of how they derive from the spatial portrait and vision, and how the objectives are consistent with one another. Sections of the DPD which address delivery, the means of delivery and the timescales for key developments through 	velopment and infrastructure sistent with achieving sustainable The vision, strategic objectives, issues to be addressed and expected outcomes are all set out in the adopted Core Strategy (2007). The Development Management DPD (DM DPD) supports and compliments the Core Strategy and the vision and objectives contained within it. The relationship between the Core Strategy policies and DM DPD policies is explained after each individual DM policy in a 'Core Strategy Linkage box'.	
DPD? Have reasonable alternatives to the quantum of development and overall spatial strategy been considered? Are the policies internally consistent? Are there realistic timescales related to the objectives? Does the DPD explain how its key policy	 delivery and the timescales for key developments through evidenced infrastructure delivery planning. Confirmation from the relevant agencies that they support the objectives and the identified means of delivery. Information in the local development scheme, or provided separately, about the scope and content (actual and intended) of each DPD showing how they combine to provide a coherent policy structure. 	 f Confirmation from the relevant agencies that they support the objectives and the identified means of delivery. Information in the local development scheme, or provided separately, about the scope and content (actual and intended) of each DPD showing how they combine to provide a coherent policy structure. 	Statutory consultees were consulted during the production of the Core Strategy and have also been consulted both during the production of the DM DPD. Their comments and feedback have been taken into account as document has progressed. All feedback is submitted as a supporting evidence document (Consultation Statement).
objectives will be achieved?		The Local Development Scheme (LDS) provides information on the scope and content of each DPD. The LDS may be found of the Southend Borough Council website.	
<i>The presumption in favour of sustainable development (NPPF paras 6-17)</i> Local Plans should meet objectively assessed	• An evidence base which establishes the development needs of the plan area (see Justified below) and includes a flexible approach to delivery (see 'Section 3 Effective',	The quantum of development and spatial approach is set out in the adopted Core Strategy. The DM DPD	

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needs, with sufficient flexibility to adapt to rapid change, unless: —any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole; or —specific policies in this Framework indicate	 below). An audit trail showing how and why the quantum of development, preferred overall strategy and plan area distribution of development were arrived at. 	does not contain policies of a strategic nature. Rather, the detailed criteria based policies support the Core Strategy policies, vision and objectives and provides additional information to be used to determine planning applications.
development should be restricted.		Sustainable development is at the heart of the DM DPD. Policy P1 of the DM DPD provides the locally specific overarching policy to support sustainable development in Southend. The approach to development is proactive and seeks to ensure that well designed and sustainable new development is delivered in the Borough to meet need. The policies apply a flexible approach to ensure that viability is not compromised.
		As the DM policies plan provides the detailed policies to support implementation of the adopted Core Strategy and contains an overarching policy requiring all development to be sustainable, this approach taken is considered entirely consistent with the NPPF.
Policies in Local Plans should follow the approach of the presumption in favour of	 A policy or policies which reflect the principles of the presumption in favour of sustainable development (see 	Policy P1: Sustainable Development incorporates the Model Policy.
sustainable development so that it is clear that development which is sustainable can be approved without delay. All plans should be based upon and reflect the presumption in favour of sustainable development, with clear	model policy at <u>www.planningportal</u> .	All other DM policies encourage appropriate, sustainable development in the Borough except in areas where development should be restricted, in

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policies that will guide how the presumption should be applied locally.		line with the NPPF guidance e.g. environmental designations.
Objectively assessed needs The economic, social and environmental needs of the authority area addressed and clearly presented in a fashion which makes effective use of land and specifically promotes mixed use development, and take account of cross- boundary and strategic issues. Note: Meeting these needs should be subject to the caveats specified in Paragraph 14 of the NPPF (see above).	 Background evidence papers demonstrating requirements based on population forecasts, employment projections and community needs. Technical papers demonstrating how the aspirations and objectives of the DPD are related to the evidence, and how these are to be met, including from consultation and associated with the Duty to Co-operate. 	The Document does not contain policies relating to the quantum or broad locations of development; these are contained in the Core Strategy. The technical papers upon which the DM DPD is based include: Employment Land Review; The Management of designated Shopping Frontages; Combined Policy Viability Assessment; Strategic Housing Market Assessment; Housing Quality Review Paper; Hotels Future Report; Climate Change Review, Parking Review Paper and Parking Standards. A Duty to Co-operate Statement has also been produced to document how the Council has worked with neighbouring authorities and other bodies in the production of the Document.
NPPF Principles: Delivering sustainable develo	pment	
 Building a strong, competitive economy (paras 18-22) 		
Set out a clear economic vision and strategy for the area which positively and proactively encourages sustainable economic growth (21),	 Articulation of a clear economic vision and strategy for the plan area linked to the Economic Strategy and LEP Strategy where appropriate. 	The economic vision and strategy for Southend-on-Sea Borough is set out in the Core Strategy (2007). The DM DPD provides more detailed policies in order to achieve these objectives (primarily Policy DM10, DM11, DM12 and DM13)
Recognise and seek to address potential barriers	A criteria-based policy which meets identified needs and	Policy DM11 provides a criteria-based

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to investment, including poor environment or any lack of infrastructure, services or housing (21)	 is positive and flexible in planning for specialist sectors, regeneration, infrastructure provision, environmental enhancement. An up-to-date assessment of the deliverability of allocated employment sites, to meet local needs, (taking into account that LPAs should avoid the long term protection of sites allocated for employment use where there is no reasonable prospect of an allocated site being used for that purpose) para (22) 	policy for positively managing existing employment areas in the Borough as evidence by the Southend Employment Land Review. This includes protecting these areas whilst allowing for the release of sites to other uses where there is no reasonable long term prospect of an employment use coming forward. Policy DM10 seeks to support the economy of the Borough by focusing related industries in clusters to help foster specialisms and maximise associated benefits within Southend.
 Ensuring the vitality of town centres (paras 23-37) 		
Policies should be positive, promote competitive town centre environments, and set out policies for the management and growth of centres over the plan period (23)	• The Plan and its policies may include such matters as: definition of networks and hierarchies; defining town centres; encouragement of residential development on appropriate sites; allocation of appropriate edge of centre sites where suitable and viable town centre sites are not available; consideration of retail and leisure proposals which cannot be accommodated in or adjacent to town centres.	The Core Strategy (2007) identifies the network and hierarchy of centres in the Borough. Policy DM13 identifies Primary Shopping Frontages and Secondary Shopping Frontages in the District and Local Centres. By managing the use of units within these areas, the Council can ensure that centres remain competitive by containing a diverse mix of uses that maintain their vitality and viability. Note; the approach to managing shopping frontages in the Town Centre will be set out in the Southend Central Area Action Plan.
Allocate a range of suitable sites to meet the scale and type of retail, leisure, commercial, office,	• An assessment of the need to expand (the) town centre(s), considering the needs of town centre uses.	Core Strategy Policy CP2 details the Council strategic approach to

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tourism, cultural, community services and residential development needed in town centres (23)	 Primary and secondary shopping frontages identified and allocated. 	managing retail development and other town centre uses, establishing the network and hierarchy of centres within the Borough. Where necessary, Sequential tests and Retail Impact Assessments will be required in accordance with the NPPF.
		The Southend Retail Study (2003) informed the production of the Core Strategy (2007). This study has since been updated by the Southend Retail and Town Centre Study (2011), which concluded that the retail hierarchy and classification of centres as set out by the Core Strategy remains appropriate and current.
		The DM DPD does not allocate sites. However, Policy DM13 identifies Primary Shopping Frontages and Secondary Shopping Frontages in the District and Local Centres. By managing the use of units within these areas, the Council can ensure that centres remain competitive by containing a diverse mix of uses that maintain their vitality and viability.
		Policy CP6 of the adopted Core Strategy sets out the Council's approach for managing community infrastructure within the Borough, including existing and new leisure, cultural and recreational facilities.

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3. Supporting a prosperous rural economy (para 28)		
Support sustainable economic growth in rural areas. Planning strategies should promote a strong rural economy by taking a positive approach to new development. (28)	• Where relevant include a policy or policies which support the sustainable growth of rural businesses; promote the development and diversification of agricultural businesses; support sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments, and support local services and facilities.	Southend-on-Sea borough is exclusively urban in nature with only a small band of greenbelt separating neighbouring settlements. Nevertheless Policy DM6 seeks to positively manage The Seafront, including the provision or new and improved facilities for water recreation and other leisure and tourism uses, whilst ensuring its openness and the integrity of environmental designations.
4. Promoting sustainable transport (paras 29-41)		
Facilitate sustainable development whilst contributing to wider sustainability and health objectives. (29) Balance the transport system in favour of sustainable transport modes and give people a real choice about how they travel whilst recognising that different policies will be required in different communities and opportunities to maximise sustainable transport solutions will vary from urban to rural areas. (29) Encourage solutions which support reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and congestion (29) including supporting a pattern of development which, where reasonable to do so, facilitates the use of sustainable modes of transport. (30) Local authorities should work with neighbouring authorities and transport providers to develop strategies for the provision of viable infrastructure necessary to support sustainable development.	 Joint working with adjoining authorities, transport providers and Government Agencies on infrastructure provision in order to support sustainable economic growth with particular regard to the facilities referred to in paragraph 31. Policies encouraging development which facilitates the use of sustainable modes of transport and a range of transport choices where appropriate, particularly the criteria in paragraph 35. A spatial strategy and policy which seeks to reduce the need to travel through balancing housing and employment provision. Policy for major developments which promotes a mix of uses and access to key facilities by sustainable transport modes. If local (car parking) standards have been prepared, are they justified and necessary? (39) Identification and protection of sites and routes where 	 The spatial strategy and strategic policies on locating growth in the urban area and reducing the need to travel are set out in the Core Strategy. Core Strategy Policy CP3 includes strategic transport and accessibility policy. Policy DM15 – Sustainable Transport Management sets out a borough wide approach for positively managing development and related transport issues. Policy DM15 makes direct reference to the Southend Local Transport Plan and seeks to: Prioritise the needs of pedestrians and cyclists; Set out local parking standards for the Town Centre and rest of

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 (31) Opportunities for sustainable transport modes have been taken up depending on the nature and location of the site, to reduce the need for major transport infrastructure. (32) Ensure that developments which generate significant movement are located where the need to travel will be minimised and the use of sustainable transport modes can be maximised (34) Plans should protect and exploit opportunities for the use of sustainable transport modes for the movement of goods or people. (35) Policies should aim for a balance of land uses so that people can be encouraged to minimize journey lengths for employment, shopping, leisure, education and other activities. (37) For larger scale residential developments in particular, planning policies should promote a mix of uses in order to provide opportunities to undertake day-to-day activities including work on site. Where practical, particularly within large-scale developments, key facilities such as primary schools and local shops should be located within walking distance of most properties. (38) The setting of car parking standards including provision for town centres. (39-40) Local planning authorities should identify and protect, where there is robust evidence, sites and routes which could be critical in developing infrastructure to widen transport choice. (41) 	infrastructure could be developed to widen transport choice linked to the Local Transport Plan.	 the borough, including for cycling, that have regard to those set by neighbouring authorities. These local parking standards are based on subregional evidence and are further justified by the Southend Parking Review Addendum 2013; Ensure that major development incorporates smarter choices such as car clubs, travel plans, real time public transport information; Encourage the provision of facilities for charging electric vehicles Ensure that there is physical and environmental capacity to accommodate the type and amount of traffic generated. Policy DM1 – Design Quality, seeks to ensure internal and external layouts take account of all potential users including prioritising pedestrians and cyclists and accessibility to public transport. Policy DM10 and DM12 seeks to prioritise employment sectors and visitor accommodation to particular sustainable locations. Policy DM4 seeks to locate tall and
		large buildings, highlighting their

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		potential to accommodate a mix of uses, to the Southend Central Area, including town centre, a sustainable location served by an extensive public transport network.
 Supporting high quality communications infrastructure (paras 42-46) 		
Support the expansion of the electronic communications networks, including telecommunications' masts and high speed broadband. (43) Local planning authorities should not impose a ban on new telecommunications development in certain areas, impose blanket Article 4 directions over a wide area or a wide range of telecommunications development or insist on minimum distances between new telecommunications development and existing development. (44)	 Policy supporting the expansion of electronic communications networks, including telecommunications and high speed broadband, noting the caveats in para 44. 	In promoting economic regeneration the Core Strategy outlines that development will be expected to improve the level of service of broadband infrastructure and other state of the art information communication technology. Policy DM8 includes residential standards for non-self-contained accommodation (such as student and hospital staff) and outlines that such buildings must have access to broadband. Section 12 of the Design and Townscape Guide SPD1 contains detailed design guidance on telecommunications masts and antennae.
 Delivering a wide choice of high quality housing (paras 47-55) 		
Identify and maintain a rolling supply of specific deliverable sites sufficient to provide five years' worth of housing against their housing requirements; this should include an additional buffer of 5% or 20% (moved forward from later in	 Identification of: a) five years or more supply of specific deliverable sites; plus the buffer as appropriate Where this element of housing supply includes windfall sites, inclusion of 'compelling evidence' to justify their 	In setting out the spatial strategy, including housing targets for Southend, the Core Strategy in Policy CP1 outlines the broad location where this growth will be located until 2021. The DM DPD

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the plan period) to ensure choice and competition in the market for land. 20% buffer applies where there has been persistent under delivery of housing(47)	inclusion (48) • A SHLAA	does not allocate land. The Council has a demonstrable 5 year housing land supply as set out in the Council's Annual Monitoring Report and in more detail in the SHLAA 2013 update.
Identify a supply of developable sites or broad locations for years 6-10 and, where possible, years 11-15 (47).	 Identification of a supply of developable sites or broad locations for: a) years 6-10; b) years 11-15 	The Council has identified a supply of developable sites/ broad locations for years 6-10 and 11-15 in its SHLAA (2013 update). This is regularly monitored and updated.
Illustrate the expected rate of housing delivery through a trajectory; and set out a housing implementation strategy describing how a five year supply will be maintained. (47)	 A housing trajectory Monitoring of completions and permissions (47) Updated and managed SHLAA. (47) 	The Authority's Monitoring Report (AMR) is produced annually and includes updated housing trajectories and information of completions and permissions.
		The SHLAA 2013 update reports on the five-year housing supply, which is reviewed and updated regularly.
Set out the authority's approach to housing density to reflect local circumstances (47).	 Policy on the density of development. 	Policy DM3 – The Efficient and Effective Use of Land, provides a design led approach to managing density.
Plan for a mix of housing based on current and future demographic and market trends, and needs of different groups (50) and caters for housing demand and the scale of housing supply to meet this demand. (para 159)	 Policy on planning for a mix of housing (including self-build, and housing for older people SHMA Identification of the size, type, tenure and range of housing) required in particular locations, reflecting local demand. (50) Evidence for housing provision based on up to date, 	Policy CP8 of the adopted Core Strategy sets out the level of housing, including proportion of affordable, to be provided in Southend for the period 2001-2021. The most recent AMR demonstrates that delivery in Southend is ahead of the
	 Evidence for nousing provision based on up to date, objectively assessed needs. (50) Policy on affordable housing and consideration for the 	phased Core Strategy housing target.

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	need for on-site provision or if off-site provision or financial contributions are sought, where these can these be justified and to what extent do they contribute to the objective of creating mixed and balanced communities. (50)	The DM DPD supports the Core Strategy and provides further detailed policy in relation to Dwelling Mix, Size and Type (DM7); Residential Standards (DM8); and Specialist Residential Accommodation (DM9). These policies are supported by a number of evidence base documents, including the SHMA (2013) and Housing Quality Review (2014)
In rural areas be responsive to local circumstances and plan housing development to reflect local needs, particularly for affordable housing, including through rural exception sites where appropriate (54). In rural areas housing should be located where it will enhance or maintain the vitality of rural communities.	 Consideration of allowing some market housing to facilitate the provision of significant additional affordable housing to meet local needs. Consideration of the case for resisting inappropriate development of residential gardens. (This is discretionary)(para 53) Examples of special circumstances to allow new isolated homes listed at para 55. 	N/A Southend-on-Sea is exclusively urban in nature.
7. Requiring good design (paras 56-68)		
Develop robust and comprehensive policies that set out the quality of development that will be expected for the area (58).	 Inclusion of policy or policies which seek to increase the quality of development through the principles set out at para 58 and approaches in paras 59-61, linked to the vision for the area and specific local issues. 	The Core Strategy contains a number of policies in relation to good design. Policy DM1 – Design Quality, provides further detail on how new development can achieve this.
		Policy DM6 also sets out design and development principles for a number of Seafront Character Zones.
		The DM DPD makes reference to the Council's Design and Townscape Guide SPD (2009), which provides more guidance on design related issues and sustainability.

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8. Promoting healthy communities (paras 69-77)		
Policies should aim to design places which: promote community interaction, including through mixed-use development; are safe and accessible environments; and are accessible developments (69).	 Promotion of opportunities for meetings between accessible Promotion of the community who might not otherwise 	Policy DM1 seeks to ensure that new development schemes are safe, secure and are of a high quality of design, which contribute to the creation of successful and sustainable places. Policies DM15 seeks to ensure development is accessible and facilitates opportunities for people to use public transport and other alternatives to private vehicle use. In relation to tall and large buildings Policy DM4 outlines that they must be 'located in a sustainable area with frequent public transport links, and where local services are accessible by foot and bicycle.'
		A number of Core Strategy polices, including CP2, CP4 and CP8, seek to promote mix-use development, in particular within urban centres and near key transport interchanges.
Policies should plan positively for the provision and use of shared space, community facilities and other local services (70).	 Inclusion of a policy or policies addressing community facilities and local service. Positive planning for the provision and integration of community facilities and other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments; safeguard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services; ensure that established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernize; and ensure that housing is developed in suitable locations which offer a range of community 	Policy DM12 and DM13 sets out the Council's approach for positively managing visitor accommodation and designated shopping frontage respectively. Policy DM10 seeks to support the economy of the Borough by focusing related industries in clusters to help foster specialisms and maximise

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	facilities and good access to key services and infrastructure.	associated benefits within Southend. The adopted Core Strategy contains policies (CP6 and CP7) to safeguard
		existing, and promote the provision of new, leisure, cultural, recreational and community facilities. Policy CP8 seeks to support a vibrant mix of employment, residential and community uses on larger sites, to support greater economic and social diversity and sustainable transport principles. CP8 also requires development schemes within the Borough's town, district and local centres to include replacement and/or new retail and commercial uses, in order to safeguard, maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of these shopping and commercial areas.
Identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities; and set locally derived standards to provide these (73).	 Identification of specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area. (73) A policy protecting existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land from development, with specific exceptions. (74) Protection and enhancement of rights of way and access. 	In providing more detailed policy for positively managing the Seafront area Policy DM6 identifies appropriate locations where new and improved facilities for water recreation and other leisure and tourism facilitates will be supported in principle.
	(75)	In responding to evidenced need Policy CP7 of the adopted Core Strategy seeks to safeguard existing and promote new sport, recreation and green space facilities within the Borough.
		There is a limited network of designated public rights of way within Southend although there is a well-used network of

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		formal and informal footpaths and designated cycle routes, the latter formalised through SUSTRANS. The Core Strategy promotes the enhancement and extension of the cycle route network. Development Management Policy DM14 seeks to prioritise and promote viable alternatives to private vehicle use, including for cyclists and pedestrians.
Enable local communities, through local and neighbourhood plans, to identify special protection green areas of particular importance to them – 'Local Green Space' (76-78).	 Policy enabling the protection of Local Green Spaces. (Local Green Spaces should only be designated when a plan is prepared or reviewed, and be capable of enduring beyond the end of the plan period. The designation should only be used when it accords with the criteria in para 77). Policy for managing development within a local green space should be consistent with policy for Green Belts. (78) 	Core Strategy policies CP6 and CP7 seek to safeguard existing community, recreational, sports facilities and services and open space. The DM DPD Policies Map details a number of designations in relation to Protected Green Space; Allotments; Local Nature Reserves; Crematorium, Graveyards and Cemeteries.
		No neighbourhood plans are currently being progressed within the Borough. The local community will have further opportunity to identify and designate areas of Local Green Space, in accordance with NPPF paragraph 76, through the progression of the Site Allocations DPD and when any neighbourhood plans come forward.
9. Protecting Green Belt land (paras 79-92)		
Local planning authorities should plan positively to enhance the beneficial use of the Green Belt, such as looking for opportunities to provide access; to provide opportunities for outdoor sport	 Where Green Belt policies are included, these should reflect the need to: Enhance the beneficial use of the Green Belt. (81) Accord with criteria on boundary setting, and the need 	The adopted Core Strategy, in combination with national policy, provides the policy approach in relation

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and recreation; to retain and enhance landscapes, visual amenity and biodiversity; or to improve damaged and derelict land. (81) Local planning authorities with Green Belts in their area should establish Green Belt boundaries in their Local Plans which set the framework for Green Belt and settlement policy. (83) When drawing up or reviewing Green Belt boundaries local planning authorities should take account of the need to promote sustainable patterns of development. (84) Boundaries should be set using 'physical features likely to be permanent' amongst other things (85)	 for clarity on the status of safeguarded land, in particular. (85) Specify that inappropriate development should not be approved except in very special circumstances. (87) Specify the exceptions to inappropriate development (89-90) Identify where very special circumstances might apply to renewable energy development. (91) 	to the Green Belt.
 Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change (paras 93- 108) 		
Adopt proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change taking full account of flood risk, coastal change and water supply and demand considerations. (94)	 Planning of new development in locations and ways which reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Support for energy efficiency improvements to existing building. Local requirements for a building's sustainability which are consistent with the Government's zero carbon buildings policy . (95)) 	The Core Strategy sets out the strategic distribution of growth, directing development to sustainable existing urban and built-up areas. Development within Southend, as an urban area, is inherently sustainable and the DM policies as a whole, including Policy P1, support sustainable development in the Borough. Higher
		densities and mixed uses are promoted in the most accessible locations in and around the town centre and other centres and in close proximity to public transport interchanges.
		Policy DM10 and DM12 seeks to prioritise employment sectors and visitor accommodation to particular

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		sustainable locations.
		Policy DM2 details the Council's approach to low carbon development and the efficient use of resources, which includes requirements relating to the Code for Sustainable Homes, BREEAM and includes a specific water efficiency target. Policy DM14 covers environmental protection.
		Core Strategy Policy KP2 states that all new development must include appropriate measures in relation design, layout, operation and materials to achieve a reduction in the use of resources.
Help increase the use and supply of renewable and low carbon energy through a strategy, policies maximising renewable and low carbon energy, and identification of key energy sources. (97)	 A strategy and policies to promote and maximise energy from renewable and low carbon sources, Identification of suitable areas for renewable and low carbon energy sources, and supporting infrastructure, where this would help secure the development of such sources (see also NPPF footnote 17) Identification of where development can draw its energy supply from decentralised, renewable or low carbon supply systems and for co-locating potential heat customers and suppliers. (97) 	As predominately an urban area, the potential for significant large scale renewable energy development within Southend is somewhat limited. However, Core Strategy Policy KP2 outlines that all development proposals should demonstrate how they will maximise the use of renewable and recycled energy and at least 10% of the energy needs should come from on-site renewable options (and/or decentralised renewable or low carbon energy sources), such as those set out in SPD 1 Design and Townscape Guide, wherever feasible.
		Core Strategy Policy CP4 seeks to ensure design solutions that maximise the use of sustainable and renewable

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		resources in developments.
		Identification of suitable areas and sources for renewable or low carbon energy supplies would be best contained in a future review of the Core Strategy.
Minimise vulnerability to climate change and manage the risk of flooding (99)	 Account taken of the impacts of climate change. (99) Allocate, and where necessary re-locate, development away from flood risk areas through a sequential test, based on a SFRA. (100) Policies to manage risk, from a range of impacts, through suitable adaptation measures 	Core Strategy Policy KP1 and KP2 sets out the Council's approach to managing the risk of flooding across the Borough. The policies seek to ensure that proposals secure opportunities to reduce both the cause and impact of flooding e.g. through the siting and type of development proposed and how development incorporate SUDS and other mitigation measures to reduce the cause and impact of flooding, as well as providing opportunity for cooling/ insultation.
		Policy DM2 includes requirements for urban greening measures to be incorporated into development that can contribute towards absorbing rainfall.
		Policy DM6 compliments Core Strategy polices KP1 and KP2, by outlining the approach to managing flood risk and coastal change specifically in the Seafront Area.
Manage risk from coastal change (106)	 Identification of where the coast is likely to experience physical changes and identify Coastal Change Management Areas, and clarity on what development will be allowed in such areas. 	Policy DM6 compliments Core Strategy polices KP1 and KP2, by outlining the approach to managing flood risk and coastal change in relation to new

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	 Provision for development and infrastructure that needs to be re-located from such areas, based on SMPs and Marine Plans, where appropriate. 	development specifically in the Seafront Area.
		Policy DM14 environmental protections outlines that all development proposals in the vicinity of the cliff frontages shall take full account of ground instability.
 Conserving and enhancing the natural environment (paras 109-125) 		
Protect valued landscapes (109)	 A strategy and policy or policies to create, protect, enhance and manage networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure. Policy which seeks to minimise the loss of higher quality agricultural land and give great weight to protecting the landscape and scenic beauty of National Parks, the Broads and AONBs. 	Core Strategy Policy CP5 seeks to protect the best and most versatile agricultural land from irreversible damage where this is consistent with the full range of sustainability considerations, including maintaining viable communities. Policy DM2 outlines that development proposals should incorporate urban greening measures and promote biodiversity from the beginning of the design process. This can include soft landscaped open space, tree planting, green roofs and walls, which will form part of the wider green infrastructure in Southend.
		Various policies in the DM DPD (DM3 and DM6) and within the adopted Core Strategy seek to protect environmental designations and biodiversity; and in general, the loss of local ecological assets including wildlife habitats and significant or protected trees.
Prevent unacceptable risks from pollution and	Policy which seeks development which is appropriate for	In respect to Design, Policy DM1

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land instability (109)	its location having regard to the effects of pollution on health, the natural environment or general amenity.	outlines that new development should protect the amenity of the site, immediate neighbour, and the surrounding area from, inter alia, pollution.
		Policy DM14 details policy in relation to land contamination and potential remediation works, including requirements for an appropriate Contaminated Land Assessment to be carried out as part of the application.
		Core Strategy policy KP2 details that development proposals include appropriate measures to avoid or appropriately mitigate actual and potential pollution impacts of development. Policy CP4 outlines that in order to achieve sustainable development - proposals must prevent, reduce or remedy all forms of pollution including soil, water, noise and other forms of airborne pollution.
Planning policies should minimise impacts on biodiversity and geodiversity (117) Planning policies should plan for biodiversity at a landscape-scale across local authority boundaries (117)	 Identification and mapping of local ecological networks and geological conservation interests. Policies to promote the preservation, restoration and re- creation of priority habitats, ecological networks and the recovery of priority species 	Policy DM2 outlines that development proposals should incorporate urban greening measures and promote biodiversity from the beginning of the design process. This can include soft landscaped open space, tree planting, green roofs and walls, which will form part of the wider green infrastructure in Southend and connect to the Thames Gateway South Essex Greengrid.
		Various policies in the DM DPD (DM3

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		and DM6) and within the adopted Core Strategy seek to protect environmental designations and, in general, the loss of local ecological assets including wildlife habitats and significant or protected trees. Indeed, the proposed Policies Map designates environmental designations (SSSI, SAC, SPA, Ramsar) and Local Wildlife Sites in response to evidence.
12. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment (paras 126-141)		
Include a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment, including heritage assets most at risk (126)	 A strategy for the historic environment based on a clear understanding of the cultural assets in the plan area, including assets most at risk. A map/register of historic assets A policy or policies which promote new development that will make a positive contribution to character and distinctiveness. (126) 	The Borough contains a host of heritage assets, including conservation areas, listed and locally listed buildings, frontages of townscape merit and scheduled ancient monuments. Policy DM5 seeks to conserve and enhance the historic and architectural character, setting and townscape value of a heritage asset. The total or partial demolition of a listed building, locally listed building or a building within a conservation area will be resisted, unless exceptional circumstances are shown to outweigh the case for retention in line with the NPPF. High quality redevelopment of existing buildings within conservation areas which are considered to be of poor architectural quality will be encouraged. The proposed Policies Map depicts the location of conservation areas,

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		scheduled ancient monuments and frontages of townscape merit. Listed and Locally Listed Buildings are detailed on the Council's website.
 Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals (paras 142-149) 		
It is important that there is a sufficient supply of material to provide the infrastructure, buildings, energy and goods that the country needs. However, since minerals are a finite natural resource, and can only be worked where they are found, it is important to make best use of them to secure their long-term conservation (142) Minerals planning authorities should plan for a steady and adequate supply of industrial materials (146)	Account taken of the matters raised in relation to paragraph 143 and 145, including matters in relation to land in national / international designations; landbanks; the defining of Minerals Safeguarding Areas; wider matters relating to safeguarding; approaches if non-mineral development is necessary within Minerals Safeguarding Areas; the setting of environmental criteria; development of noise limits; reclamation of land; plan for a steady and adequate supply of aggregates. This could include evidence of co-operation with neighbouring and more distant authorities.	Southend contains no deposits of aggregates (sand and gravel). The only mineral deposit that occurs is brickearth, which also provides very high quality agricultural land. Core Strategy Policy CP5 sets out the Council's approach to managing these deposits. A Local Aggregate Assessment covering the areas of Essex, Southend and Thurrock (Greater Essex) has been produced by Essex County Council in line with Paragraph 145 of the NPPF. Policy DM2 seeks to prioritise the use of sustainable construction methods that minimise the use of raw materials and maximise the recovery of minerals from construction, demolition and excavation wastes produced at development or redevelopment sites.

Justified: The plan should be the most appropriate strategy, when considered against the reasonable alternatives, based on proportionate evidence. To be 'justified' a DPD needs to be:

• Founded on a robust and credible evidence base involving: research / fact finding demonstrating how the choices made in the plan are backed up by facts; and evidence of participation of the local community and others having a stake in the area.

• The most appropriate strategy when considered against reasonable alternatives.

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
<i>Participation</i> Has the consultation process allowed for effective engagement of all interested parties?	The consultation statement. This should set out what consultation was undertaken, when, with who and how it has influenced the plan. The statement should show that efforts have been made to consult hard to reach groups, key stakeholders etc. Reference SCI	The Council has produced a Consultation Statement showing what consultation has been undertaken, when, with whom, and how this has influenced the production and content of the DM DPD.
		Consultation has been undertaken in conformity with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) and has followed the requirements of national policy and the relevant regulations applicable at the time.
Research / fact finding Is the plan justified by a sound and credible evidence base? What are the sources of evidence? How up to date, and how convincing is it? What assumptions were made in preparing the DPD? Were they reasonable and justified?	 The studies, reports and technical papers that provide the evidence for the policies set out in the DPD, the date of preparation and who they were produced by. AND Sections of the DPD (at various stages of development) and SA Report which illustrate how evidence supports the strategy, policies and proposals, including key assumptions. OR A very brief statement of how the main findings of consultation support the policies, with reference to: reports to the council on the issues raised during participation, covering both the front-loading and formulation phases; and any other information on community views and preferences. OR For each policy (or group of policies dealing with the same issue), a very brief statement of the evidence documents relied upon and how they support the policy (where this is not already clear in the reasoned justification in the DPD). 	The DM DPD is in conformity with the adopted Core Strategy which establishes the strategic context, policies and targets and objectives for Southend. The Council has published a list of key documents and evidence base studies that have informed the DM DPD by theme on its website. Reference to these documents is made in the supporting text of each DM Policy where applicable. At each relevant DM DPD stage a Consultation Statement was published outlining previous comments raised on the DM DPD together with a response setting out how these comments were to be taken into account. At each stage of the process, the

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		Sustainability Appraisal (SA) was reviewed to and the recommendations helped inform the development management policies to ensure they promoted sustainable development. The SA process assessed reasonable alternative options and detailed the evolution of each policy. Respective SA's were published alongside each DM DPD for comment.
Alternatives Can it be shown that the LPA's chosen approach is the most appropriate given the reasonable alternatives? Have the reasonable alternatives been considered and is there a clear audit trail showing how and why the preferred approach was arrived at? Where a balance had to be struck in taking decisions between competing alternatives, is it clear how and why the decisions were taken? Does the sustainability appraisal show how the different options perform and is it clear that sustainability considerations informed the content of the DPD from the start?	 Reports and consultation documents produced in the early stages setting out how alternatives were developed and evaluated, and the reasons for selecting the preferred strategy, and reasons for rejecting the alternatives. This should include options covering not just the spatial strategy, but also the quantum of development, strategic policies and development management policies. An audit trail of how the evidence base, consultation and SA have influenced the plan. Sections of the SA Report showing the assessment of options and alternatives. Reports on how decisions on the inclusion of policy were made. Sections of the consultation document demonstrating how options were developed and appraised. Any other documentation showing how alternatives were developed and evaluated, including a report on how sustainability appraisal has influenced the choice of strategy and the content of policies. 	In June 2010 the Council presented for discussion and comment the main issues and options for development management policies and how these could be achieved within Southend. This document sought the views on a range of matters to give a general direction of proposed policy. The Consultation Statement (Reg 27) demonstrates the level of response to each suggested policy and their alternatives. In response to the comments made on the Issues and Options DM DPD together with on-going evidence collection the Council published a Proposed Submission DM DPD in March 2011, requesting representations in relation to legality and soundness. The Proposed Submission document sought to amend the 'Issues and Options' consultation document in the light of the comments expressed.

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		The Consultation Statement (Reg 27) summarises how the consultation responses were taken into account in the formulation of the proposed submission document and highlighted the key changes to be addressed.
		Following publication of the first Proposed Submission DM DPD the NPPF was published in 2012. A number of amendments were made and reflected in a revised version of the Submission DM DPD, in response to previous representations, new evidence base material and to ensure it is in conformity with national policy and guidance. A summary of the main changes document and consultation statement (Reg 19) is available on the Council's website. A Revised Proposed Submission DM DPD was then published in April 2014.
		At each relevant DM DPD stage a Consultation Statement was published outlining previous comments raised on the DM DPD together with a response setting out how these comments were to be taken into account.
		At each stage of the process, the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) was updated to inform the development management policies and ensure they promoted sustainable development. The SA process assessed alternative options and detailed the evolution of

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		each policy. Respective SA's were published alongside each DM DPD for comment.
 Effective: the plan should be deliverable over its particular to be 'effective' a DPD needs to: Be deliverable Demonstrate sound infrastructure delivery particular to regulatory or national planning be Have delivery partners who are signed up to Be coherent with the strategies of neighbout Demonstrate how the Duty to Co-operate have be flexible Be able to be monitored 	arriers to its delivery o it ring authorities	ategic priorities.
 Deliverable and Coherent Is it clear how the policies will meet the Plan's vision and objectives? Are there any obvious gaps in the policies, having regard to the objectives of the DPD? Are the policies internally consistent? Are there realistic timescales related to the objectives? Does the DPD explain how its key policy objectives will be achieved? 	 Sections of the DPD which address delivery, the means of delivery and the timescales for key developments and initiatives. Confirmation from the relevant agencies that they support the objectives and the identified means of delivery, such as evidence that the plans and programmes of other bodies have been taken into account (e.g. Water Resources Management Plans). Information in the local development scheme, or provided separately, about the scope and content (actual and intended) of each DPD showing how they combine to provide a coherent policy structure. Section in the DPD that shows the linkages between the objectives and the corresponding policies, and consistency between policies (such as through a matrix). 	The Core Strategy contains clear strategic objectives and policies which are derived from its vision and Southend's Community Plan. The DM DPD supports the Core Strategy and the vision and objectives contained within it. The relationship between the Core Strategy policies and DM DPD policies is explained after each individual DM policy in a 'Core Strategy Linkage box'. The Core Strategy contains sections which address implementation, the means of delivery and the timescales for key actions. The DM DPD provides policies to support the aims and objectives of the Core Strategy. All statutory bodies have been given the opportunity to influence the plan, during formal and informal consultations and

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		as part of the Duty to Co-operate.
		The DM DPD takes account of various plans and programmes of other bodies e.g. the Essex and South Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan; Essex Thames Gateway Water Cycle Scoping Study; EPOA Parking Standards; Natural England's Agricultural Land Classification; Thames Gateway South Essex (TGSE) Greengrid Strategy; Thames Gateway Parklands Vision; Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change; HCA's Delivering Quality Places; Thames Gateway Parklands Strategy; Secured by Design; Environment Agencies Land Affected by Contamination: Technical Guidance for Applicants and Developers and Model Procedures for the Management of Land Contamination; The University of Essex Accreditation Scheme; The Code for Sustainable Homes; BREEAM; TGSE Strategic Housing Market Assessment; TGSE SFRA.
		The separately produced Local Development Scheme (LDS) provides information on the scope and content of each DPD. There have been a number of interim updates to the LDS timetable, each one published on the Council's website when in effect.
<i>Infrastructure Delivery</i>Have the infrastructure implications of the	• A section or sections of the DPD where infrastructure needs are identified and the proposed solutions put forward.	The Core Strategy contains sections which address implementation, the means of delivery, monitoring and

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
 policies clearly been identified? Are the delivery mechanisms and timescales for implementation of the policies clearly identified? Is it clear who is going to deliver the required infrastructure and does the timing of the provision complement the timescale of the policies? 	 A schedule setting out responsibilities for delivery, mechanisms and timescales, and related to a CIL schedule where appropriate. Confirmation from infrastructure providers that they support the solutions proposed and the identified means and timescales for their delivery, or a plan for resolving issues. Demonstrable plan-wide viability, particularly in relation to the delivery of affordable housing and the role of a CIL schedule. 	timescales. The DM DPD provides policies to support the aims and objectives of the Core Strategy. Infrastructure delivery and the role of a CIL schedule are matters dealt with separately to the DM DPD. Currently, the Council is in the process of producing a CIL charging schedule, also subject of a viability appraisal, which is expected to be adopted in 2015.
		The Southend Combined Policy Viability Study (2013) has informed the DM DPD by assessing the viability of its policies, alongside the adopted Core Strategy and other relevant national policies. The policies are not considered to have a detrimental effect on the delivery of development in Southend.
<i>Co-ordinated Planning</i> Does the DPD reflect the concept of spatial planning? Does it go beyond traditional land use planning by bringing together and integrating policies for development and the use of land with other policies and programmes from a variety of agencies / organisations that influence the nature of places and how they function?	 Sections of the DPD that reflect the plans or strategies of the local authority and other bodies Policies which seek to pull together different policy objectives Expressions of support/representations from bodies responsible for other strategies affecting the area 	Spatial planning is integral to the strategy for Southend-on-Sea as set out in the adopted Core Strategy, from which the DM DPD has been derived. The Core Strategy describes the vision of Southend and shows how the spatial planning elements of the Southend Community Plan can be achieved. The Core Strategy contains detail about development and change in the area, setting out broad locations for growth but also addressing wider issues such as improving health and well-being and facilitating job growth.

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		The DM DPD interprets these principles and takes account of a wide range of plans and strategies that have been scoped and assessed through the SA process and taken account of in the development of the policies.
		Numerous development management policies seek to pull together different policy objectives. For example, DM10 and 11 seek to contribute towards: the delivery of employment led regeneration; securing the regeneration of Southend as a cultural and intellectual hub, maintaining a balance between employment and housing growth; and securing sustainable regeneration.
		The Duty to Co-operate Statement demonstrates how the Council actively engaged with other local authorities and statutory consultees to ensure the DM DPD reflected the plans of the Council and other bodies, e.g. reference to the Thames Estuary 2100 and Essex and Suffolk Shoreline Management Plan within Section 4: the seafront.
 Flexibility Is the DPD flexible enough to respond to a variety of, or unexpected changes in, circumstances? Does the DPD include the remedial actions that will be taken if the policies need adjustment? 	 Sections of the DPD setting out the assumptions of the plan and identifying the circumstances when policies might need to be reviewed. Sections of the annual monitoring report and sustainability appraisal report describing how the council will monitor: a. the effectiveness of policies and what evidence is being collected to undertake this 	The DM DPD document does not contain policies designed to govern the rate at which development occurs. These types of strategic level policies are addressed in the Core Strategy. In line with the NPPF and the findings of the Southend-on-Sea Combined Policy

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
	 b. changes affecting the baseline information and any information on trends on which the DPD is based Risk analysis of the strategy and policies to demonstrate robustness and how the plan could cope with changing circumstances Sections within the DPD dealing with possible change areas and how they would be dealt with, including mechanisms for the rate of development to be increased or slowed and how that would impact on other aspects of the strategy and on infrastructure provision Sections of the DPD identifying the key indicators of success of the strategy, and the remedial actions which will be taken if adjustment is required. 	Viability Study (2013) the DM DPD applies a flexible approach, grounded in an understanding of viability, to the application of a number of policies that have a cost implication to ensure that the policy can effectively facilitate planned growth throughout economic cycles. Appendix 1 sets out a 'Monitoring Framework'. This sets out how the Council intends to monitor the effectiveness of certain development management policies on an annual basis. Policies can then be reviewed depending upon the results of annual monitoring about their effectiveness.
 Co-operation Is there sufficient evidence to demonstrate that the Duty to Co-operate has been undertaken appropriately for the plan being examined? Is it clear who is intended to implement each part of the DPD? Where the actions required are outside the direct control of the LPA, is there evidence that there is the necessary commitment from the relevant organisation to the implementation of the policies? 	 A succinct Duty to Co-operate Statement which flows from the strategic issues that have been addressed jointly. A 'tick box' approach or a collection of correspondence is not sufficient, and it needs to be shown (where appropriate) if joint plan-making arrangements have been considered, what decisions were reached and why. The Duty to Co-operate Statement could highlight: the sharing of ideas, evidence and pooling of resources; the practical policy outcomes of co-operation; how decisions were reached and why; and evidence of having effectively co-operated to plan for issues which need other ogransations to deliver on, common objectives for elements of strategy and policy; a memorandum of understanding; aligned or joint core strategies and liaison with other consultees as appropriate. 	A Duty to Co-operate Statement accompanies the DM DPD document. It succinctly documents how, when and with whom the Council has engaged with during the production of the DM DPD as well as the outcomes of this engagement process. As recorded in the Statement, there were no issues of a cross-boundary nature identified as a result of the policies contained in the Document, primarily due to its non- strategic nature. These were already addressed through the Core Strategy. The Statement clearly highlights the working groups where the sharing of ideas, best practice and methodologies is commonplace and gives details of the practical policy outcomes of co-

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
		operative work e.g. joint working on the Essex and Southend Waste Local Plan and London Southend Airport AAP.
		The Core Strategy contains sections which address implementation, the means of delivery and timescales. It also aims to secure the delivery of its strategic objectives through all relevant delivery bodies and their strategies. The DM DPD provides policies to support the aims and objectives of the Core Strategy.
 Monitoring Does the DPD contain targets, and milestones which relate to the delivery of the policies, (including housing trajectories where the DPD contains housing allocations)? Is it clear how targets are to be measured (by when, how and by whom) and are these linked to the production of the annual monitoring report? Is it clear how the significant effects identified in the sustainability appraisal report will be taken forward in the ongoing monitoring of the implementation of the plan, through the annual monitoring report? 	 Sections of the DPD setting out indicators, targets and milestones Sections of the current annual monitoring report which report on indicators, targets, milestones and trajectories Reference to any other reports or technical documents which contain information on the delivery of policies Sections of the current annual monitoring report and the sustainability appraisal report setting out the framework for monitoring, including monitoring the effects of the DPD against the sustainability appraisal 	The adopted Core Strategy sets out indicators and targets in order to monitor and manage the effective delivery of the strategic vision for the Borough. Appendix 1 of the DM DPD sets out a 'Monitoring Framework'. This sets out how the Council intends to monitor the effectiveness of certain development management policies on an annual basis. Policies can then be reviewed depending upon the results of annual monitoring.
Consistent with national policy: the plan should enable the delivery of sustainable development in accordance with the policies in the Framework. The DPD should not contradict or ignore national policy. Where there is a departure, there must be clear and convincing reasoning to justify the approach		
taken.		
 Does the DPD contain any policies or proposals which are not consistent with national policy and, if so, is there local justification? Does the DPD contain policies that do not add 	 Sections of the DPD which explain where and how national policy has been elaborated upon and the reasons. Studies forming evidence for the DPD or, where appropriate, other information which provides the rationale 	The plan follows national policy (and higher level strategic policy in the Core Strategy) and applies it locally.

Soundness Test and Key Requirements	Possible Evidence	Evidence Provided
anything to existing national guidance? If so, why have these been included?	 for departing from national policy. Evidence provided from the sustainability appraisal (including reference to the sustainability report) and/or from the results of community involvement. Reports or copies of correspondence as to how representations have been considered and dealt with. 	The plan is generally consistent with core planning principles and policies in the NPPF. The responses to questions in the first part of this assessment show how the DM DPD achieves this consistency.