Sustainability Appraisal of the Slough Local Plan

Scoping Report

November 2016

Sustainability Appraisal of the Slough Local Plan

Scoping Report

LC-246	Document Control Box
Client	Slough Borough Council
Report Title	Sustainability Appraisal of the Slough Local Plan
Status	Draft
Filename	LC-246_Slough_SA_Scoping_Report_15_231116RB.docx
Date	November 2016
Author	WPE, SBC
Reviewed	RWB, PJH
Approved	NJD

Front cover: Detail of the roof at Slough Railway Station by Matt Buck

About this report & notes for readers

SA is a tool for predicting potential significant effects. The actual effects may be different from those identified. Prediction of effects is made using an evidence-based approach and incorporates a judgement.

This Scoping Report is based on the best available information, including that provided to Lepus by the Council and information that is publicly available. No attempt to verify these secondary data sources has been made and they have assumed to be accurate as published. This scoping report was prepared in November 2016 and is subject to and limited by the information available during this time.

This report has been produced to identify the scope and level of detail required in the Environmental Report for the Slough Local Plan and meets the requirements of the SEA Directive. It is not intended to be a substitute for Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA), Appropriate Assessment (AA) or the Habitat Regulations Assessment.

Information on the consultation on this draft Scoping Report is given overleaf.

Consultation on the Draft Scoping Report

This document is a draft scoping report, the purpose of which is to identify the scope and level of detail required in the Environmental Report for the Slough Local Plan 2016-2036. An Environmental Report to assess the significant environmental impacts of Slough's Local Plan is required under the Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal regulations. The first stage of this process is to consult on the draft Scoping Report in order that the Environmental Report is fit for purpose. Slough Borough Council is now seeking the views of the Consultation Bodies (Natural England, English Heritage and the Environment Agency) on this draft scoping report.

The Council is also consulting adjoining Councils under the Duty to Cooperate for cross boundary issues, and internal departments for the accuracy of information.

The results of the consultation will be used to inform the final scoping report.

A series of questions are provided in the table below.

Consultation questions	
Q1.	Are there other relevant policies, plans and programmes that will affect or influence the Local Plan (e.g. its Vision, Objectives, Issues and Options, Preferred Option or Site Allocations)?
Q2.	Do you agree that the baseline data collected is appropriate?
Q3.	Do you have, or know of, any additional relevant baseline data which should be added to that already listed?
Q4.	As far as you are aware, are there any inaccuracies or anomalies in the data presented?
Q5	Do you agree with those topics which have been scoped out?
Q6.	Do you agree that the principal social, economic and environmental issues relevant for the Local Plan for Slough have been identified?
Q7.	Are you aware of any issues which in your opinion should be added, or any that should be removed?
Q8.	Are the objectives suitable in the context of Slough?

Q9	Are there any additional objectives that should be included or any that should be removed in the context of what the plan is seeking to achieve?
Q10	Do you have any comments on the SEA Framework?

This consultation will be open for 5 weeks from 30th November 2016 until 5th January 2017.

Responses should be received by 5th January 2017.

Responses and any comments about this consultation should be sent to:

Planning Policy
SMP 2FW
51 Bath Road
SL1 3UF

Email: Planningpolicy@slough.gov.uk

(Please do not send to Lepus Consulting)

Contents

Appendix A: Draft SA Framework

Appendix B: PPP Review

Acronyms

AQMA	Air Quality Management Area
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan
BC	Borough Council
CAMS	Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy
CO$_2$	Carbon Dioxide
CC	County Council
DCLG	Department of Communities and Local Government
DECC	Department of Energy and Climate Change
DEFRA	Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
EU	European Union
GIS	Geographic Information Systems
GWh	Gigawatt-hours
HS2	High Speed 2 rail line
IMD	Index of Multiple Deprivation
km	Kilometres
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
LSOA	Lower Super Output Area
LWS	Local Wildlife Site
MWh	Megawatt-hours
NO$_2$	Nitrogen Dioxide
NPFA	National Playing Field Association
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
ODPM	Office of the Deputy Prime Minister
ONS	Office of National Statistics
PM$_{10}$	Particulate Matter (10 stands for Particulate Matter up to 10 micrometres in size)
PPP	Policies, Plans and Programmes
PRoW	Public Rights of Way
SA	Sustainability Appraisal
SAM	Scheduled Ancient Monument
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SFRA	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
SOA	Super Output Area
SPZ	Source Protection Zone
SUDS	Sustainable Drainage System
UK	United Kingdom
UKCP09	UK Climate Projections 2009
WRMP	Water Resource Management Plan

List of Figures

List of Tables

1 Introduction

1.1 This report

1.1.1 Slough Borough Council is currently preparing a Local Plan. As part of the process, a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) is being undertaken. This Scoping Report has been prepared as the first stage of the SA process in order to inform the environmental assessment of the plan. This draft SA Scoping report has been published for consultation with the consultation bodies as required by Regulation 12 (5) of the UK Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Regulations 2004.

1.1.2 The plan will cover the administrative boundary of Slough Borough Council (See **Figure 1.1**), but also look to areas beyond it (see **section 2.4**).

1.1.3 Details of consultation on this document are provided above.

1.2 Habitat Regulations Assessment

1.2.1 In assessing the effects of a plan/programme upon the environment, consideration must be given to whether the plan/programme (either alone or in association with other plans/programmes) would significantly affect a Natura 2000 site. Natura 2000 sites are those designated by the EC Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds 79/409/EEC (1979) and the EC Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats of Wild Fauna and Flora 92/43/EC (1992) and relate to Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas.

1.2.2 Therefore, a Habitats Regulations Assessment screening report will be prepared to determine whether the Local Plan will have any significant effects on a European site. Slough may work with South Bucks and Chiltern District Councils on the HRA.

1.3 Slough

1.3.1 Slough is a predominantly urban borough situated in the Thames Valley on the north-eastern boundary of Berkshire and approximately 20 miles to the west of London. The administrative boundary is shown on the adjacent figure: it shares borders with the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead, South Bucks District Council (Buckinghamshire CC), London Borough of Hillingdon and Spelthorne Borough Council (Surrey CC).

1.3.2   The borough of Slough has an area of 32,124.76 square meters[1] and a population of 144,575 in 2014 which is expected to grow to 169,614 in 2036[2]. This is an increase of 17%.

Figure 1.1: Borough of Slough[3]

---

[1] ONS (2005) Key Figures for Physical Environment. Available at:
http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/LeadKeyFigures.do?a=7&b=6275234&c=slou
gh&d=13&e=8&g=6397889&i=1001x1003x1004&m=0&r=1&s=1462799653758&enc=1
[2] ONS (2016) Subnational population projections for England: 2014-based projections. Accessed on
25/07/16. Available at:
https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationprojectio
ns/bulletins/subnationalpopulationprojectionsforengland/2014basedprojections
[3] Natural England (2016) Magic. Available at: http://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx

1.4   Sustainability Appraisal (SA)

1.4.1   This document constitutes the SA Scoping Report for the Slough Local Plan.   This represents Stage A of SA, according to the PAS (2007) Guidance on Sustainability Appraisal.

1.4.2   A sustainability appraisal is a systematic process that must be carried out during the preparation of a Local Plan. Its role is to promote sustainable development by assessing the extent to which the emerging plan will help to achieve relevant environmental, economic and social objectives.

1.4.3   This process is an opportunity to consider ways by which the plan can contribute to improvements in environmental, social and economic conditions, as well as a means of identifying and mitigating any potential adverse effects that the plan might otherwise have. By doing so it can help make sure that the proposals in the plan are the most appropriate given the reasonable alternatives. Sustainability appraisal should be applied as an iterative process informing the development of the Local Plan.[4]

1.5   The SA Process

1.5.1   This report is the first stage of the SA process, which has been prepared to provide baseline evidence in order to allow an informative approach to identify the scope and level of detail required in the sustainability appraisal.

1.6   An integrated approach to Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment

1.6.1   The European Union Directive 2001/42/EC or 'SEA Directive' applies to a wide range of public plans and programmes on land use, energy, waste, agriculture, transport etc. (see Article 3(2) of the Directive for other plan or programme types). The SEA procedure can be summarised as follows: an environmental report is prepared in which the likely significant effects on the environment and the reasonable alternatives of the proposed plan or programme are identified. The public and the relevant environmental authorities are informed and consulted on the draft plan or programme and the environmental report prepared.

1.6.2   The Directive has been transposed into English law by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the SEA Regulations, SI no. 1633).

---

[4] PPG Paragraph: 001 Reference ID: 11-001-20140306

1.6.3   Under the requirements of the SEA Directive and Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations (2004), specific types of plans that set the framework for the future development consent of projects, must be subject to an environmental assessment. Therefore it is a legal requirement for the plan to be subject to SA and SEA throughout its preparation.

1.6.4   Sustainability Appraisal is a UK-specific procedure used to appraise the impacts and effects of development plans in the UK. It is required by S19(5) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and should be an appraisal of the economic, social and environmental sustainability of development plans. The present statutory requirement for SA lays in The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. SA is a systematic process for evaluating the environmental consequences of proposed plans or programmes to ensure environmental issues are fully integrated and addressed at the earliest appropriate stage of decision-making.

1.7   Best Practice Guidance

1.7.1   The requirements to carry out SA and SEA are distinct, although it is possible to satisfy both obligations using a single appraisal process. Government policy recommends that both SA and SEA are undertaken under a single sustainability appraisal process, which incorporates the requirements of the SEA Directive. This is to be achieved through integrating the requirements of SEA into the SA process. The approach for carrying out an integrated SA and SEA is based on best practice guidance:

- Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (September 2005): A Practical Guide to the SEA Directive; and
- Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG; 2013) National Planning Practice Guidance - Strategic environmental assessment and sustainability appraisal; web based guidance to accompany the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) including guidance on the SEA/SA process

1.7.2   Recently, DCLG released web-based guidance to accompany the NPPF. This includes information on the SA and SEA processes[5].

---

[5] DCLG (2016) Planning practice guidance. Available at:
http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/blog/guidance/

1.8   The Slough Local Plan

1.8.1   Slough Borough Council are preparing a new Local Plan for the borough. The Local Plan will set out the vision, spatial strategy and strategic objectives for the borough, site allocations and development management policies.

1.8.2   The Plan will have to set out how to balance competing pressures for development, particularly in how to deliver its Objectively Assessed Housing Need and employment land requirements to meet its economic potential in a balanced and sustainable way over the lifetime of the Plan.

Table 1.1: Key Facts Relating to the Local Plan

Name of Responsible Authority	Slough Borough Council
Title of plan	Slough Local Plan
What prompted the plan (e.g. legislative, regulatory or administrative provision)	The Local Plan is being developed in accordance with the requirements of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and the The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2012. It will replace the Core Strategy 2006 – 2026 adopted in December 2008 Adopted, the Site Allocations Development Plan Document adopted in November 2010 and saved policies from the Slough Local Plan adopted in March 2004.
Area covered by the plan	The borough of Slough
Purpose and/ or objectives of the plan	The Local Plan will set out the spatial planning strategy for the borough of Slough, having due regard to other strategies and programmes in the borough such as the Slough Five year Plan and the Sustainable Communities Strategy. The Local Plan will include an overall strategy for how and where development should take place in the borough; locations of new homes, services and employment sites; and how communities can meet their needs for housing and development. The Local Plan will form the main guide towards future development in the borough.
Plan contact point	Planning Policy Planning Department Slough Borough Council St Martins Place 51 Bath Road Slough, SL1 3UF Telephone: 01753 875863 Email: planningpolicy@slough.gov.uk

2   Presenting the Sustainability Information

2.1   Introduction

2.1.1   Scoping is represented by Stage A of the SA process in Figure 2.1. This report presents information about:

- Identifying other relevant plans, programmes and environmental protection objectives;
- Collecting baseline information;
- Identifying sustainability problems and key issues;
- Preparing the SA Framework; and
- Consultation arrangements on the scope of SA with the consultation bodies.

2.1.2   The policy and plan review, the baseline data, and the identification of sustainability issues have been presented via a series of sustainability themes.

2.1.3   These sustainability themes incorporate the topics listed in Annex 1(f) of the SEA Directive as well as other issues key to Slough Borough Council. Consequently the broad and effective range of sustainability themes are covered by the appraisal process, as follows:

- Biodiversity, flora and fauna;
- Population;
- Human health;
- Soil;
- Water;
- Air;
- Climatic factors;
- Material assets;
- Cultural heritage (including architectural and archaeological heritage);
- Landscape; and
- The inter-relationship between these factors.

2.1.4   **Table 2.1** presents details of what each sustainability theme includes, in terms of content and specifically, details of the required SEA topic.

2.1.5   It is anticipated that presenting the information through these sustainability themes will help enable the reader to easily locate the SA/SEA information relevant to their specific areas of interest.

Sustainability appraisal process

Stage A: Setting the context and objectives, establishing the baseline and deciding on the scope
1. Identify other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives
2. Collect baseline information
3. Identify sustainability issues and problems
4. Develop the sustainability appraisal framework
5. Consult the consultation bodies on the scope of the sustainability appraisal report

Stage B: Developing and refining alternatives and assessing effects
1. Test the Local Plan objectives against the sustainability appraisal framework
2. Develop the Local Plan options including reasonable alternatives
3. Evaluate the likely effects of the Local Plan and alternatives
4. Consider ways of mitigating adverse effects and maximising beneficial effects
5. Propose measures to monitor the significant effects of implementing the Local Plan

Stage C: Prepare the sustainability appraisal report

Stage D: Seek representations on the sustainability appraisal report from consultation bodies and the public

Stage E: Post adoption reporting and monitoring
1. Prepare and publish post-adoption statement
2. Monitor significant effects of implementing the Local Plan
3. Respond to adverse effects

Local Plan preparation

Evidence gathering and engagement

Consult on Local Plan in preparation (regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012). Consultation may be undertaken more than once if the Local Planning Authority considers necessary.

Stage C: Prepare the publication version of the Local Plan

Seek representations on the publication Local Plan (regulation 19) from consultation bodies and the public

Submit draft Local Plan and supporting documents for independent examination

Outcome of examination Consider implications for SA/SEA compliance

Local Plan Adopted

Monitoring Monitor and report on the implementation of the Local Plan

Figure 2.1: Stages in the SA process

Table 2.1: Sustainability themes

Sustainability theme	SEA topic included in EU Directive 2001/42/EC	What is included in the sustainability theme?
Accessibility and transportation	Population	Transportation infrastructure; Traffic flows; Walking and cycling; Accessibility.
Air quality	Air	Air pollution sources; Air quality hotspots; Air quality management.
Biodiversity and geodiversity	Biodiversity flora and fauna	Habitats; Species; Nature conservation designations; Landscape features; Geological features.
Climate change adaptation and mitigation	Climatic factors	Greenhouse gas emissions by source; Greenhouse gas emissions trends; Effects of climate change; Climate change adaptation; Flooding.
Economic factors	Material assets	Economic Development Need Economic performance; Business start-ups; Employment and earnings; Skills, education and unemployment; Sites and premises.
Health and wellbeing	Human health	Health indicators; Healthcare inequalities; Sport, fitness and activity levels.
Historic environment	Cultural heritage	Historic development of the town; Designated and non-designated sites and areas; Setting of cultural heritage assets; Historic landscape character assessment; Archaeological assets.
Housing	Population Material assets	Housing need: numbers, types, tenures House prices and affordability; Housing quality and vacancy rates; Homelessness.
Landscape and townscape	Landscape	Landscape designations; Visual amenity; Landscape/townscape character; Tranquillity.
Material assets	Material assets	Renewable energy; Waste arisings and recycling rates; Minerals; Previously developed land.

| Population and quality of life | Population | Population size and migration;
Population density;
Age structure;
Indices of Multiple Deprivation;
Unemployment;
Crime;
Recreation and amenity (including open space and green infrastructure). |
| Water and Soil | Soil
Water | Soils;
Watercourses;
Water resources;
Water quality;
Contaminated land. |

2.2 Policy, plan and programme review

2.2.1 The plan may be influenced in various ways by other policies, plans or programmes (PPPs), or by external sustainability objectives such as those put forward in higher strategies or by legislation. The SA/SEA process will take advantage of potential synergies between these PPPs and address any inconsistencies and constraints.

2.2.2 A summary of the PPP review is presented in the following chapters under each sustainability theme. It is important that the PPP summaries should be read alongside the more detailed and Slough specific information included in **Appendix B.** The review of PPPs is presented according to the SEA topics discussed in **Section 2.1.**

2.3 Baseline data collection

2.3.1 The following chapters present a review of current environmental and socio-economic conditions affecting Slough by sustainability theme. The purpose of the baseline review is to help define the key sustainability issues for the plan and likely evolution of the baseline without the plan. This enables the predicted effects of the different options for the plan to be effectively appraised and for identification of how significant issues may affect the aims of the Plan (PPG Paragraph: 016 Reference ID: 11-016-2014030). A summary of the latter is provided in paragraph 2.5 below.

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

- Inform the situation at the local level;
- Be the most up to date; and
- Be fit for purpose.

2.3.3   One of the purposes of consultation on the Scoping Report is to seek views on whether the data selected is appropriate. The baseline has been constructed utilising a wide range of data sources, with GIS (Geographic Information Systems) data where available. The data has been presented through tables, text and GIS mapping, and all data sources have been referenced as appropriate.   Meaningful data for the purposes of comparison and to address the topics being assessed as part of the SA processes is not always available. Where data is available at a local scale it has been used to inform the scoping process, if borough-wide is not available, regional information has been used. Where this is the case, it is clearly stated.

2.4   Key sustainability issues

2.4.1   Drawing on the PPP review and the baseline data, Chapters 3 to 14 set out a series of key sustainability issues relevant for the Slough Local Plan 2016-2036. The identification of these will help the SA process focus on the key sustainability problems and opportunities, which may be addressed through the plan.

2.4.2   Slough's aspiration is to meet its housing needs in full as close to where they arise as possible. If the full housing, employment and infrastructure needs of the Borough cannot be met within the Borough Boundary planning guidance advises using the Duty to Cooperate to assess if these can be met elsewhere, The SA scoping report therefore seeks to support the assessment of policies in the Plan by considering the relative sustainability of meeting Slough's need within the Borough, outside the Borough (either adjoining or further away), or not meeting the need in full.   It is important to note alongside this that the delivery of development outside the Borough cannot be brought forward by Slough and is dependent on Duty to Cooperate discussions.

2.5   Future evolution   without the Plan

2.5.1   As set out in 2.3.1 part of the SA process is to identify the evolution of the area without the Plan. Subject specific issues are presented here in the 'Key Issues' boxes at the end of each topic. The overarching issues can be summarised as:

- The Population is growing (the high proportion of under 10's in Slough will be growing up) so there will be increasing pressure for housing, jobs and supporting infrastructure. Without a plan to accommodate this, development may not be comprehensively planned and have negative impact on Slough's existing communities and environment.

- Slough has very little land available for development, without a new strategy to accommodate growth in a balanced way the quality of the environment is at risk from deteriorating (e.g. congestion, noise, amenity) and the area and quality of informal and protected natural areas reduce/ decline.

- Expansion at Heathrow airport has a major influence on Slough's residential and business communities, without a plan to address the potentially negative impacts on the environment the benefits of growth may not be sustainable.

- The town centre is at risk from decline, without a policy response to utilise this for offices, leisure and retail provision to support our residential and business communities the development potential and global accessibility of sites in this area and across Slough may not be realised.

- Slough is one of the best located towns in the region and has many strengths but its poor image can impact on viability, the quality of new development and the sense of pride and custodianship people feel for their local areas. Without policy led measures to improve design and placemaking, especially for higher density developments, new development may fail to deliver comprehensive regeneration and benefit from / generate the best uplift in land values.

- The Government's announcement of its support for expansion at Heathrow (October 2016) has implications for the content and timing of Slough's Local Plan, and the Council will liaise with the DCLG to address this. The Council is also a member of the Heathrow Strategic Planning Group convened by Hounslow Council and working with all the adjoining authorities and other stakeholders to meet the Duty to Cooperate. The terms of reference for the group include support for a vision document and working together to maximise the benefits of expansion and mitigate for the negative impacts in the region.

3 Accessibility and Transport

3.1 Summary of policy, plan and programme review

3.1.1 European and UK transport policies and plans place emphasis on the modernisation and sustainability of the transport network. Specific objectives include reducing pollution and road congestion through improvements to public transport, walking and cycling networks and reducing the need to travel. National policy also focuses on the need for the transport network to support sustainable economic growth.

3.1.2 Additionally transport is recognized to have a key role to play in reducing carbon emissions and the impact on the natural environment. Local plans therefore focus on appropriate design, location and layout of development, increasing investment in infrastructure, improving the quality, equality and accessibility of public transport, supporting walking and cycling, enhancing road safety and reducing the amount of emissions produced by transportation.

3.1.3 The PPPs highlight that congestion on roads, railways, airports and ports continues to be a key challenge for the South East[6]. Local plans therefore focus on meeting transport needs more effectively through improved access to jobs and services, particularly for those most in need, in ways which are sustainable: improved public transport, walking, cycling, reduced problems of congestion, pollution and safety.

3.1.4 In 2006 the Department for Transport (DfT) produced the Transport's Role in Sustaining the UK's Productivity and Competitiveness report. This document encouraged local transport authorities to develop a robust evidence base when planning transport. . The Department for Transport 2011 White Paper 'Creating Growth, Cutting Carbon' sets out the Government's vision for local transport. Key mechanisms for achieving the vision are: 'making public transport and cycling and walking more attractive and effective, promoting lower carbon transport and tackling local road congestion'.

---

[6] Institute of Civil Engineers, South East England (2013) The State of the Nation: Transport 2013. Available at: https://www.ice.org.uk/getattachment/media-and-policy/policy/state-of-the-nation-transport-2013/SonTransport2013.pdf.aspx

3.1.5   Slough's Third Local Transport Plan (LTP3)[7] highlights the need for the transport network to support sustainable growth, the competitiveness of the economy, and to help sustain the high quality of life of local residents. These issues need to be addressed whilst responding to climate change issues.

3.1.6   The main challenges for Slough is schools and daily traffic movements with approximately 40,000 journeys made into Slough and 30,000 out every day. Traffic is continuing to grow and as mitigation the existing local plan seeks for all new developments to address their impact e.g. through improvements on the road network.

3.1.7   The Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) has invested circa £5m in Slough, of which a considerable proportion was invested in workplace and school behavioural change. Some changes to modal shift have occurred in areas specifically around schools through the provision of cycling and walking facilities however for some residents the private car is seen as a status symbol and the only way to travel.

3.1.8   Over the next 5 years there are several major national strategic projects that will impact on Slough: Smart Motorways between junction 12 and 3 of the M4, the Heathrow Express depot, gravel extraction sites around Slough and Western Rail Link to Heathrow. Crossrail will also be arriving at the end of 2019.

3.1.9   More information about the investment the council has put into addressing the problems is available online at:

http://www.slough.gov.uk/parking-travel-and-roads/plans-for-the-future.aspx

---

[7] Slough Borough Council (2011) Slough's Third Local Transport Plan. Available at:
http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/Third-LTP-Core-Strategy.pdf

3.2   Slough Borough: Baseline data

Road network

Figure 3.1 Road network surrounding Slough[8]

Figure 3.1 shows that the M4 motorway passes through the Slough borough and the M25 motorway runs adjacent to the eastern boundary of the borough. Traffic entering and leaving the M4 motorway at Junctions 5, 6 and 7 regularly causes queuing and road congestion on the M4 and the local road network in Slough[9].

---

[8] Natural England (2016) Magic, available at: http://www.magic.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx
[9] Slough Borough Council (2011) Slough's Third Local Transport Plan. Available at:
http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/Third-LTP-Core-Strategy.pdf

3.2.1   Within Slough, the primary east/west non-motorway route is the A4. The main north/south links in Slough are the A355, A332 and the A412. A network of B, C and unclassified roads link these roads together and connect the local communities in the borough. During peak periods, there are high levels of traffic congestion in Slough caused by capacity problems at junctions, particularly on the A4. Congestion in Slough is caused primarily by schools traffic in the morning and evening peaks, which is compounded by inward and outward commuting (two thirds of residents commute to work by car[10]), by deliveries to and from businesses and service facilities in the town. Through traffic also causes a problem when the M4 is closed and traffic diverts along the A4 and through the town centre. Colnbrook in the east also particularly suffers from HGV traffic in the area associated with the industrial uses located there.

3.2.2   Slough's Third Local Transport Plan (2011) sets out clear objectives for dealing with transport issues, problems and challenges within the borough. It is not a stand-alone strategy but instead draws on a number of national, regional and local planning and transportation policy documents to ensure that the Local Transport Plan guides the delivery of wider objectives.

3.2.3   Stakeholders suggested that in relation to the climate change goal set out by the DfT, it was necessary to reduce the need to travel through spatial planning, maximise the impact of low carbon technologies, facilitate and provide information on lower carbon transport choices. Greener alternatives must be provided and promoted along with good public transport provision, better urban design and reliable information. The 2011 White Paper[11] envisages that local transport systems will be 'greener, particularly in terms of reducing CO_2 emissions'.

Rail network

3.2.4   There is good access to the rail network within Slough. Access to the Great Western Main Line (to Bristol and Paddington) can be gained at Burnham, Langley and Slough. The train journey from Slough railway station to London Paddington currently varies between 14 minutes for fast non-stop services to over 30 minutes for stopping services. The Slough to Windsor & Eton Line is accessible via Slough railway station.

---

[10] Slough Borough Council (2011) Slough's Third Local Transport Plan. Available at: http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/Third-LTP-Core-Strategy.pdf
[11] 'Creating Growth, Cutting Carbon' DfT January 2011

3.2.5   The fast Great Western services that currently call at Slough station are expected to continue. The stopping services at Slough, Langley and Burnham will be replaced by Crossrail, which is a new high-frequency, high capacity rail service for London and the South East. The Elizabeth Line service is expected to begin full operation in 2019. The service will stop at all three of the Borough's stations, providing quicker and more efficient transport links to central London[12].   Other significant rail investment plans include:

- Electrification of the Great Western Main Line and the Windsor branch line (completion due by 2019);
- HS2 Ltd scheme to construct a depot for Heathrow Express at Langley (completion due by the end of 2019); and
- Construction of the Western Rail Link to Heathrow (substantially in tunnel and due for completion in 2024).

Airports

3.2.6   Heathrow Airport is located approximately 0.5 miles from the southeastern border of the borough of Slough with the community of Poyle some 0.75 miles from the northern runway and Terminal 5. Many commercial firms in Slough look to Heathrow as a major source of business and as an international gateway (particularly in Poyle trading estate in the east of the Borough, and the Slough Trading Estate in the west). Many Slough residents commute to Heathrow for work. The airport's Sustainable Transport Plan[13] aims to increase the number of journeys made to and from Heathrow by public transport; it also promotes cycling and car sharing for airport workers.

3.2.7   The Airports Commission set up by the Government to report on ways of providing new airport capacity to maintain the UK's status as a global hub for aviation assessed two options for new capacity at Heathrow. In its 2015 final report[14] the Commission concluded that a third, north western, runway at Heathrow; 'in combination with a significant package of measures to address environmental and community impacts presents the strongest case'. The 'Northwest Runway' proposal would extend the airport boundary into the Borough of Slough.

3.2.8   Development at Heathrow will have a significant impact on the Local Plan. The Government announced its support for a third runway at Heathrow on 25th October 2016.

---

[12] http://www.crossrail.co.uk/

[13] Sustainable Transport Plan 2014-2019, Heathrow Airport Ltd

[14] Airports Commission Final Report July 2015

3.2.9   Airport expansion will be delivered through a thorough, faster planning process, under the 2008 Planning Act and 2011 Localism Act. The government will set out the airport scheme it wants, along with supporting evidence, in a National Policy Statement. The public and Members of Parliament will be consulted and there will be a vote in the House of Commons. This will be followed by a planning application [a development consent order or DCO] by the airport to the Planning Inspector who will take a view and advise government of his decision. Final sign off will be by the Secretary of State for Transport and then construction will start.

Public rights of way and cycle routes

3.2.10   There are public rights of way within the built up area of Slough as well as linking it to adjacent open areas and countryside. Colne Valley Way crosses through the eastern area of the borough of Slough and the towpath of the Grand Union Canal offers recreational opportunities through the northern part of Slough. The Slough Rights of Way Improvement Plan[15] sets out proposals to improve the Borough's network of public footpaths and bridleways.

3.2.11   National Cycle Network Route 461 crosses through Slough and links Farnham Common to Slough and Windsor. Route 61 crosses through Slough and links west to Maidenhead alongside the Jubilee River and north east to Uxbridge and Hatfield, Welwyn Garden City and Hertford before arriving near Hoddesdon. The borough of Slough also contains a local network of traffic-free and on road routes[16]. A scheme is due to be completed in 2017 for a cycle route alongside the A4 to link Slough, Taplow and Maidenhead.

3.2.12   The council has delivered through the LSTF the first cycle hire scheme in the south east outside of London. This has grown from an initial 3 docking stations with 63 bikes to 10 stations and 80 bikes with plans to expand further into residential and leisure locations. Cycling has yet to increase dramatically over the past 5 years even though the cycle infrastructure is very good and the borough of Slough mostly level with few hills.

---

[15] Slough Borough Council. Rights of Way Improvement Plan 2007-2017
[16] Sustrans (2016) Map. Available at: http://www.sustrans.org.uk/ncn/map

Accessibility and public transport
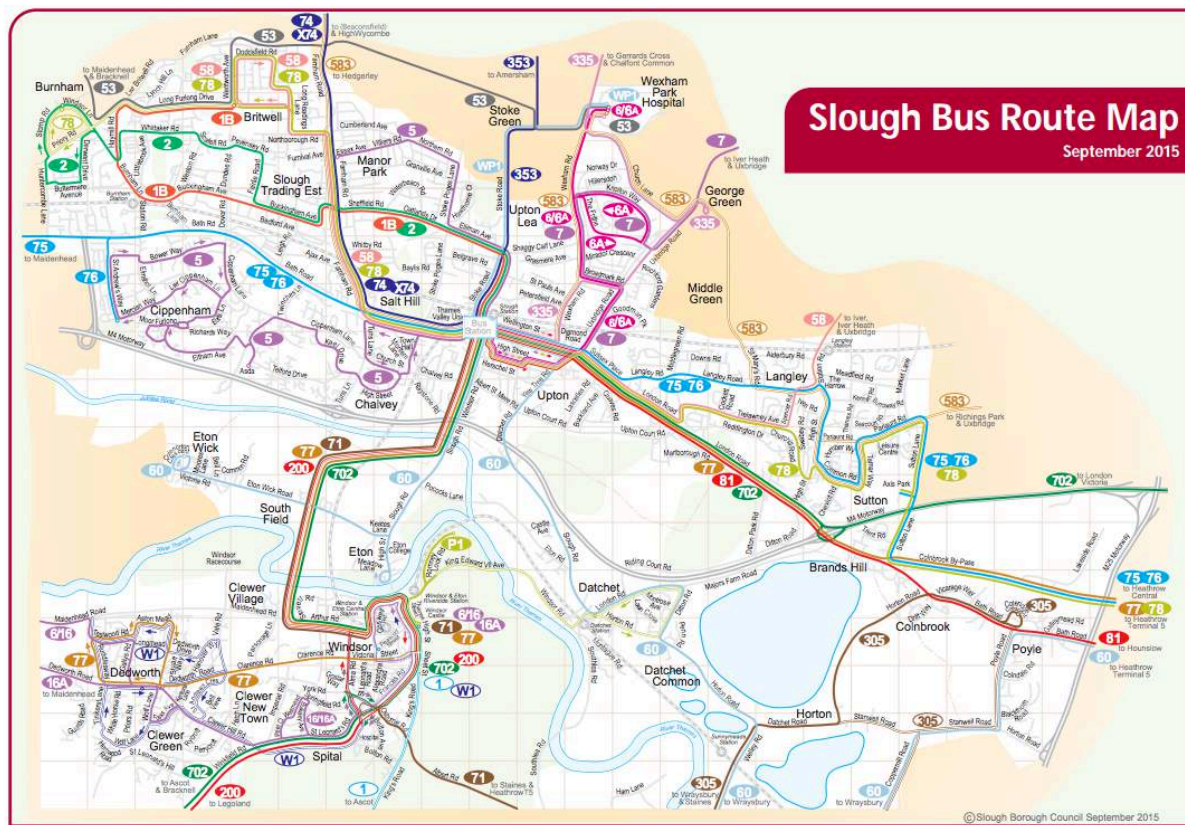
Figure 3.2. Slough Bus Route Map[17]

3.2.13   Slough is served by regular bus service links as well as rail (see 3.2.1 and 3.2.5 above). Bus service providers within the borough include: First Berkshire, Arriva, Redline and Carousel. Key bus services in Slough include numbers 75 and 76 to Heathrow Central and numbers 77, 78 and 60 to Heathrow Terminal 5. Transport for London service 81 also provides a link to the airport. Bus number 702 links Slough to London Victoria. The bus service network in Slough can be seen in Figure 3.2 which illustrates that some buses serve destinations within the built up area whilst other services extend beyond the Borough boundary to Windsor, Maidenhead, Uxbridge and High Wycombe as well as Heathrow.

3.2.14   **Table 3.1** illustrates the method of travel to work of residents in Slough. The information was gained from the 2011 census and includes people not in employment as well as those working at home.

---

[17] Slough Borough Council (2015) Slough bus map and bus station guide. Available at:
https://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/Slough-bus-map-and-station-guide.pdf

Table 3.1 Method of travel to work (all usual residents aged 16 to 74)[18]

Mode of transport	Slough (%)	South East (%)	England (%)
Work mainly at or from home	2.05	4.46	3.47
Underground, Metro, Light Rail, Tram	0.74	0.24	2.64
Train	4.68	4.97	3.46
Bus, Minibus or Coach	5.03	3.03	4.85
Taxi	0.46	0.27	0.34
Motorcycle, Scooter or Moped	0.43	0.58	0.53
Driving a Car or Van	40.92	41.29	36.90
Passenger in a Car or Van	4.11	3.19	3.25
Bicycle	1.60	2.03	1.91
On Foot	6.54	7.39	6.95
Other Method of Travel to Work	0.43	0.45	0.42
Not in Employment	33.01	32.09	35.28

3.2.15 **Table 3.1** shows that the majority of all usual residents aged 16 to 74 in Slough travel to work by car or van at 40.92%. The second most popular method of travel to work is on foot at 6.54%. Almost exactly one third of residents in Slough are not in employment. This is slightly higher than the percentage for the South East and lower than the percentage for England.

3.2.16 Slough experiences high levels of in and out commuting. In 2013/14, almost 9.1 million people used Slough's three railway stations including those interchanging with the branch to Windsor and Eton Central. Approximately 40,000 people commute into Slough to work and 26,000 Slough residents commute to work outside Slough[19].

---

[18] ONS (2013) Method of Travel to Work, 2011. Available at:
http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/LeadTableView.do?a=7&b=6275234&c=slough&d=13&e=61&g=6397889&i=1001x1003x1032x1004&m=0&r=1&s=1462955816578&enc=1&dsFamilyId=2567
[19] Slough Borough Council (2011) Slough's Third Local Transport Plan. Available at:
http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/Third-LTP-Core-Strategy.pdf

Noise

3.2.17   Noise Mitigation of development along strategic road, rail and flight path corridors will need to be 'enhanced' to protect residential amenities and prevent significant impact to health and wellbeing

3.2.18   Road traffic noise from the 'M4', and 'A' route network remains a significant effect and a number of ('Important Areas' as defined by Environmental Noise Directive) have been identified on the M4, 'A' road network, and GWML rail-line. Additional Poyle, Colnbrook, and parts of Langley are significantly affected by aircraft noise from Heathrow. Heathrow expansion, if permitted, will result in the preferred NW 3rd runway crossing the Boundary into Slough and will cause significant noise impact to Langley, Upton, Chalvey and Cippenham.

Box 3.1: Key Accessibility and Transport Issues for Slough
• Private car use causes serious congestion at peak times and from schools traffic.
• Slough is well serviced by a range of transport modes including new rail routes (Western Rail access to Heathrow and Crossrail).
• Strategic rail and motorway schemes are in progress or planned.
• The Government decision on expansion of Heathrow will have a major impact.
• Growth in travel and car use is likely to increase pressure on the road network within Slough.
• Access to the Borough is excellent but the 'last mile' and travel across the Borough is slow.
• Slough experiences high levels of in and out commuting.
• New development is likely to impact on the borough's transport infrastructure and may be a constraint to the Plan's spatial strategy or scale of growth.
• There is a network of pedestrian and cycle routes but a limited number of designated Public Rights of Way within Slough.
• The Duty To Cooperate to address significant effects of transport is partly dependent on issues that are beyond the Council's control such as the timetables for expansion at Heathrow or neighbouring plan adoption timetables.

4   Air Quality

4.1   Summary of policy and plan review

4.1.1   A number of objectives have been established in relation to air quality at both the European and the UK level (emanating from the 1996 EC Directive). This includes the setting of targets for reducing emissions of specific pollutants to minimise negative impacts on health and the environment.

4.1.2   The Environment Act (1995) requires all Local Authorities to Review and Assess the air quality in their area. In areas where the air quality objectives are not anticipated to be met, councils are required to establish Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs).

4.2   Baseline data

4.2.1   Air quality within the borough of Slough is linked to emissions from road traffic and congestion. Following the implementation of the Environment Act 1995, and since the publishing of the National Air Quality Strategy in 1997, Slough has been undertaking reviews and assessments of air quality. This includes assessments for the following pollutants identified as possible risks to human health:

- Carbon Monoxide;
- Benzene;
- 1,3 – Butadiene;
- Lead;
- Nitrogen Dioxide (NO_2);
- Sulphur Dioxide; and
- Particulates (PM_{10}).

4.2.2   There are four designated Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA's) in Slough (see **Figure 4.1**). These were declared in response to predicted exceedances in the national annual mean objectives for NO_2 and PM_{10}.

4.2.3   The first AQMA was designated in 2005. It covers an area encompassing land adjacent to the M4 motorway along the north carriageway between junctions 5 and 7, and along the south carriageway between junction 5 and Sutton Lane[20].

4.2.4   The second AQMA was designated in 2005. It covers an area encompassing the A4 London Road east of junction 5 of the M4 motorway as far as Sutton Lane[21].

4.2.5   The third AQMA was designated in 2011. The Designated Area incorporates the A355 Tuns Lane from junction 6 of the M4 motorway in a northerly direction to just past its junction with the A4 Bath Road and A355 Farnham Road, known as the Three Tuns[22].

4.2.6   The fourth and final AQMA was designated in 2011. The Designated Area incorporates the A4 Bath Road from the junction with Ledgers Road/Stoke Poges Lane, in an easterly direction, along Wellington Street, up to the Sussex Place junction[23].

4.2.7   Slough Borough Council monitors NO_2 and PM_{10} at monitoring stations throughout the borough.

4.2.8   The 2014 Air Quality Progress Report for Slough Borough Council states that the NO_2 annual mean concentrations measured at all automatic continuous monitoring sites within the borough of Slough were all less than the 40 ug.m-3 objective during 2013. Locations where annual mean NO_2 concentrations were above the 40 ug.m-3 objective are all within one of the existing or soon to be amended AQMA boundaries.

---

[20] Slough Borough Council (2005) Air Quality Management (NO 1) Order 2005. Available at:
http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/aqman_order1.pdf
[21] Slough Borough Council (2005) Air Quality Management (NO 2) Order 2005. Available at:
http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/aqman_order2.pdf
[22] Slough Borough Council (2011) Air Quality Management (NO 3) Order 2011
http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/aqman_order3.pdf
[23] Slough Borough Council (2011) Air Quality Management (NO 4) Order 2011
http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/aqman_order4.pdf
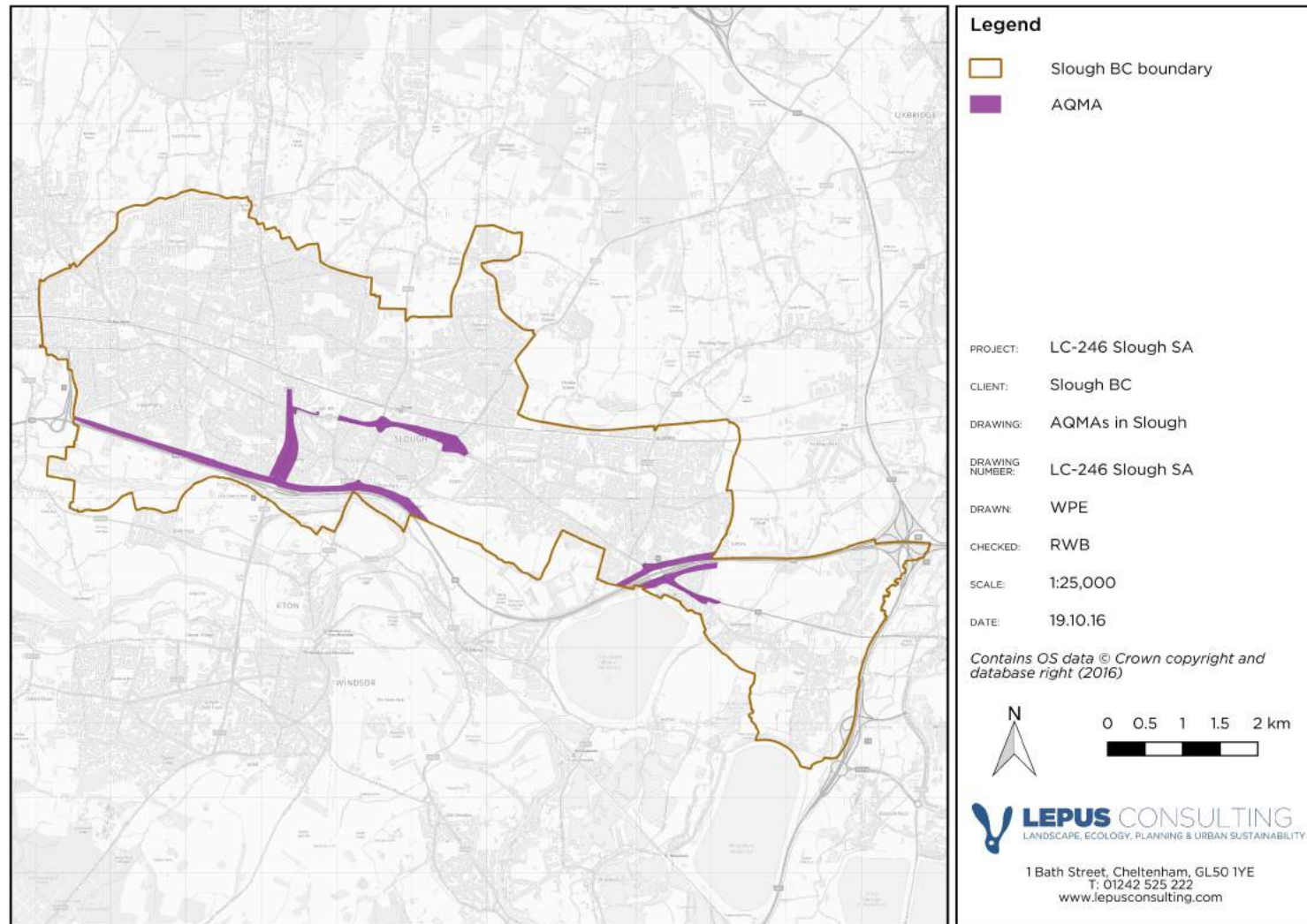
Figure 4.1: Location of AQMAs in Slough[24]

---

[24] Map contains AQMA information from Slough Borough Council (2016)

4.2.9   The 2015 Air Quality Updating and Screening Assessment for Slough Borough Council, in fulfilment of Part IV of the Environment Act 1995, Local Air Quality Management[25], concluded that AQMA3 will extend east along Bath Road for approximately 300m as monitoring at Windmill House on Bath Road has shown that NO_2 concentrations are breaching the Air Quality Strategy. No other exceedences from sources have been identified outside the existing AQMAs.

4.2.10   The following are confirmed within the 2015 Air Quality Progress Report[26] as sources which have an impact on air quality within the Plan area:

- Road traffic sources;
- Other transport sources;
- Industrial sources;
- Commercial and domestic sources; and
- Fugitive or uncontrolled sources.

Box 4.1: Key Air Quality Issues for Slough

- Four AQMAs lie within the Plan area due to excessive levels of NO_2 from transport
- New housing, new employment areas, commercial and domestic sources, transport, and increasing visitor numbers in the area may lead to impacts on air quality and require demand management.
- Air quality issues caused by road transport from Heathrow and the M4 are beyond direct control of the Local Plan,
- New development in areas affected by noise or air quality may need special mitigation measures.

---

[25] Slough Borough Council (2015) Air Quality Updating and Screening Assessment 2015. Available at: http://www.SA.slough.gov.uk/downloads/air-quality-updating-screening-assessment-2015.pdf
[26] Slough Borough Council (2015) Air Quality Updating and Screening Assessment 2015. Available at: http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/air-quality-updating-screening-assessment-2015.pdf

5   Biodiversity and Geodiversity

5.1   Summary of policy and plan review

5.1.1   The objectives of policies and plans focus on the conservation of biological diversity (including a reduction in the current rate of biodiversity loss), and the protection and monitoring of endangered and vulnerable species and habitats. In general, emphasis is also placed on the ecological importance of brownfield sites, geodiversity, enhancing areas of woodland and other important habitats. The integration of biodiversity considerations into all environmental and socio-economic planning is strongly advocated.

5.1.2   UK BAP priority species and habitats were those that were identified as being the most threatened and requiring conservation action under the UK Biodiversity Action Plan (UK BAP). The original lists of UK BAP priority species and habitats were created between 1995 and 1999, and were subsequently updated in 2007, following a 2-year review of UK BAP processes and priorities, which included a review of the UK priority species and habitats lists[27].

5.1.3   The UK BAP lists of priority species and habitats remain, however, important and valuable reference sources. Notably, they have been used to help draw up statutory lists of priority species and habitats in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, as required under: Section 41 (England) and Section 42 (Wales) of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006, Section 2(4) of the Nature Conservation (Scotland) Act 2004, and Section 3(1) of the Wildlife and Natural Environment Act (Northern Ireland) 2011[28].

5.1.4   The Natural Environment White Paper (HM Government, 2011) focuses on promoting high quality natural environments, expanding multifunctional green infrastructure networks and initiating landscape scale action to support ecological networks. The White Paper specifically seeks to: protect core areas of high nature conservation value; promote corridors and 'stepping stones' to enable species to move between key areas; and initiate Nature Improvement Areas, where ecological functions and wildlife can be restored.

---

[27] JNCC (2016) UK BAP priority species and habitats. Accessed on 27/07/16. Available at: http://jncc.defra.gov.uk/page-5705
[28] Ibid.

5.1.5   The White Paper is supported by the Biodiversity Strategy for England (DEFRA, 2011).   This seeks to halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy, well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people.   The Biodiversity Strategy for England also proposes introducing a new designation for Local Green Areas to enable communities to protect places that are important to them.

5.1.6   The NPPF includes guidance on promoting the conservation and enhancement of the natural environment. It requires the planning system to contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures.

5.2   Baseline data

National and local designations

5.2.1   Slough is home to three local nature reserves (LNRs).   These sites are listed in **Table 5.1** and are shown on a map in **Figure 5.1.**

5.2.2   Besides those sites that are nationally or internationally designated for nature conservation purposes, Slough has 7 locally designated wildlife sites (**Table 5.2**).   Sites include wetlands, a reservoir and a lake.   The Thames Valley Records Centre maintains records and undertakes annual reviews of sites in Berkshire and Oxfordshire.   A map of Local Wildlife Sites (LWS) in Slough is shown in **Figure 5.2.**

5.2.3   The current legislation identified for UK Priority Habitats includes that provided by the NPPF paragraph 117: 'Planning policies should promote the preservation, restoration and re-creation of priority habitats, ecological networks and the recovery of priority species populations, linked to national and local targets, and identify suitable indicators for monitoring biodiversity in the plan.'

Table 5.1: Designated sites in Slough[29]

Site	Designation
Cocksherd Wood	Local Nature Reserve
Haymill Valley	Local Nature Reserve
Herschel Park	Local Nature Reserve

Table 5.2: Local Wildlife Sites in Slough[30]

Site	Designation
Cocksherd Wood LNR	Local Wildlife Site
Haymill Valley	Local Wildlife Site
Old Slade Lake	Local Wildlife Site
Queen Mother Reservoir	Local Wildlife Site
Railway Triangle (off Stranraer Gardens)	Local Wildlife Site
Upton Court Park Wetland	Local Wildlife Site
Jubilee River and Dorney Wetlands	Local Wildlife Site

---

[29] Natural England (2016) Magic. Available at: http://magic.defra.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx
[30] Thames Valley Environmental Records Centre (2016) Local Wildlife Sites in Slough, Berkshire. Available at:
http://www.tverc.org/cms/sites/tverc/files/List%20of%20Local%20Wildlife%20Sites%20in%20Slough%202016.pdf
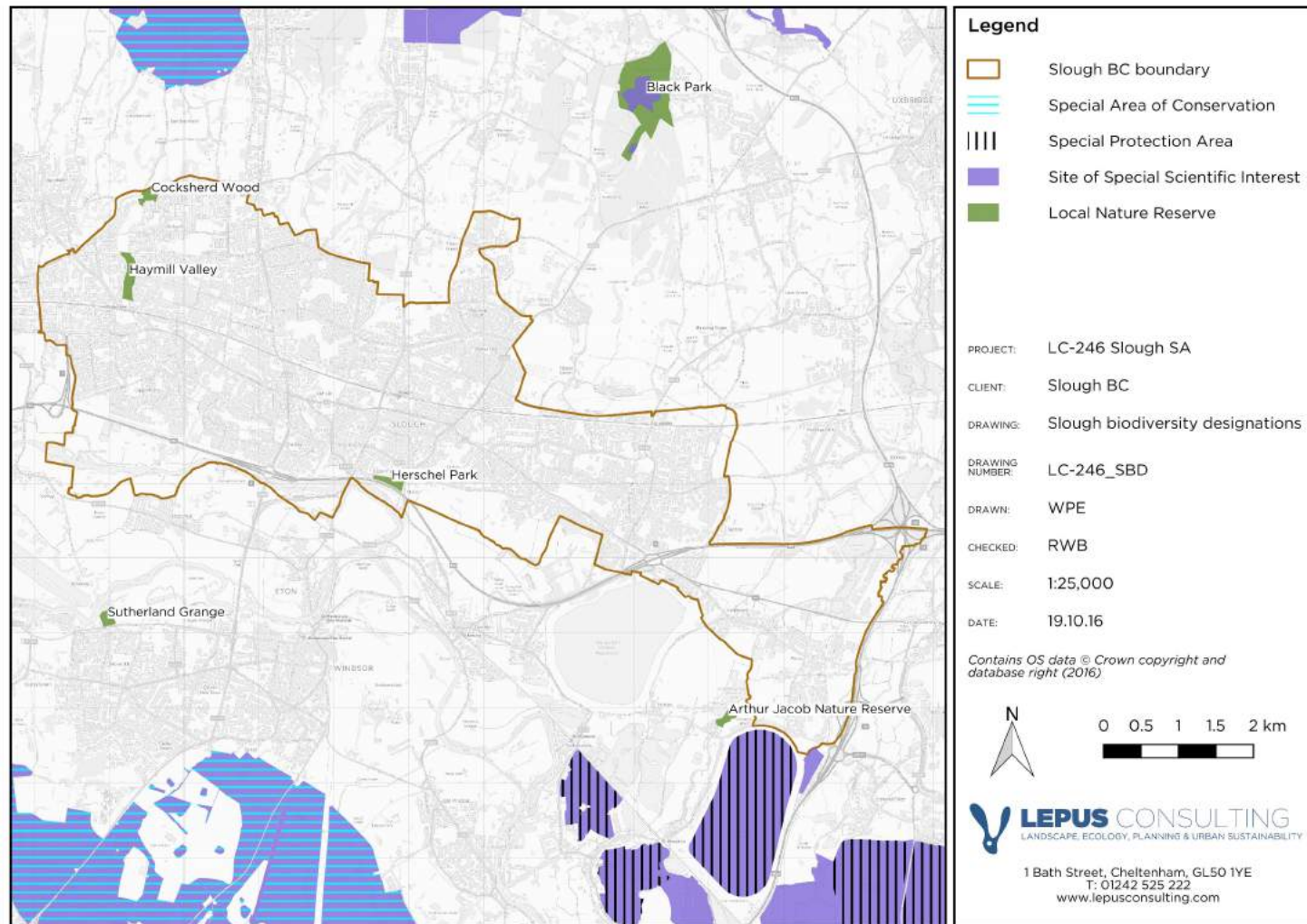
Figure 5.1: Statutory Biodiversity designations in Slough[31]

---

[31] Map contains data from Natural England (2016)
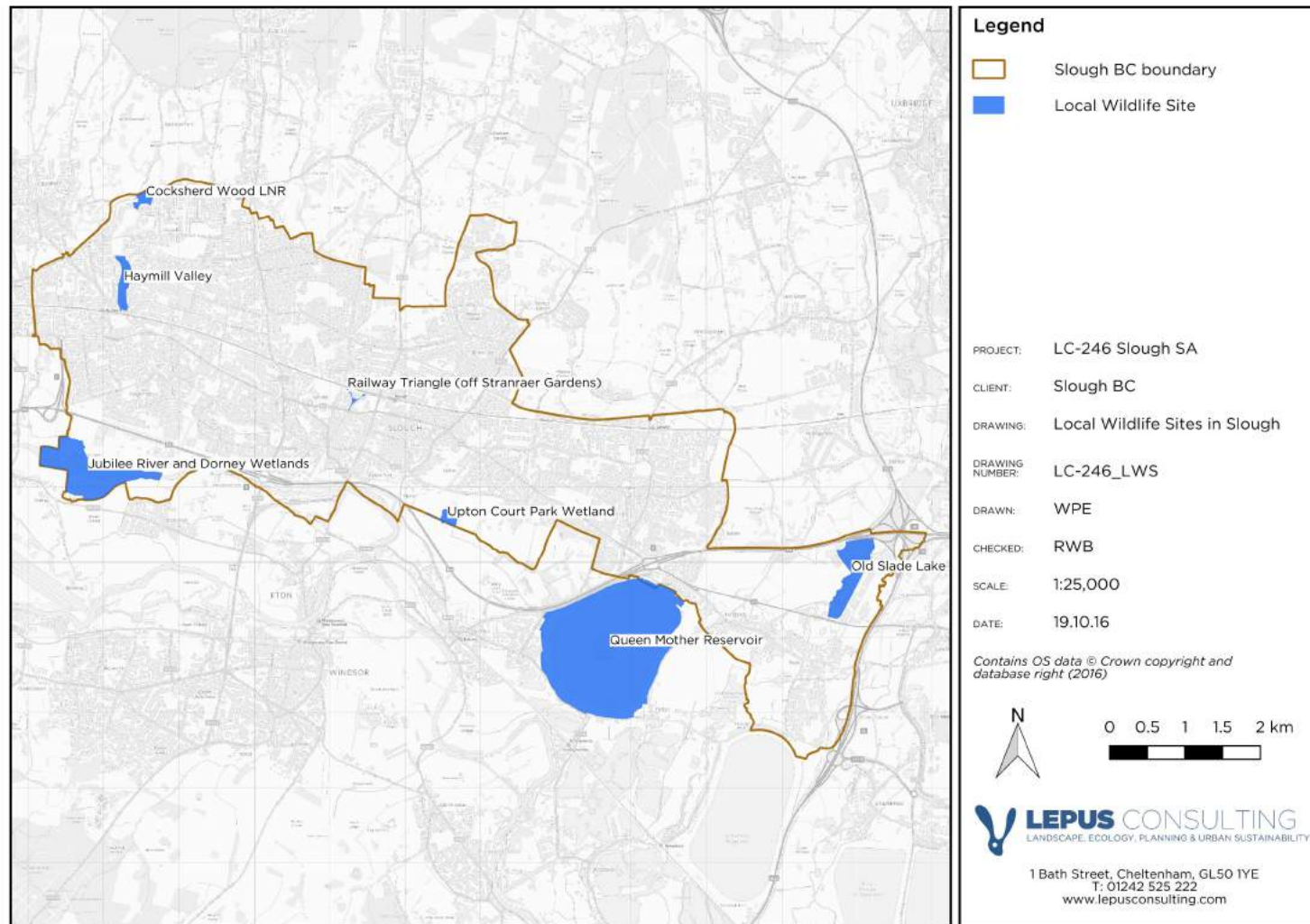
Figure 5.2: Local Wildlife Sites in Slough[32]

---

[32] Map contains LWS information from Slough Borough Council (2016)

Habitats and Species

5.2.4   BAP Habitats in the borough include:

- Deciduous woodland;
- Wood-pasture and parkland;
- Coastal and floodplain grazing marsh; and
- Reedbeds.

5.2.5   The Natural Environment in Berkshire: Biodiversity Strategy 2014 – 2020[33] indicates habitat creation targets for Berkshire. Habitats with targets for creation in Slough include:

- Floodplain grazing marsh;
- Reedbeds;
- Lowland meadows;
- Lowland dry acid grassland;
- Lowland heath;
- Hedgerows;
- Traditional orchards; and
- Lowland wood pasture and parkland.

5.2.6   The Berkshire Biodiversity Strategy[34] states that 788 priority species have been recorded in Berkshire.

5.2.7   The Berkshire Biodiversity Strategy has also identified 29 'Biodiversity Opportunity Areas' (BOAs) in Berkshire. BOAs are areas which either have a high density of priority habitat or which have the opportunity to be developed as a habitat network.

5.2.8   Haymill Valley (BOA number 26) is the only BOA located in Slough. Haymill Valley is characterised by reedbed, fen and woodland[35].

---

[33] Berkshire Local Nature Partnership (2014) The Natural Environment in Berkshire: Biodiversity Strategy 2014 – 2020. Available at: http://berkshirelnp.org/images/Biodiversity%20Strategy%20Small.pdf
[34] Ibid.
[35] Ibid.

Geodiversity

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

5.2.10   The Slough Local Development Framework, Core Strategy – Background Paper, Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (November 2007)[36] states that although Slough is a small and compact area, the underlying geology is both complex and varied. Concerning the geology of Slough, the framework states that:

"The bedrock is comprised of varying thicknesses of chalk, Reading Beds (composed of silt, clay, and gravels, which is semi-permeable), and London Clay (impermeable), overlain by River Terrace Deposits which are comprised of gravels and brick earth".

5.2.11   Concerning superficial deposits in Slough, the framework states that:

"The superficial deposits are also varying across Slough. Across the northern part of the Borough, there is a swathe of river terrace gravels with a couple of 'pockets' of exposed London Beds which is impermeable. South of this, there is a swathe of brick earth which is less permeable than the gravels but as permeable as the London Beds underlying it. Further south, there is a mixture of river terrace gravels as well as a few areas of where the river terrace deposits are clayey or thin over London Clay".

---

[36] Slough Borough Council (2007) Slough Local Development Framework, Core Strategy – Background Paper, Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (November 2007). Available at: https://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/strategic-flood-risk-assessment-Nov-2007.pdf

Box 5.1: Key Biodiversity and Geodiversity Issues for Slough

- There are a number of BAP habitats and species within the plan area, which should continue to be managed and conserved appropriately.

- Enhancements to the Plan area's green infrastructure network will support local and sub-regional biodiversity networks through helping to improve connectivity for habitats and species.

- Growth within the borough is likely to put pressure on biodiversity. There are potential impacts from habitat fragmentation resulting from new development areas and recreational pressures on wildlife sites.

- Biodiversity may be affected by noise or light pollution.

- Because the borough is highly urban, smaller and less biodiverse areas can also contribute to quality of life and biodiversity in local areas.

6   Climate Change adaptation and mitigation

6.1   Summary of policy and plan review

6.1.1   Climate-related PPPs focus on both mitigating the causes of climate change and adapting to the effects of climate change. Commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions have been introduced from the international level to the sub-regional level. The PPPs address policy development across all sectors and at all levels, combining both demand management (reduced energy consumption and increased efficiency of use) and supply-side measures (low carbon options including fuel mix and renewables). A number of the PPPs state specific targets to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. This is led at the national level by the Climate Change Act (2008), which sets a legally binding target of at least a 34 percent cut in greenhouse gas emissions by 2020 and at least an 80 percent cut by 2050 against a 1990 baseline.

6.1.2   Climate change and energy efficiency policies and programmes to encourage sustainable development are set out by central government. The national Building Regulations, as updated March 2015, require certain levels of sustainable construction to be met and provide guidance on additional, optional regulations for water and access. The government has outlined, through the Localism Bill, the importance of sustainable development and its commitments to reducing carbon emissions and greenhouse gases. The Climate Change Act 2008 should also be considered which sets the national carbon reduction targets along with the Renewable Energy Strategy.

6.1.3   Adaptation measures proposed by the PPPs include a presumption against development in flood risk areas, appropriate design of new development, the promotion of new infrastructure such as sustainable urban drainage systems and improved maintenance to help address the changes that are likely to occur as a result of climate change. Through this approach the NPPF seeks to ensure that flood risk is taken into account at all stages of the planning process to avoid inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding, and to direct development away from areas of highest risk.

6.1.4   The Slough Flood Risk Assessment takes into account fluvial, surface water, foul sewers and groundwater as the primary sources of flooding.

6.2 Baseline data

Potential effects of climate change

6.2.1 Climatic and anthropogenic-induced climate change is increasing concerns for the Plan area. Emissions could continue to rise and future development may not be as low carbon as possible, with potential for little demand for locally generated sustainable energy. It will therefore be an important role of the Plan to encourage sustainable development and construction, and support low carbon energy sources.

6.2.2 In June 2009 the outcome of research on the probable effects of climate change in the UK was released by the UK Climate Projections (UKCP09) team[37]. UKCP09 gives climate information for the UK up to the end of this century and projections of future changes to the climate are provided, based on simulations from climate models. Projections are broken down to a regional level across the UK and are shown in probabilistic form, which illustrate the potential range of changes and the level of confidence in each prediction.

6.2.3 Slough Borough Council has undertaken the Climate Change Strategy for Slough 2011 - 2014 to set out its current priorities to address climate change and in particular its own operations, in line with national and local targets[38]. The Climate Change Strategy for Slough is designed to achieve the following aims:

- Increase awareness of climate change issues and how our residents can contribute;
- increase the use of renewable energy within the town;
- become more efficient about the energy we use;
- reduce the level of waste that is produced and increase the level of recycling across the borough;
- conserve and enhance our environment and the historical characteristics of the area; and
- increase the use of sustainable transport.

---

[37] The data was released in June 2009: See: http://ukclimateprojections.defra.gov.uk/
[38] Slough Borough Council (2011) Climate Change Strategy for Slough 2011 – 2014.
https://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/Slough-Climate-Change-Strategy.pdf

Reducing carbon emissions

6.2.4   The requirement to improve the energy efficiency of homes stems from the legal requirements to reduce carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions set out in the Climate Change Act 2008 and the government's Carbon Plan, published in 2011.

6.2.5   The Carbon Management Plan (2015-2020) sets out what Slough Borough Council will do to mitigate the carbon emissions from council activities and buildings managed, owned and operated by the council. This plan seeks to describe how the council will save carbon, energy and generate revenue savings to 2020 and has four outcomes.

6.2.6   When CO_2 emissions within Slough Borough Council are broken down by source it is evident that the greatest contribution comes from transport, schools, street assets (signage and street lighting) and Slough Borough Council's buildings (assets). It is therefore these four areas the new plan will focus on and which have the potential to deliver the greatest carbon savings. The Council is already working jointly with other Berkshire Authorities to deliver LED lighting that will reduce energy consumption.

6.2.7   **Table 6.1** shows that the South East has lower per capita emissions than the South West and England overall. This is mainly due to lower emissions per capita from the industrial sector (see **Table 6.2**). However, **Table 6.2** shows that per capita emissions from the domestic and transport sectors are higher in the South East, compared to Greater London, the South West and England overall.

Table 6.1: End-user carbon dioxide emissions: regional summary 2013[39]

Region/Country	Total emissions (million tonnes CO_2)	Per capita emissions (tonnes CO_2 per capita)
Greater London	41.2	4.9
South East	55.8	6.3
South West	34.5	6.4
England	361.4	6.7

Table 6.2: Per capita carbon dioxide emissions by sector: regional summary 2013 (tonnes carbon dioxide per capita)[40]

Region/Country	Industrial & commercial	Domestic	Transport	LULUCF
Greater London	2.2	1.8	0.9	0.0
South East	2.1	2.1	2.2	0.0

[39] DECC (2015) Local Authority carbon dioxide emissions estimates 2013. Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/437384/2005_to_2013_UK_local_and_regional_CO2_emissions_statistical_release.pdf
[40] Ibid.

South West	2.2	2.0	2.1	0.1
England	2.8	2.0	1.9	0.0

6.2.8   **Table 6.3** shows that there has been an overall increase in the total volume of carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions within Slough from 2005 to 2013. Despite this, emissions from domestic and transport sources have decreased from 2005 to 2013. The highest proportion of emissions from CO_2 comes from industry and commercial sources. This sector produced 55% of total CO_2 emissions in Slough in 2013.

Table 6.3: CO_2 emissions in Slough by source 2005-2013 (kilotonnes CO_2 and %)[41]

Year	Industry and Commercial	Domestic	Transport	LULUCF Net Emissions	Total
2005	360.7	243.1	238.5	0.1	824.4
	42.8%	28.9%	28.3%	0.0	
2006	348.9	243.1	234.1	0.0	826.1
	42.2%	29.4%	28.3%	0.0%	
2007	357.4	237.9	241.8	-0.0	837.1
	42.7%	28.4%	28.9%	0.0%	
2008	356.3	245.4	229.6	-0.1	831.2
	42.9%	29.5%	27.6%	0.0%	
2009	430.4	221.7	227.7	-0.1	879.8
	48.9%	25.2%	25.9%	0.0%	
2010	530.5	239.1	214.0	-0.1	983.5
	53.9%	24.3%	21.8%	0.0%	
2011	515.7	209.8	214.1	-0.1	939.4
	54.9%	22.3%	22.8%	0.0%	
2012	585.3	225.8	215.5	-0.2	1,026.4
	57.0%	22.0%	21.0%	0.0%	
2013	525.8	221.5	208.9	-0.2	956.0
	55.0%	23.2%	21.8%	0.0%	

---

[41] Department of Energy and Climate Change (2015) 2005 to 2013 UK local and regional CO2 emissions full dataset. Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/uk-local-authority-and-regional-carbon-dioxide-emissions-national-statistics-2005-2013

Flooding

6.2.9   The risk of increased rainfall is a symptom of climate change and flooding is a consequence of that. Flooding from all sources can be exacerbated by built development. The Plan needs to consider the impact of the policies on the need to mitigate for the known impacts of flooding in the lifetime of the plan and also consider the effects of the plan on the ability to mitigate for significant impacts from it.

6.2.10   Flooding is the most significant issue related to climate change impacts in the Plan area.

6.2.11   The urban character of the area creates run-off and reduces water attenuation levels. Although these impacts are often short term, there is a need to consider them in the design of new buildings or roads to reduce their potential to cause harm to people or damage to property.

6.2.12   The risk of surface water flooding in urban areas may increase in particular in the light of more torrential and frequent rainfall events especially during winter.

6.2.13   The borough of Slough is bounded by the River Thames to the south and west. Localised issues have been identified within the Slough Flood Risk Management Strategy for Slough (2013)[42].

6.2.14   In addition to fluvial (river) flooding, properties and infrastructure within Slough are also at risk of flooding from other, more localised, sources. These include groundwater flooding, the surcharging of the underground sewer system, the blockage of culverts and gullies (which results in overland flow), and surface water flooding. Evidence of localised flooding of this nature has been captured from parish councils throughout the borough, and can be seen in **Figure 6.4 and Figure 6.5**, which shows Flood Zones in the borough, and highlights probability of flooding.

---

[42] Slough Borough Council (2013) Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for Slough. Available at: https://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/Flood-risk-management-strategy.pdf
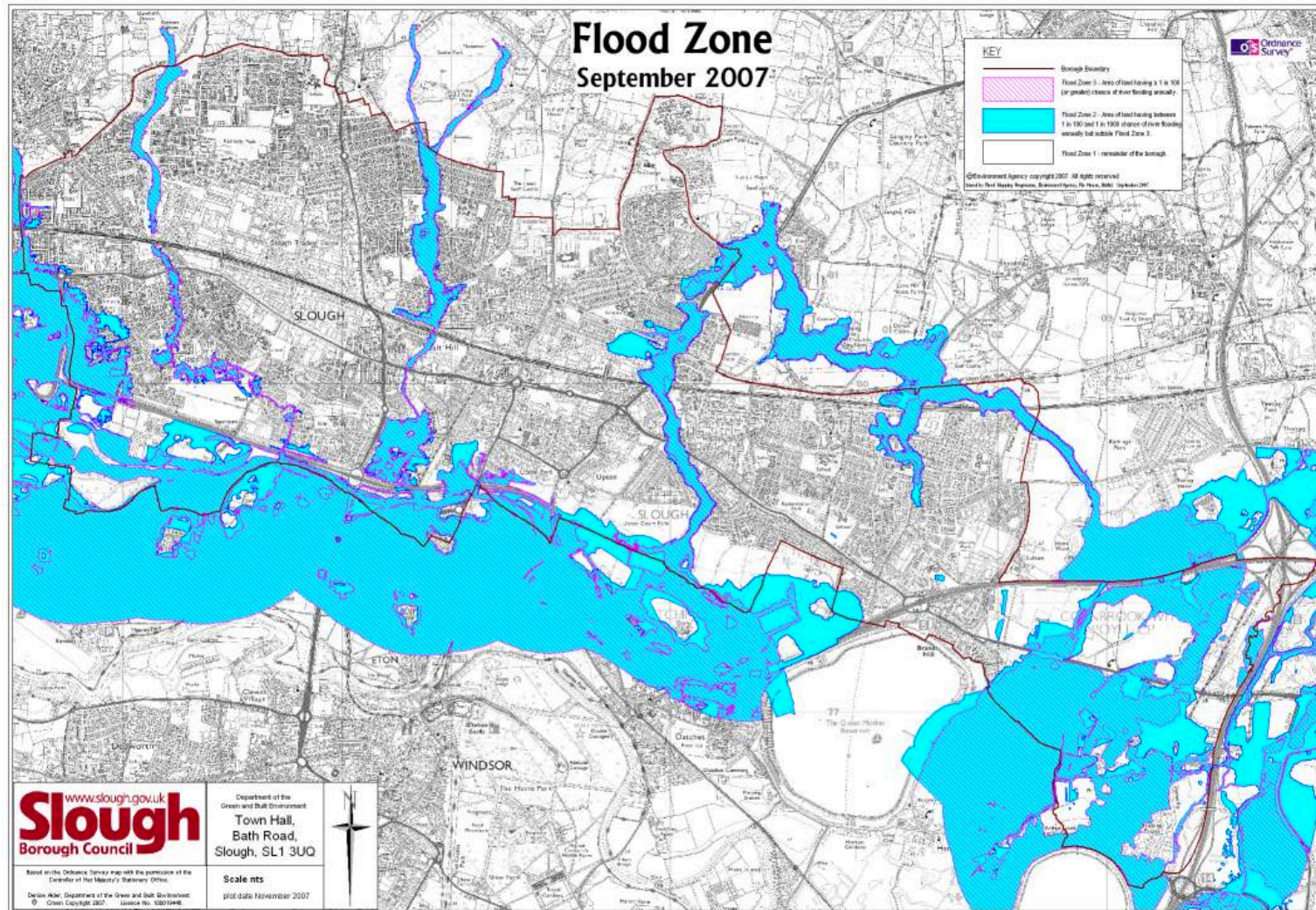
Figure 6.4: Slough flood zone map[43]

---

[43] Slough Borough Council (2007) Slough Local Development Framework, Core Strategy – Background Paper, Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. Available at: https://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/strategic-flood-risk-assessment-Nov-2007.pdf

Figure 6.5: Flood Map for Slough (November 2011)[44]

6.2.15   The Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) for Slough (2007)[45] sets out a record of historical flooding. The SFRA covers all sources of flooding and the other key flood risk considerations expected by the NPPF and technical note on flood risk.

6.2.16   The SFRA for Slough (2007)[46] identifies that future development within the borough of Slough could influence the risk of flooding posed to neighbouring areas if not carefully managed.

6.2.17   Flooding from main rivers is an issue across the Plan area. The highest flooding risk is flash flooding from excessive overland flow or overtopping of minor watercourses. Therefore, surface water run-off management in the Plan area is an important issue on all developments of any size, clearly highlighting the need for a sustainable drainage system (SUDS) that maximise source control measures.

6.2.18   The flood risk in Slough can be split geographically into two areas. To the west of the Borough there are a number of small catchments Huntercombe/Roundmoor Stream, Chalvey Ditch, Salt Hill Stream, Datchet Common Brook and The Myrke. The sources of flooding experienced in these catchments are numerous (fluvial, pluvial, sewer, overland flow, ordinary watercourses, and groundwater) and often occur in combination with each other. Several of these watercourses are culverted in sections while some of the ordinary watercourses to the north of Slough go into sink holes and emerge further downstream within Slough. Therefore, surface water flooding in the area to the west of Slough is a complex interaction of groundwater, overland and river flows[47].

6.2.19   To the east of the borough there is the Colne Brook catchment and Horton Brook, which flows into the Colne Brook. The flooding from these two catchments is predominantly fluvial flooding but there are also some issues with groundwater flooding[48].

[45] Slough Borough Council (2007) Slough Local Development Framework, Core Strategy – Background Paper, Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. Available at: https://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/strategic-flood-risk-assessment-Nov-2007.pdf
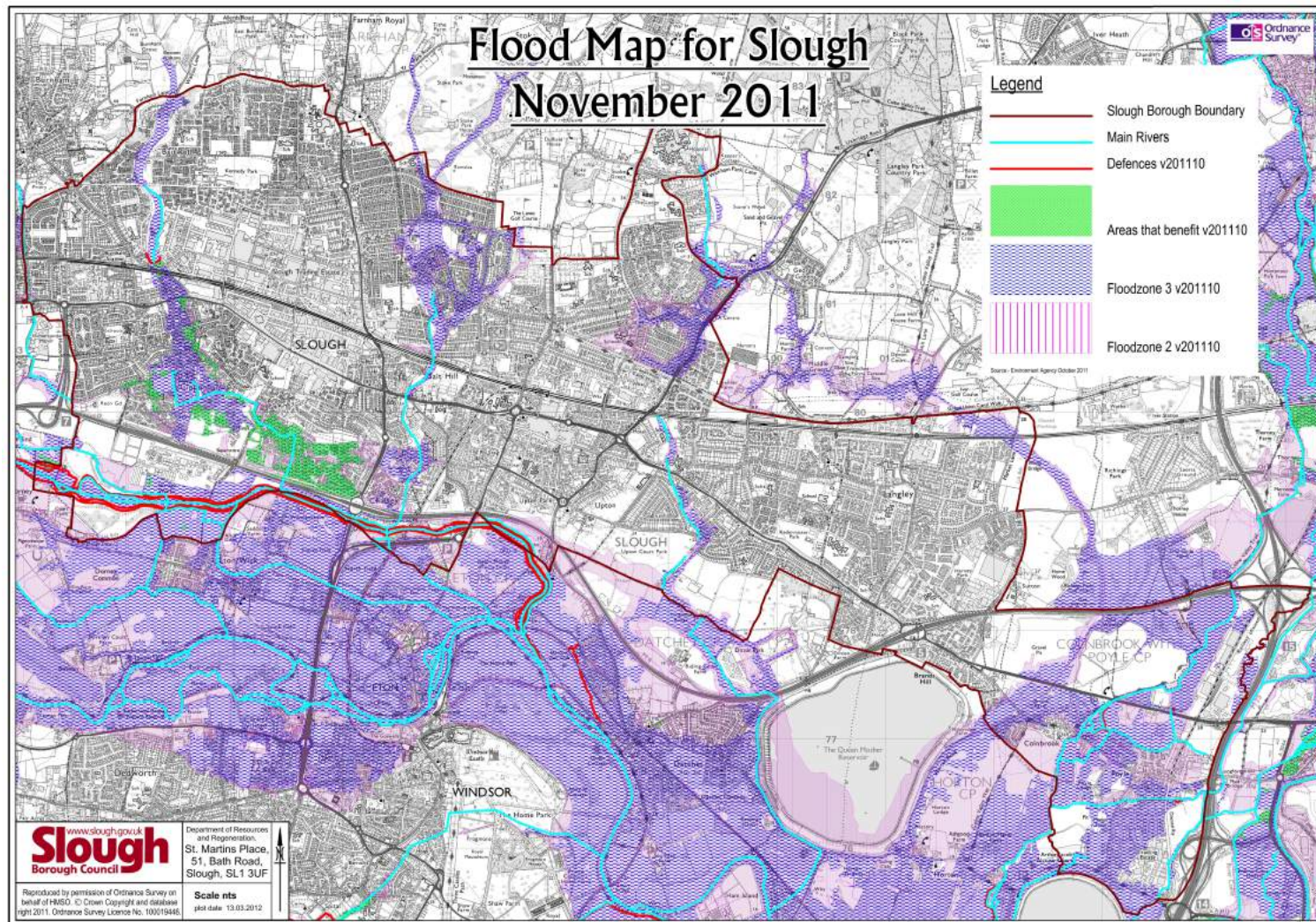[46] Slough Borough Council (2007) Slough Local Development Framework, Core Strategy – Background Paper, Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. Available at: https://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/strategic-flood-risk-assessment-Nov-2007.pdf
[47] Slough Borough Council (2013) Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for Slough. Accessed on 26/07/16. Available at: http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/Flood-risk-management-strategy.pdf
[48] Slough Borough Council (2013) Local Flood Risk Management Strategy for Slough. Accessed on 26/07/16. Available at: http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/Flood-risk-management-strategy.pdf

Green Infrastructure

6.2.20   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[49]. Green Infrastructure has many benefits including human health, climate change adaptation and wildlife value[50]. GI can play an important role in helping urban areas adapt to climate change, by reducing airborne pollutants, providing shade and local cooling and reducing surface water runoff[51].

6.2.21   There is limited GI in Slough due to it being mostly built up. GI in Slough includes Local Nature Reserves, allotments, playing fields and parks. GI in Slough should be encouraged.

Box 6.1: Key Climate Change Issues for Slough

- Heavier and more frequent rainfall has the potential to increase the risk of fluvial and surface water flooding.

- Reduced attenuation and increases in non-porous built surface cover risks exacerbating existing surface water flooding problems. For example, in the Slough Trading Estate.

- A range of further risks linked to the impacts of climate change may affect the borough of Slough. These include the following: adverse effect on water quality from watercourse levels and turbulent flow after heavy rain and a reduction of water flow; a need to increase the capacity of sewers; an increased move by the insurance industry towards a more risk-based approach to insurance underwriting, leading to higher cost premiums for local business; and increased flood related problems such as soil shrinkages and subsidence.

- There is a need to continue to address pollutant emissions in Slough, particularly CO_2 to reduce the Borough's contribution to climate change.

- Green Infrastructure should be enhanced and expanded.

- Building regulations regarding energy efficiency should support the reduction of carbon emissions in new development, but they may also remove the ability of detailed policies to require new development to incorporate energy efficiency measures, and climate change adaptive features.

---

[49] DCLG (2012) National Planning Policy Framework. Available at:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf
[50] Forest Research (2010). Benefits of green infrastructure.
[51] Landscape Institute (2013) Green Infrastructure: An integrated approach to land use.

7   Economic Factors

7.1   Summary of policy and plan review

7.1.1   The improvement and maintenance of high and stable levels of economic growth and employment are key aims of the strategies at UK and European levels. Other objectives include improvements to the education system to increase the skill levels of both children and adults, as well as improved productivity and innovation, particularly with regards to technology.

7.1.2   At a regional and local level, emphasis is placed on community cohesion and regeneration; building business and enterprise, developing skills and employment, supporting strategic infrastructure requirements and promoting investment. One of the major aims of the Slough Sustainable Community Strategy 2008-2028[52] is to have a town that is environmentally sustainable, where world-class infrastructure continues to facilitate economic success and where housing provision meets the needs of all residents.

7.1.3   Slough is currently evolving its strategy to adopt SMART measures and harness new technologies that will feed into the new Local Plan.

7.2   Baseline data

Economic performance

7.2.1   Slough's economy is also likely to grow in the future. The employment forecasts produced for the Berkshire LEP suggest that the number of jobs in Slough will increase from 92,890 in 2013 to 107,570 in 2036, which is an increase of 15%.

7.2.2   Not all of the projected new jobs in Slough will need more floorspace because some people work from home and others travel around for their work.

---

[52] Slough Borough Council (2008) Slough's Sustainable Community Strategy. Available at: https://www.slough.gov.uk/moderngov/documents/s3786/Appendix%20A.pdf

7.2.3   The Slough Economic Development Needs Assessment prepared by NLP suggests high levels of need for new employment. It should be noted however that long term employment forecasts are unreliable and there is also some 'footloose' employment that may or may not choose to locate in Slough. Nevertheless, it is important that an expanding economy is planned for in Slough, and the extent to which the council can intervene in the market to attract and retain employment types to the borough's needs.

7.2.4   Slough Trading Estate is the largest privately owned estate in Europe. Under the Simplified Planning Zone (SPZ) it will continue to regenerate to meet future employment needs. Many of the new schemes are for data centres, which do not help to provide jobs for local people.

7.2.5   Within the borough of Slough there are 4,985 active enterprises and 5,915 local units[53]. The majority of these enterprises are over ten years old. In Slough, 31.1% of businesses are ten or more years old. Figures for the borough of Slough show that there is an approximately 10% higher percentage of enterprises less than two years old that the regional and national percentages[54]. The high numbers of younger businesses within Slough shows that start up enterprises are locating in the area.

Retail

7.2.6   Shopping patterns are changing everywhere as result of online shopping. The rise in click and collect and other changes to consumer patterns mean that more people shop locally in smaller stores on a day to day basis which are more convenient for them than the large superstores. This means that only those retail centres which are offering 'destination shopping experiences' or leisure activities are prospering.

7.2.7   The change in shopping patterns means that district centres, neighbourhood centres, local parades and individual corner shops are likely to have an increasingly important function in meeting consumer needs in the future. Slough town centre is no longer a 'destination' centre so there is a significant risk that the demand for retail uses will continue to decline.

7.2.8   There are three large multinational superstores in the Borough and two close to its western boundary. It is unlikely that any more will be needed in the plan period and the role of the existing ones may change.

---

[53] Nomis (2015) Labour Market Profile - Slough. Available at:
https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157286/report.aspx?town=slough
[54] ONS (2015) Businesses: Enterprises by Age of Business. Available at:
http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/LeadTableView.do?a=7&b=6275234&c=slough&d=13&e=9&g=6397889&i=1001x1003x1004&m=0&r=1&s=1465209155672&enc=1&dsFamilyId=2062

7.2.9   The West is well served with retail but there are fewer local facilities and
             no superstores or retail parks in the east.

7.2.10   Slough's main shopping areas are:

             • Slough Town Centre;
             • Farnham Road district centre; and
             • Langley district centre.

7.2.11   Javelin Group, VENUESCORE 2016 recorded that in 2006 Slough was
             ranked as the 57th most important shopping centre in the country, but in
             2016 had dropped significantly to 147th. A household survey conducted
             by Cushman & Wakefield in January 2015 also showed many Slough
             residents are going to other destinations for their main shopping. The
             change in retail providers also evidences that Slough town centre is no
             longer a 'destination' centre so there is a significant risk that the demand
             for retail uses will continue to decline.

             Education

7.2.12   The implications of a high number of under 10 year olds (see **Figure 13.4**)
             is the need for increasing the capacity of schools to meet the demand of
             this peak as it moves through the education system.

7.2.13   Training and skills of the adult population is also an issue. There are
             training facilities in Slough, including Langley College, that are providing
             vocational courses.

             Employment and earnings

7.2.14   The percentage of Slough residents in employment is higher than for
             Great Britain but lower than for the South East region. The number of
             Slough residents who are economically active is higher than Great Britain
             but lower than the South East region **(Table 7.1).** The high economic
             activity and employment rate for Slough highlights the successful
             economy of the Plan area.

Table 7.1: Employment and Unemployment Rates in Slough (all people)[55]

Variable	Slough (%)	South East (%)	Great Britain (%)
Economically active	78.4	80.6	77.8
In employment	74.6	77.2	73.7
Unemployed	4.6	4.1	5.1

7.2.15 **Table 7.2** identifies the level of employment in Slough across the core economic sectors. Levels of employment in elementary occupations are notably higher than the regional and national average.

Table 7.2: Employment by occupation[56]

Occupation	Slough (%)	South East (%)	England (%)
Managers, directors and senior officials	8.7	11.9	10.4
Professional occupations	17.8	21.4	19.9
Associate professional & technical	10.1	15.2	14.1
Administrative & secretarial	8.4	11.0	10.6
Skilled trades occupations	8.1	9.9	10.5
Caring, leisure and Other Service occupations	9.1	8.9	9.2
Sales and customer service occupations	10.6	7.2	7.6
Process plant and machine operatives	11.3	5.0	6.4
Elementary occupations	15.7	9.1	10.8

7.2.16 As shown in **Table 7.2,** the occupation with the highest percentage of the workforce in Slough is professional occupations (17.8%) followed by elementary occupations (16.3%).

7.2.17 The number of residents in the borough of Slough claiming Job Seeker's Allowance is 4%. This is equal to the percentage for England at 4%.

[55] Nomis (2016) Labour Supply: Employment and unemployment (Apr 2015-Mar 2016). Available at: https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157286/report.aspx?town=slough
[56] Nomis (2016) Employment by occupation (Apr 2015-Dec 2016). https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157286/report.aspx?town=slough

7.2.18   According to the Official Labour Market Statistics (2015) gross weekly earnings for full time workers working in the borough of Slough were £540.20.   This figure compared to £574.90 for the South East and £529.60 in Great Britain show that the average income in the Plan area is higher than the national average[57].
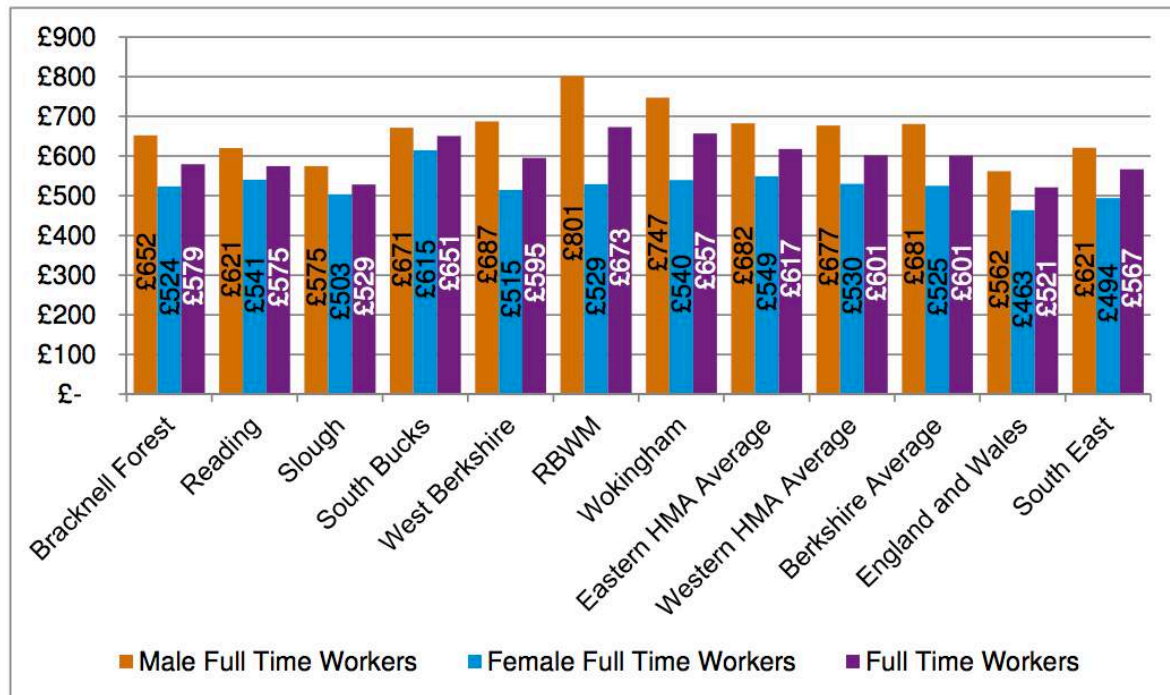
Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (2014)

Figure 7.1: Earnings by Residents in Full Time Employment, 2013[58]

[57] Nomis (2015) Earnings by residence (2015). Available at:
https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157286/report.aspx?town=slough
[58] Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (2014) Sourced from: GL Hearn (2016) Berkshire (including South Bucks) Strategic Housing Market Assessment. Accessed on 27/07/16. Available at:
http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/Berks-SHMA-Feb-2016.pdf
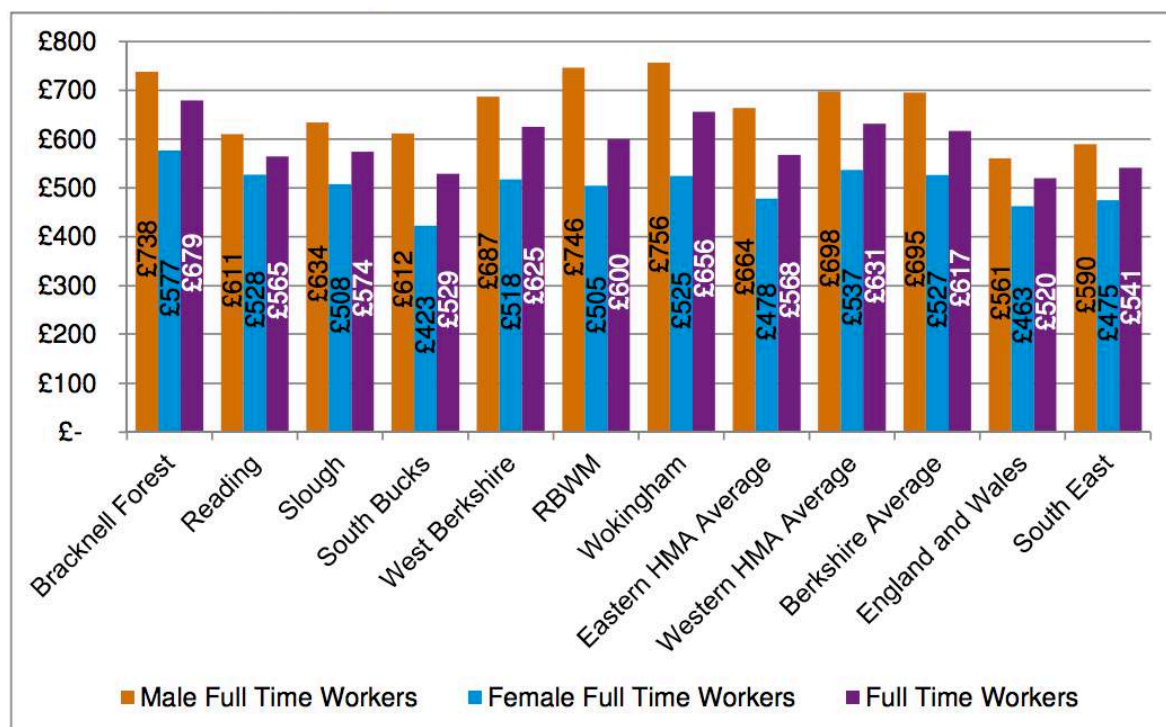
Source: Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (2014)

Figure 7.2: Earnings by Workplace, 2013[59]

7.2.19   Data from the 2011 census shows that 31,918 Slough residents commute out of the borough to work on a daily basis. Census data also shows that 39,326 workers commute into the borough to work on a daily basis[60].

7.2.20   **Table 7.3** shows that skills levels are high in Slough. The percentage of Slough residents with NVQ4 and above qualifications is higher than the percentage for Great Britain.

Table 7.3: Highest level of qualification in Slough[61]

Qualification	Slough (%)	South East (%)	Great Britain (%)
NVQ4 and above	37.2	39.8	37.1
NVQ3 and above	54.4	60.4	57.4
NVQ2 and above	69.6	76.8	73.6
NVQ1 and above	77.8	88.5	84.9
Other Qualifications	14.2	5.2	6.5
No Qualifications	8.0	6.3	8.6

---

[59] Annual Survey of Hours and Earnings (2013) Sourced from: GL Hearn (2016) Berkshire (including South Bucks) Strategic Housing Market Assessment. Accessed on 27/07/16. Available at: http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/Berks-SHMA-Feb-2016.pdf
[60] ONS (2011) Where do we commute to? Available at: http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/HTMLDocs/dvc193/#sty=true&flow=flow1&period=0&fix=E 06000039&view=475,238,80,80&tr=-61.66063976519126,-178.1782689942754&sc=1
[61] Nomis (2015) Qualifications (Jan 2015-Dec 2015). Available at: https://www.nomisweb.co.uk/reports/lmp/la/1946157286/report.aspx?town=slough

Employment Land

7.2.21   The Eastern Berkshire Economic Development Needs Assessment identifies that between 2013-2036 there's a need for an additional 644-781 ha of employment floor space in Slough borough. This equates to 149-180 ha of employment land. The anticipated floor space requirement does not include additional floor space demand that may result from the expansion of Heathrow Airport.

Box 7.1: Key Economic factors Issues for Slough
• New business start-ups should continue to be encouraged in Slough.
• Addressing the mismatch between jobs and skills of local residents can benefit local residents and businesses. .
• The potential demand for jobs and economic growth from businesses choosing to locate in Slough can support Slough's reputation as a well-connected business location.
• The town centre has the potential to provide for high quality jobs homes and retail to meet the needs of its young population and benefit from its excellent transport links.
• Uplifts in land values from Crossrail and the Western Rail Link to Heathrow should be directed to delivering the maximum benefits for Slough's image.
• Schools capacity needs to be increased to meet the need for spaces from the high number of children under ten as they move through the education system

8   Health and wellbeing

8.1   Summary of policy and plan review

8.1.1   Health related PPPs focus on improving rates of infant mortality and life expectancy; reducing work related illness and accidents; significantly improving levels of sport and physical activity, particularly among disadvantaged groups; promoting healthier modes of travel; supporting the public to make healthier and more informed choices in regards to their health; improving accessibility to healthcare and leisure/recreational facilities; and reducing health inequalities, particularly for children and older people.

8.2   Baseline data

8.2.1   The health of residents in the Plan area is generally good. Census data from 2011 shows that 47.9% of Slough residents describe their health as very good (perceived as very good but not objectively). This is higher than the percentage for England (47.2%). As little as 3.5% of people in Slough describe their health as bad, which is less than the percentage for England (4.2%). Self-reported health has limitations and can be misleading when considered alone. Studies have also shown that perceived health is likely to be different between more and less disadvantaged communities[62].

8.2.2   The life expectancy at birth of male Slough residents is 78.4 years old. This is lower than the life expectancy for England at 79.4 years old. The life expectancy at birth of female Slough residents is 82.5 years old. This is also lower than the life expectancy for England at 83.1[63].

8.2.3   Child poverty levels are high in Slough, approximately 8000 (21%) of children living in Slough are growing up in low income families[64].

8.2.4   Data on disability living allowance claimants gives an indication of the prevalence of disability among the population. In total, there are 5,020 disability living allowance claimants in Slough[65].

---

[62] http://www.bmj.com/content/324/7342/860
[63] Public Health England (2015) Slough Health Profile 2015. Available at:
http://www.apho.org.uk/resource/view.aspx?RID=50215&SEARCH=slough&SPEAR=
[64] Slough Children and Young People's Partnership Board (2015) Slough's Child Poverty Strategy 2015-2018. Available at: https://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/SS-6260.pdf
[65] ONS (2014) Disability Living Allowance Claimants. Available at:
http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/LeadTableView.do?a=7&b=6275234&c=slough&d=13&g=6397889&i=1001x1003x1006&k=disability&m=0&r=1&s=1465288272532&enc=1&domainId=6&dsFamilyId=1355

8.2.5   The Health summary for Slough in **Figure 8.1** highlights the overall health levels in the Plan area. In Year 6, the rate of obese children is significantly worse than the England average. The rate of smoking prevalence, recorded diabetes and under 75 mortality rate: cardiovascular are significantly worse than England average.

8.2.6   In Slough, alcohol-specific hospital stays (under 18), incidence of malignant melanoma and hospital stays for alcohol related harm are significantly better than the England average.

8.2.7   No specific data was identified regarding the capacity of health facilities in Slough. All GP surgeries in the Plan area are currently accepting new patients, this indicates at least some capacity for new residents[66].

---

[66] NHS Choices (2016) GP Surgeries in Slough. Available at: http://www.nhs.uk/service-search/GP/Slough/Results/4/-0.599/51.511/4/19238?distance=25&ResultsOnPageValue=100&isNational=0
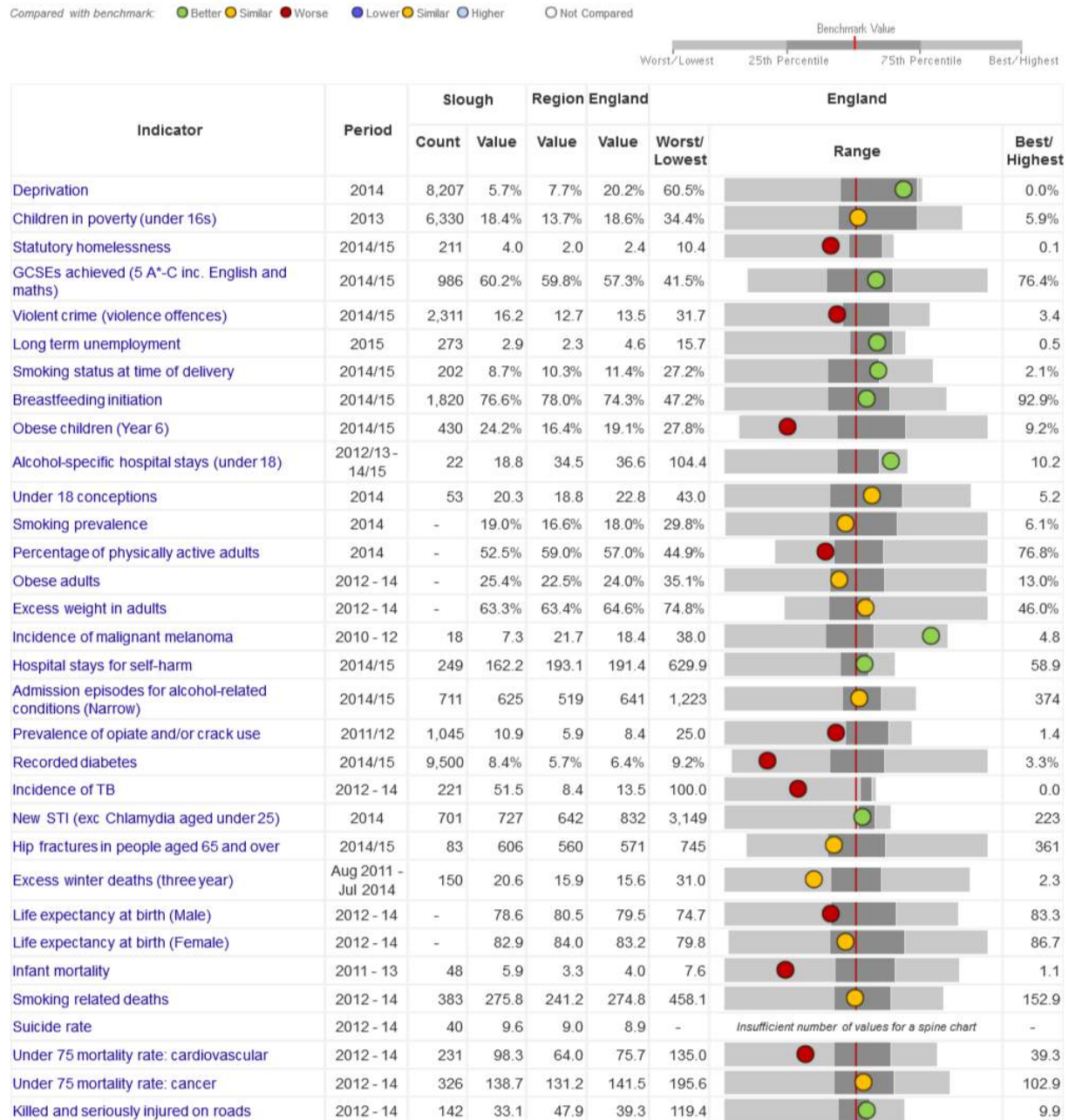
Compared with benchmark: ● Better ● Similar ● Worse   ● Lower ● Similar ○ Higher   ○ Not Compared

Benchmark Value

Worst/Lowest · 25th Percentile · 75th Percentile · Best/Highest

Indicator	Period	Slough Count	Slough Value	Region Value	England Value	England Worst/Lowest	England Range	Best/Highest
Deprivation	2014	8,207	5.7%	7.7%	20.2%	60.5%		0.0%
Children in poverty (under 16s)	2013	6,330	18.4%	13.7%	18.6%	34.4%		5.9%
Statutory homelessness	2014/15	211	4.0	2.0	2.4	10.4		0.1
GCSEs achieved (5 A*-C inc. English and maths)	2014/15	986	60.2%	59.8%	57.3%	41.5%		76.4%
Violent crime (violence offences)	2014/15	2,311	16.2	12.7	13.5	31.7		3.4
Long term unemployment	2015	273	2.9	2.3	4.6	15.7		0.5
Smoking status at time of delivery	2014/15	202	8.7%	10.3%	11.4%	27.2%		2.1%
Breastfeeding initiation	2014/15	1,820	76.6%	78.0%	74.3%	47.2%		92.9%
Obese children (Year 6)	2014/15	430	24.2%	16.4%	19.1%	27.8%		9.2%
Alcohol-specific hospital stays (under 18)	2012/13-14/15	22	18.8	34.5	36.6	104.4		10.2
Under 18 conceptions	2014	53	20.3	18.8	22.8	43.0		5.2
Smoking prevalence	2014	-	19.0%	16.6%	18.0%	29.8%		6.1%
Percentage of physically active adults	2014	-	52.5%	59.0%	57.0%	44.9%		76.8%
Obese adults	2012 - 14	-	25.4%	22.5%	24.0%	35.1%		13.0%
Excess weight in adults	2012 - 14	-	63.3%	63.4%	64.6%	74.8%		46.0%
Incidence of malignant melanoma	2010 - 12	18	7.3	21.7	18.4	38.0		4.8
Hospital stays for self-harm	2014/15	249	162.2	193.1	191.4	629.9		58.9
Admission episodes for alcohol-related conditions (Narrow)	2014/15	711	625	519	641	1,223		374
Prevalence of opiate and/or crack use	2011/12	1,045	10.9	5.9	8.4	25.0		1.4
Recorded diabetes	2014/15	9,500	8.4%	5.7%	6.4%	9.2%		3.3%
Incidence of TB	2012 - 14	221	51.5	8.4	13.5	100.0		0.0
New STI (exc Chlamydia aged under 25)	2014	701	727	642	832	3,149		223
Hip fractures in people aged 65 and over	2014/15	83	606	560	571	745		361
Excess winter deaths (three year)	Aug 2011 - Jul 2014	150	20.6	15.9	15.6	31.0		2.3
Life expectancy at birth (Male)	2012 - 14	-	78.6	80.5	79.5	74.7		83.3
Life expectancy at birth (Female)	2012 - 14	-	82.9	84.0	83.2	79.8		86.7
Infant mortality	2011 - 13	48	5.9	3.3	4.0	7.6		1.1
Smoking related deaths	2012 - 14	383	275.8	241.2	274.8	458.1		152.9
Suicide rate	2012 - 14	40	9.6	9.0	8.9	-	Insufficient number of values for a spine chart	-
Under 75 mortality rate: cardiovascular	2012 - 14	231	98.3	64.0	75.7	135.0		39.3
Under 75 mortality rate: cancer	2012 - 14	326	138.7	131.2	141.5	195.6		102.9
Killed and seriously injured on roads	2012 - 14	142	33.1	47.9	39.3	119.4		9.9

Figure 8.1: Health summary for Slough[67]

---

[67] Graph supplied by Slough Borough Council (2016)

Open Space, Sports and Recreational facilities

8.2.8   Analysis of natural green/open space provision in the South East of England by Natural England and Forestry Commission[68] shows that Slough has only 11% of households meeting all of the Accessible Natural Green Space requirements. However, 100% of households in Slough live within 5km of a 100ha+ greenspace site.

8.2.9   The Council owns a substantial amount of green space (411 ha). This includes parks, woodlands, allotments, housing amenity spaces, roadside verges and play spaces. Within this, there are 89 recreational park and open space sites (306 ha), 1277 (77 ha) plots of highway verge and 95 ha of verge and amenity space in former council housing estates. .

8.2.10   Slough Borough Council Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2014 – 2019 states that 81% of Slough residents are satisfied with parks and open spaces in Slough in 2010[69] but recognises that parks usage as well as physical activity levels in Slough are lower than national and regional averages.

8.2.11   Slough's Core Strategy supports several strategies including the Sustainable Community Strategy and the High Level Environment Strategy by contributing to key cross- cutting themes including health, economic regeneration and protecting the environment[70].

8.2.12   There are a number of large, publically accessible green spaces in the Plan area. These include the following:

- Mercian Recreation Ground;
- Cippenham Village Green;
- Deerwood Park;
- Upton Court Park;
- Kedermister Park;
- Salt Hill Park;
- Godolphin Playing Fields; and

---

[68] Patrick Mckernan, Forestry Commission and Matthew Grose, High Weald AONB Unit (2007) An analysis of accessible natural greenspace provision in the South East. Available at: http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/accnatgreenrep-report.pdf/$FILE/accnatgreenrep-report.pdf
[69] Slough Borough Council (2014) Slough Borough Council Parks and Open Spaces Strategy 2014 – 2019. Available at: http://www.slough.gov.uk/moderngov/documents/s37766/Appendix%20A%20-%20Parks%20and%20Open%20Spaces%20Strategy%20Summary.pdf
[70] Slough Borough Council (2008) Slough Local Development Framework. Core Strategy 2006 – 2026. Development Plan Document. Available at: https://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/SLDF-Core-Strategy.pdf

• Kennedy Park[71].

8.2.13   GI is important for human health as it provides open recreational space, which may encourage physical exercise, and an attractive public realm, which may contribute to mental wellbeing. A GI baseline is presented in **Chapter 6**.

Box 8.1: Key Health Issues for Slough
• Overall there is considered to be good access for residents in Slough to GI across the borough. • The life expectancy from birth for male and female Slough residents is lower than the England average. • Slough residents have access to a range of green spaces just outside the borough.

---

[71] Slough Borough Council (2016) List of parks & green spaces. Available at:
http://www.slough.gov.uk/leisure-parks-and-events/list-of-parks-and-green-spaces.aspx

9   Historic Environment

9.1   Summary of policy and plan review

9.1.1   Historic environment priorities from the international to the local level seek to address a range of issues. These include protecting designated resources and their settings (such as listed buildings, conservation areas, scheduled monuments, and registered parks and gardens); recognising the cultural aspects of landscape and establishing mechanisms for their protection against inappropriate development; recognising the potential value of unknown and undesignated resources; and conserving/enhancing sites and landscapes of archaeological and heritage interest so that they may be enjoyed by both present and future generations.

9.1.2   Regional guidance provides information on the way in which streets and public open spaces are managed in order to reinforce local character, creating a set of general principles for the continuing maintenance and enhancement of space. The Local PPPs are in line with the regional, national and international PPPs, providing more specific guidance and information.

9.2   Summary of baseline data

Designated features

9.2.1   Many important features and areas for the historic environment in Slough are recognised through statutory historic environment designations; listed buildings and Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAMs). A SAM is a nationally important archaeological site or historic feature that is given protection under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (see **Table 9.1**). Other important features are recognized through non-statutory environment designations; Local listings, Historic Parks and Gardens and Conservation Areas. Historic England is the statutory consultee for certain categories of listed building consent and all applications for scheduled monument consent. The historic environment is protected through the planning system, via conditions imposed on developers and other mechanisms.

9.2.2   Listed buildings are those that have been placed on the Statutory List of Buildings of Special Architectural or Historic Interest. There are 64 listed buildings in Slough. Five of these are Grade I listed and 59 are either Grade II (buildings of special interest warranting effort for preservation) or Grade II* (important buildings of more than special interest). Slough also has over 60 locally listed buildings but as they are not covered by statutory protection this number is likely to continue to decline as pressure for redevelopment increases[72].

9.2.3   In addition to listed buildings there are two SAMs in Slough.

9.2.4   There are two registered parks and gardens in Slough (see **Table 9.1 and Figure 9.1**). The Register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest was first published by English Heritage in 1988. Although inclusion on the Register brings no additional statutory controls, registration is a material consideration in planning terms. Parks and gardens are registered as: Grade I, which are parks and gardens deemed to be of international importance; Grade II*, which are parks and gardens deemed to be of exceptional significance; and Grade II, which are deemed to be of sufficiently high level of interest to merit a national designation.

---

[72] Slough Borough Council (2004) The Local Plan for Slough. Accessed on 26/07/16. Available at: http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/Local_Plan_(2004).pdf
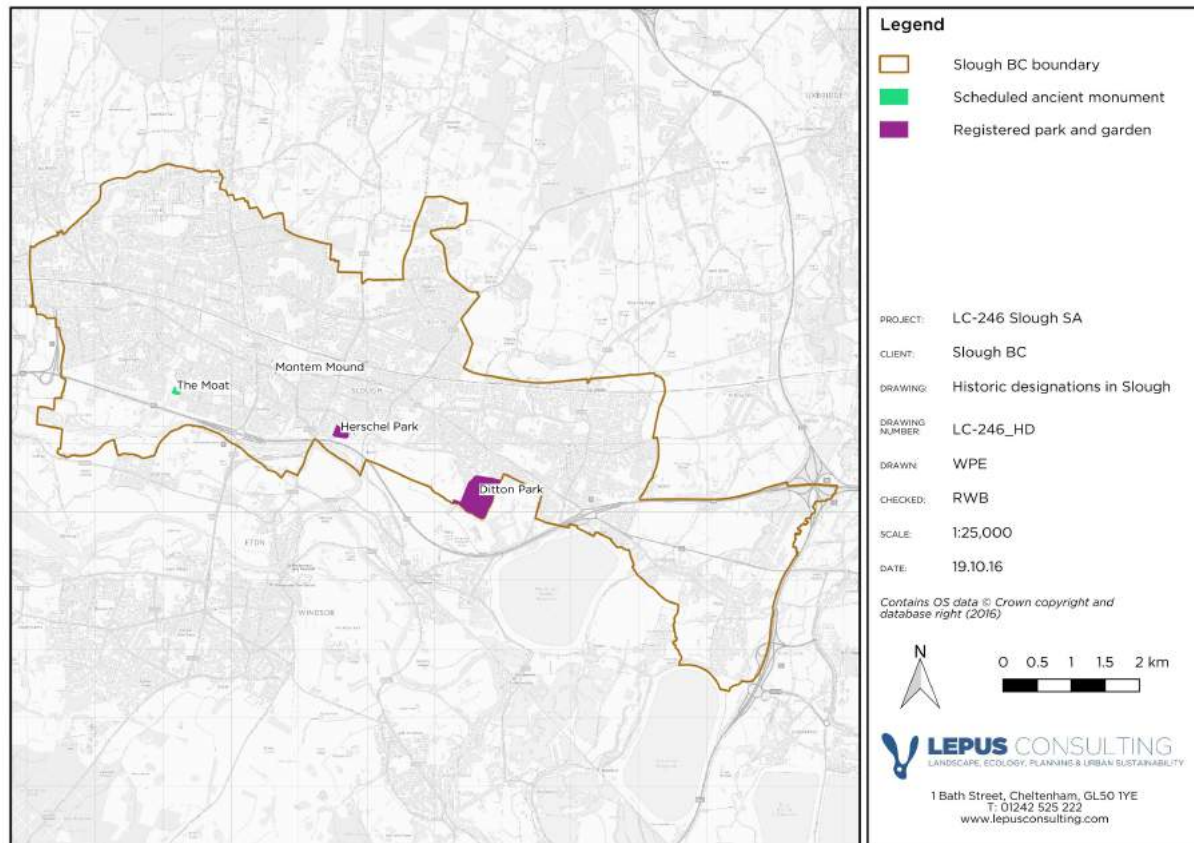
Figure 9.1: Historic designations in Slough[73]

Table 9.1: Historic designations within Slough[74]

Name of Heritage Asset	Designation
Montem Mound: a motte at Salt Hill, Upton-cum Chalvey	Scheduled Ancient Monument
Moated site at Cippenham Court	Scheduled Ancient Monument
Herschel Park	Registered Park and Garden Grade II
Ditton Park	Registered Park and Garden Grade II

9.2.5   Conservation areas are areas of special architectural or historic interest, the character or appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance. Local authorities have the power to designate conservation areas in any area of 'special architectural or historic interest' whose character or appearance is worth protecting or enhancing. This is judged against local and regional criteria, rather than national importance as is the case with listing. Conservation Area designations increase the local planning authority's control over demolition of buildings and over certain alterations to residential properties that would normally be classed as 'permitted development' and not require planning permission. There are five conservation areas located in Slough:

---

[73] Map contains historic designations data from Slough Borough Council (2016)
[74] Historic England (2016) Search the List. Available at: https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/

- Colnbrook;

- St. Bernard's School;

- St. Mary's Church (Langley);

- Sussex Place/Clifton Road; and

- Upton Park/Upton Village[75].

9.2.6   More details on each of these conservation areas can be found in appendix 4 of the Slough Local Plan[76].

9.2.7   Since 2008, English Heritage has released an annual Heritage at Risk Register. The Heritage at Risk Register highlights the Grade I and Grade II* Listed Buildings, and SAMs, Conservation Areas, wreck sites and registered parks and gardens in England deemed to be 'at risk'.

Non-designated features

9.2.8   Not all of the borough's historic environment resource and heritage assets are subject to statutory designations; non-designated features comprise a significant aspect of heritage, which is often experienced on a daily basis by many people – whether at home, work or leisure. Whilst not listed, many buildings and other features are of historic interest. Likewise, not all nationally important archaeological remains are scheduled. There may be unrecorded archaeological artefacts in the area, which have not yet been discovered.

9.2.9   The Archaeology Data Service shows 227 records of physical archaeological evidence in Slough[77]. This includes records of known features as well as digs and excavations, some of which resulted in archaeological finds, some did not. As most of the borough has already seen redevelopment, archaeological remains are not considered to be a key issue in Slough.

---

[75] Slough Borough Council (2016) Conservation areas & listed buildings. Available at:
http://www.slough.gov.uk/council/strategies-plans-and-policies/conservation-areas-and-listed-buildings.aspx
[76] Slough Borough Council (2004) Slough Local Plan. Available at:
http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/Local_Plan_(2004).pdf
[77] Archaeology Data Service (2016) ARCHSEARCH. Available at: http://archaeologydataservice.ac.uk/

9.2.10   Slough suffers from a poor image at times based on its urban quality. This can have a negative impact on land values and the sense of community or ownership residents feel for a local area. Social well-being is an important thread in sustainable development and the quality and condition of residential streets is therefore important. Slough also has defined four "Residential Areas of Exceptional Character" on parts of Burnham Lane, Langley Road, London Road and Upton Court Road.   These are s established residential areas characterised by their larged detached family houses on main road frontages that have not substantially changed in their original form or features.   These areas have an exceptional character within the context of Slough, and are thus important to preserve to retain their character and amenity.

Box 9.1: Key Historic Environment Issues for Slough
• Development in the borough may have the potential to lead to positive or negative impacts on buildings and areas of local value in Slough, including Historic Parks and Gardens • Design of new buildings and public realm should respect those buildings of value to the Local Community

10   Housing

10.1   Summary of policy and plan review

10.1.1   The National Planning Policy Framework requires that local planning authorities identify objectively assessed housing need (the OAN), and that Local Plans translate those needs into land provision targets. Like all parts of the plan, such housing targets should be informed by robust and proportionate evidence[78].

10.1.2   National and sub-regional objectives for housing include improvements in housing affordability; high quality housing; a more stable housing market; improved choice; location of housing supply which supports accessibility and patterns of economic development; and an adequate supply of publicly-funded housing for those who need it. In addition, new homes should meet the government target of zero carbon emissions from 2016. There are also duties to meet the needs of particular communities such as gypsies, travelling show people, those living in house boats and those who want to build their own homes.

10.1.3   There is an emerging Housing Strategy that will set out how the Council plans to continue to fund affordable housing and support market housing which may influence the Vision and Issues and Options of the Local Plan.

10.2   Baseline data

Housing stock

10.2.1   The housing stock of Slough was 54,126 dwellings in the 2016.

Private rented sector

10.2.2   Slough has a large private rented sector.

---

[78] PAS (July 2015) Objectively Assessed Need and Housing Targets: Technical Advice Note

House prices and affordable housing

10.2.3   The average value of housing in Slough is £393,615 as of June 2016. House prices in Slough have increased by 11.15% from the previous year[79].

10.2.4   Average house prices in Slough are higher than the average in England, which is £279,768 as of June 2016[80].

Objectively Assessed Housing Need

10.2.5   Slough commissioned GL Hearn to carry out a Strategic Housing Market Assessment and predict what 'Objectively Assessed housing need' (OAHN) will be over the 2016-2036 plan period. This concluded that Slough needs 927 new homes per year. The housing target in the Core Strategy was 315 homes a year and this has been increased to 550 in the Five Year Plan. This would mean building 20,000 homes from 2013 to 2036 which is the equivalent of the 7 wards to the west of the town centre. The Study also concluded that a large proportion of these new homes need to be affordable. All of this shows what huge pressure there is for more housing in Slough.

Population

10.2.6   In Slough, 39.2% of the population is Asian. This group tends to have higher household size and higher overcrowding levels, leading to an implied degree of disadvantage in the housing market and the group is expected to grow. Approximately 13% to 16% of Asian households are overcrowded compared to 2% to 3% of the White (British) group. Approximately 7.9% of households in Slough are pensioner only households. This is lower than the percentage for England and Wales at 12.4%. Approximately 49.1% of households in Slough are families with children. About 22.4% of households in Slough contain a person with a long-term health problem or disability. This is lower than the percentage for England at 25.7%[81].

---

[79] Zoopla (2016) House prices & values. Available at: http://www.zoopla.co.uk/house-prices/
[80] Zoopla (2016) House prices & values. Available at: http://www.zoopla.co.uk/house-prices/
[81] Ibid.
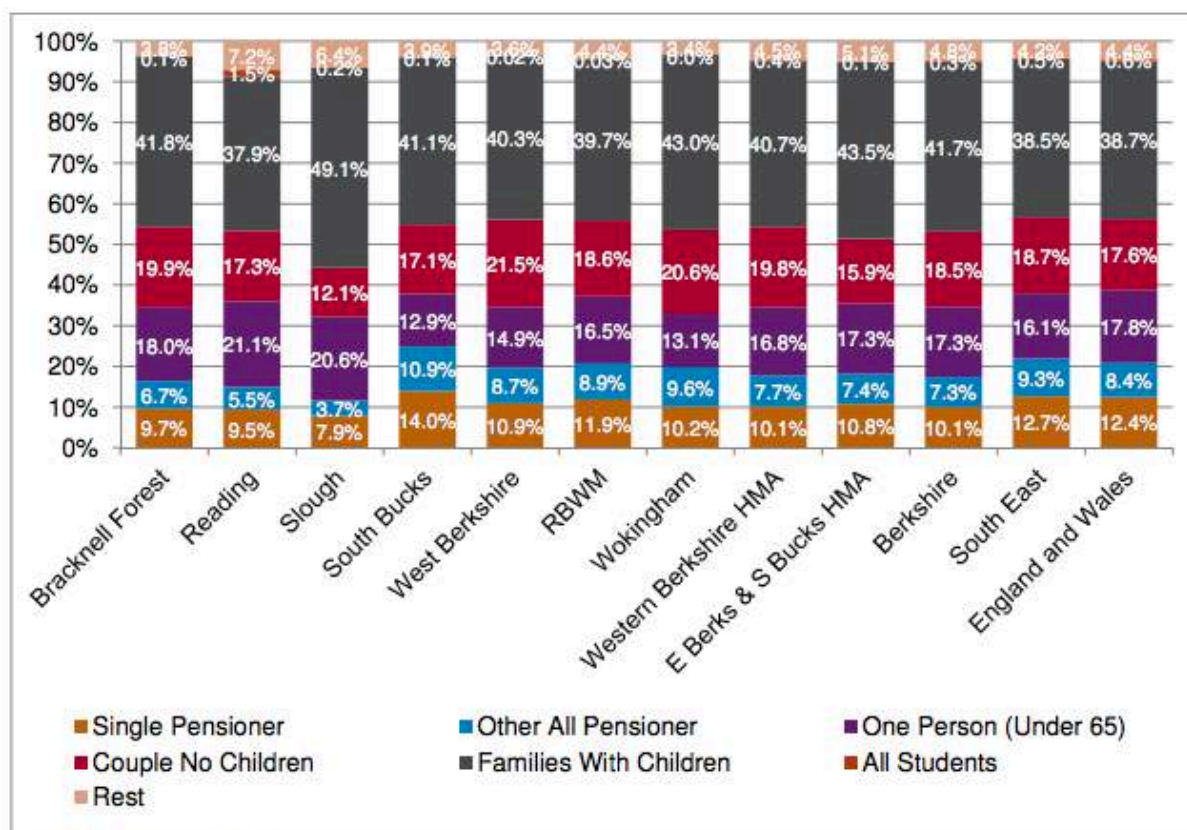
Source: Census 2011

Figure 10.1: Household types as a percentage of all households, 2011[82]

Box 10.1: Key Housing Issues for Slough
• Slough's OAHN has shown the Plan needs to address a high need for housing and affordable housing.
• The relatively affordability of housing of all tenures in Slough compared to its neighbours has implications for creating mixed and balanced communities.
• There are a high number of homes in Slough that are overcrowded, partly due to affordability issues.
• The quality of much of the private rented stock may be poor.
• The quality of new development has the potential to improve the image of Slough

[82] Census (2011) Sourced from: GL Hearn (2016) Berkshire (including South Bucks) Strategic Housing Market Assessment. Accessed on 27/07/16. Available at: http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/Berks-SHMA-Feb-2016.pdf

11   Landscape and townscape

11.1   Summary of policy and plan review

11.1.1   At the EU, national, regional and local levels emphasis is placed on the protection of landscape as an essential component of people's surroundings and sense of place. The PPPs seek to increase recognition of the linkages and interplay between the different aspects and roles of landscape, including: local distinctiveness; the historic environment; natural resources; farming, forestry and food; educational, leisure and recreation opportunities; transport and infrastructure; settlements and nature conservation.

11.1.2   The link between landscapes and a range of other aspects is provided with a close focus by the PPPs' focus on green infrastructure provision. In this respect policies advocate the provision of open space, green networks and woodland as opportunities for sport and recreation, creating healthier communities, supporting and enhancing biodiversity, reducing temperatures in built up areas in summer, reducing the impact of noise and air pollution, and limiting the risk of flooding.

11.2   Baseline data

Landscape character

11.2.1   Slough lies within National Character Area (NCA) 115, Thames Valley[83]. NCAs divide the country into a broad range of landscape types. A National Character Area Profile has been created for each NCA, which details key features of each NCA and trends in, and divers in, landscape change.

11.2.2   Key characteristics of the Thames Valley NCA include flat, low-lying land rising to low, river-terraced hills, limited farming, pockets of woodland, open grassland, parkland, wetlands and small but biologically important areas of lowland heathland.

---

[83] Natural England (2015) NCA Profile: 115 Thames Valley (NE379). Available at:
http://publications.naturalengland.org.uk/publication/3865943?category=587130

Landscape designations

11.2.3   Colne Valley Regional Park lies partially within the borough of Slough. The Colne Valley Park is considered the first substantial areas of countryside to the west of London. The Valley consists of a mosaic of farmland, woodland, rivers and lakes. The Colne Valley Park is an important landscape feature. Slough forms a crucial mid-way point connecting the north and south of the park, and provides informal recreation opportunities just outside the borough. The location of the Colne Valley Park is shown on **Figure 11.1**.

Figure 11.1: Colne Valley Regional Park[84]

---

[84] Colne Valley Regional Park (2014) Visitor Guide. Accessed on 02/08/16. Available at: http://www.colnevalleypark.org.uk/sites/default/files/Visitor%20guide.pdf

Green Belt

11.2.4   The borough of Slough contains areas of the London (Metropolitan) green belt. Although green belt is widely seen as a means of preventing urban sprawl it is also a useful means of maintaining and sustaining landscape character, quality and environmental protection.

11.2.5   Whilst the green belt is not a statutory landscape designation, it is a significant element of landscape protection in the area. The green belt is intended to[85]:

- Check the unrestricted sprawl of larger built-up areas;
- Prevent neighbouring towns from merging into one another;
- Assist in safeguarding the countryside from encroachment;
- Preserve the setting and special character of historic towns; and
- Assist in urban regeneration, by encouraging the recycling of derelict and other urban land.

Tranquillity

11.2.6   New employment, residential and retail growth in the borough of Slough can have significant effects on landscape quality, including through impacts of noise pollution, light pollution and broader effects on people's perceptions of tranquillity.

11.2.7   **Figure 11.2** presents a map of tranquillity in Berkshire. This map shows that the borough of Slough (located in the far east of Berkshire) is amongst the least tranquil areas of Berkshire.

11.2.8   Slough's Local Transport Plan identifies noise from the M4, the A4 at Brand's Hill and the A4 in the town centre as a potential issue. These parts of Slough are also generally the same areas experiencing poor air quality[86].

---

[85] NPPF (2012) Chapter 9: Protecting Green Belt land. Available at:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf
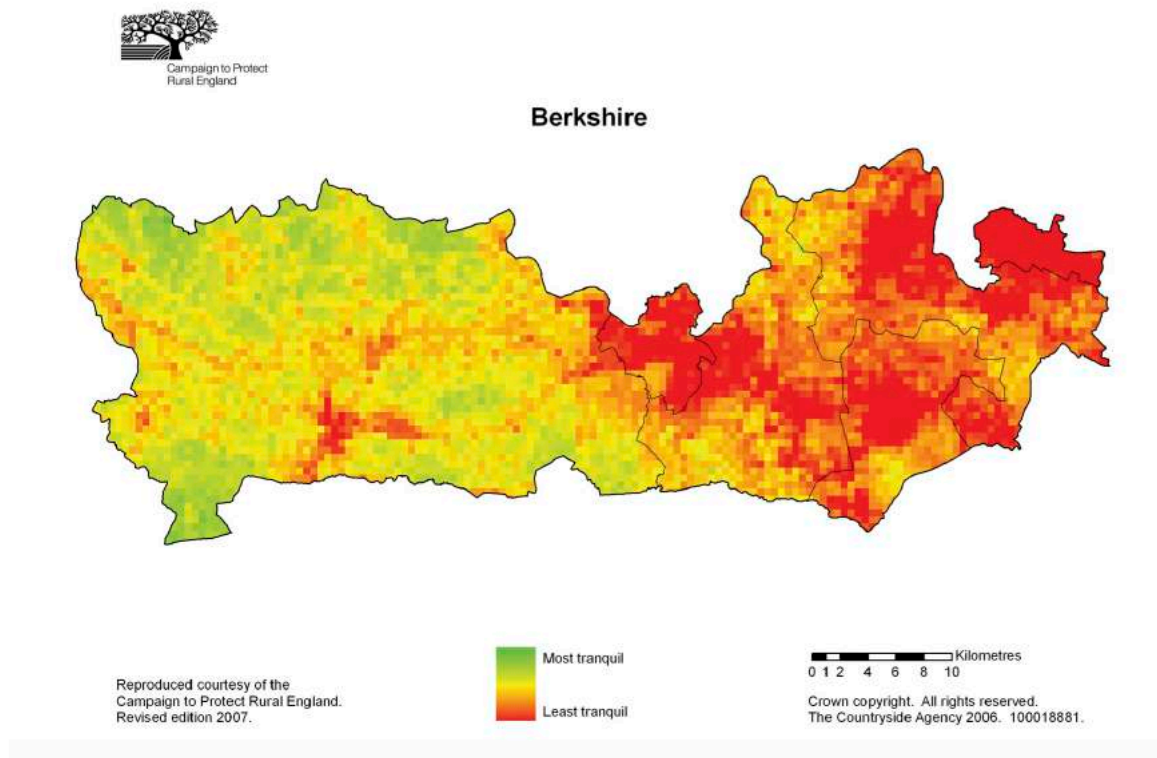[86] Slough Borough Council (2011) Slough's Third Local Transport Plan. Available at:
http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/Third-LTP-Core-Strategy.pdf

Reproduced courtesy of the
Campaign to Protect Rural England.
Revised edition 2007.

Most tranquil

Least tranquil

Kilometres
0 1 2   4   6   8   10

Crown copyright. All rights reserved.
The Countryside Agency 2006. 100018881.

Figure 11.2: Tranquillity in Berkshire[87]

Box 11.1: Key Landscape Issues for Slough
• Part of the borough of Slough lies within the London Metropolitan Green Belt.
• The Colne Valley Regional Park is partially located within the borough of Slough.
• Slough is amongst the least tranquil areas of Berkshire.
• There are distinctive views of Windsor Castle.

---

[87] CPRE (2007) Tranquility Map: Berkshire. Available at:
http://www.cpre.org.uk/resources/countryside/tranquil-places/item/1833-

12   Material Assets

12.1   Summary of policy and plan review

12.1.1   The material assets sustainability theme covers a range of policy areas, including waste management, minerals, energy production and previously developed land.

12.1.2   National level PPPs seek to the protect minerals resources and promote appropriate after uses for minerals workings. PPPs at all levels seek to promote the 'waste hierarchy'. The waste hierarchy seeks to prioritise waste management in the following order: reduction; reuse; recycling and composting; energy recovery; and disposal. National and regional PPPs also support the use of previously developed land.

12.1.3   The Waste Local Plan for Berkshire was published in December 1998 and is now out of date. Saved policies from this document will continue to apply for development management[88].

12.1.4   The Replacement Minerals Local Plan for Berkshire was published in 2001 and is now out of date. Saved policies from this document will continue to apply for development control policies with the possible exception of Policy 10[89].

12.1.5   An expansion of renewable energy production is strongly promoted by European and national PPPs. Under EU Directive 2001/77/EC, member states were jointly required to achieve 22% of electricity production from renewable energies by 2010; with a UK-specific target of 10%. This has been reinforced by the UK's recent Renewable Energy Strategy, which seeks to produce 15% of electricity from renewable sources by 2020.

---

[88] Slough Borough Council (2016) Minerals & waste. Available at:
http://www.slough.gov.uk/council/strategies-plans-and-policies/minerals-and-waste.aspx
[89] Slough Borough Council (2016) Minerals & waste. Available at:
http://www.slough.gov.uk/council/strategies-plans-and-policies/minerals-and-waste.aspx

12.2 Baseline data

Energy consumption

12.2.1   The average domestic energy consumption in Slough in 2013 was approximately 15.0 tonnes of oil equivalent MWh (megawatt-hours), compared to an average of 17.8 tonnes of oil equivalent MWh in the South East and 17.3 tonnes of oil equivalent MWh for the United Kingdom[90].

12.2.2   Energy consumption from industrial and commercial sources in Slough was 1,322.8 GWh (gigawatt-hours) in 2013. The average energy consumption from industrial and commercial sources for the South East was 917.8 GWh in 2013, which is less than that from Slough[91].

12.2.3   Energy consumption from the transport sector in Slough was 753.9 GWh in 2013. This compares to average energy consumption of the transport sector in the South East of 1,008.1 GWh in 2013.[92]

12.2.4   The overall percentage of households in fuel poverty in Slough is 10%. This is the same as the average percentage for the South East of England. The percentage of households in fuel poverty in Slough is shown in **Figure 12.1**.

12.2.5   The following wards in the borough of Slough have over 10% of households in fuel poverty:

- Baylis and Stoke;
- Central;
- Chalvey;
- Farnham; and
- Wexham Lea.

12.2.6   A super output area (SOA) located in the Baylis and Stoke ward has the highest proportion of households experiencing fuel poverty in Slough at 22% (SOA E01016444)[93].

---

[90] DECC (2013) Sub-national total final energy consumption statistics: 2005 – 2013. Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/total-final-energy-consumption-at-regional-and-local-authority-level-2005-to-2010
[91] Ibid.
[92] DECC (2013) Sub-national total final energy consumption statistics: 2005 – 2013. Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/total-final-energy-consumption-at-regional-and-local-authority-level-2005-to-2010
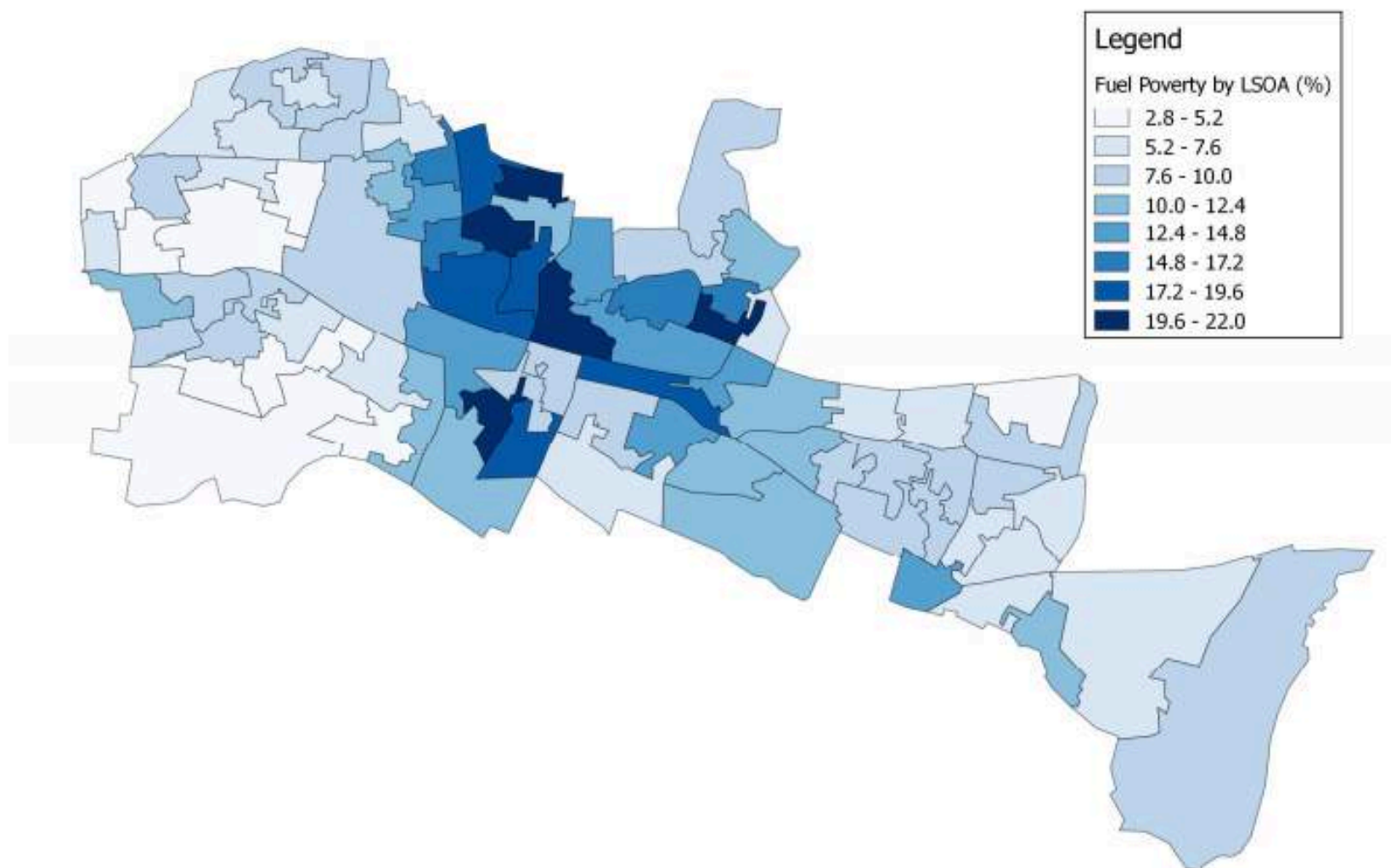[93] Slough Borough Council (2015) Slough Borough Council HECA Progress Report. Available at: https://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/SBC-HECA-progress-report-March-2015.pdf

Figure 12.1: Percentage of households in fuel poverty in Slough[94]

---

[94] Slough Borough Council (2015) Slough Borough Council HECA Progress Report. Available at: https://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/SBC-HECA-progress-report-March-2015.pdf

Renewable energy

12.2.7 Renewable energy generated 68,475 MWh of electricity in Slough in 2014. This is 0.11% of the total renewable electricity generated in the UK in 2014[95].

12.2.8 There are two commercial renewable energy generation schemes in the borough of Slough, a combined heat and power scheme located at Slough Trading Estate and a waste scheme (including landfill gas and incineration) located at Lakeside Industrial Estate[96].

Waste and minerals

12.2.9 The Waste Local Plan for Berkshire was published in December 1998 and is now out of date. Saved policies from this document will continue to apply for development management[97].

12.2.10 The Waste Local Plan for Berkshire[98] identifies four main aims:

- To provide a policy framework for the development and use of land for waste management facilities consistent with the objectives and policies of the Waste Management Plan and planning policies in national and regional guidance and strategic and local plans;
- To ensure that there are sufficient sites available within the Plan period to accommodate the new waste management facilities required to put the Waste Management Plan into effect;
- To provide a detailed policy framework against which to judge specific proposals for waste facilities; and
- To minimize the adverse impacts resulting from the development and operation of waste management facilities.

12.2.11 The Replacement Minerals Local Plan for Berkshire was published in 2001 and is now out of date. Saved policies from this document will continue to apply for development control policies with the possible exception of Policy 10[99].

---

[95] DECC (2014) Regional Renewable Statistics. Available at:
https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/regional-renewable-statistics
[96] Renewables Map (2016) Interactive Map of Renewable and Alternative Energy Projects in the UK.
Available at: http://www.renewables-map.co.uk/
[97] Slough Borough Council (2016) Minerals & waste. Available at:
http://www.slough.gov.uk/council/strategies-plans-and-policies/minerals-and-waste.aspx
[98] Babtie (1998) Waste Local Plan for Berkshire. Available at:
http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/Berkshire-Joint-Waste-Local-Plan-1998.pdf
[99] Slough Borough Council (2016) Minerals & waste. Available at:
http://www.slough.gov.uk/council/strategies-plans-and-policies/minerals-and-waste.aspx

12.2.12   Slough is not self-sufficient in supply for all the aggregates it needs. Berkshire imports a significant amount of aggregates including crushed limestone, sand and gravel[100].

12.2.13   **Figure 12.2** and **Figure 12.3** show the two preferred areas in Slough from the Minerals plan (no. 10 Manor Farm in the west of the Borough and no. 11 Riding Court Farm in the east). These are for valley gravel, with a total area of about 60 ha and roughly 3million tonnes. Although permission is given by planning for extraction, minerals can only be worked where they occur and it is commercially viable to do so. Practical issues around access to them effectively render them unviable so there is no significant impact arising from the extraction of minerals within the Plan area to address.

Figure 12.2: Minerals plan preferred area 10: Manor Farm[101]

[100] Babtie (2001) Replacement Minerals Local Plan for Berkshire. Available at:
http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/Berks-Joint-Replacement-Minerals-Local-Plan-2001-Part-1.pdf
[101] Joint Strategic Planning Unit (2001) Replacement Minerals Local Plan for Berkshire. Accessed on 02/08/16. Available at: http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/Berks-Joint-Replacement-Minerals-Local-Plan-2001-Part-2a-Appendices-1-to-3.pdf
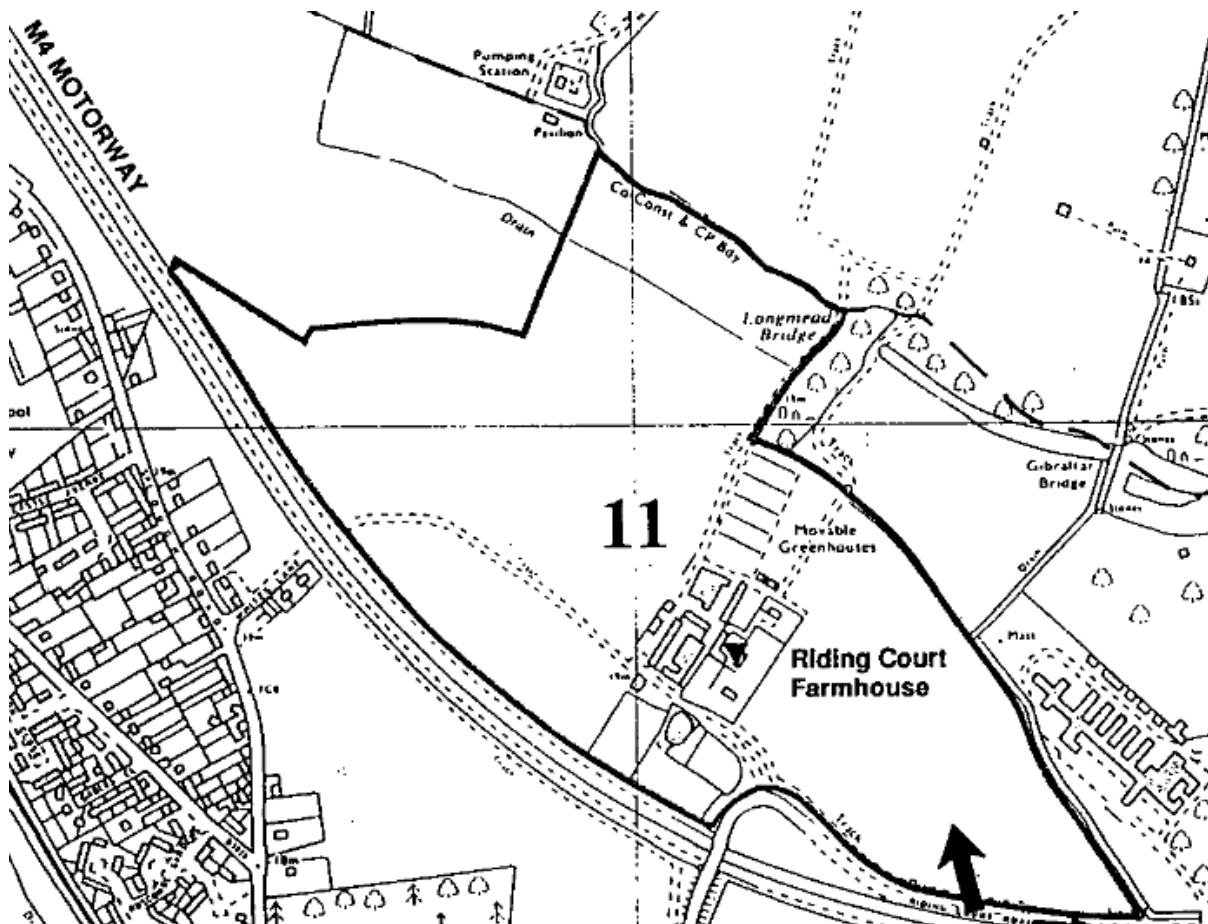
Figure 12.3: Minerals plan preferred area 11: Riding Court Farm[102]

Table 12.1: Waste arisings and recycling rates for local authority collected and household waste in Slough in 2014/15[103]

Year	Total local authority collected waste (tonnes)	Household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting (tonnes)	Non-household waste (tonnes)	Non-household waste sent for reuse, recycling or compost (tonnes)
Slough	57,300	15,059	5,659	1,008

---

[102] Joint Strategic Planning Unit (2001) Replacement Minerals Local Plan for Berkshire. Accessed on 02/08/16. Available at: http://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/Berks-Joint-Replacement-Minerals-Local-Plan-2001-Part-2a-Appendices-1-to-3.pdf
[103] DEFRA (2015) ENV18 – Local authority collected waste: annual results tables. Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/statistical-data-sets/env18-local-authority-collected-waste-annual-results-tables

12.2.14   There are three household waste recycling centres available to Slough residents:

- Chalvey: White Hart Road, off Spackmans Way, SL1 2SF;
- Burnham: Crowpiece Lane, SL2 3TG; and
- Langley: Langley Park Road, SL3 6DD[104].

Box 12.1: Key Material Assets Issues for Slough
• Slough has relatively low levels of domestic energy consumption compared with regional and national averages. • Energy consumption from industrial and commercial sources in Slough is high. • Five wards in the borough of Slough have over 10% of households in fuel poverty. • There is a need to increase the proportion of waste sent for reuse, recycling or compost and move away from the use of landfill for waste disposal. • Slough has a low chance of providing minerals sites. • The energy from waste plants deal with Slough's waste needs.

---

[104] Slough Borough Council (2016) Household Waste Recycling Centres: Available at:
http://www.slough.gov.uk/bins-and-recycling/household-waste-recycling-centres.aspx

13 Population and Quality of life

13.1 Summary of policy and plan review

13.1.1 PPPs on population include a range of different objectives, including tackling social exclusion; improving human rights and public participation; improving health; and ensuring every child has the chance to fulfil their potential by reducing levels of education failure, ill health, substance misuse, crime and anti-social behaviour. At the regional and local levels, support for cultural diversity and young people are key aims.

13.1.2 A wide range of objectives exist within policies and plans from an European to a local level with regards to quality of life. In particular these focus on improving social progress and social inclusion; reducing poverty; improving housing quality; preventing crime, anti-social behaviour and truancy; improving skill levels and employability; and regenerating communities.

13.1.3 The Equality Act 2006 sets out that people should not be disadvantaged on the basis of age; disability; gender; proposed, commenced or completed gender reassignment; race; religion or belief and sexual orientation.

13.2 Baseline data: Slough

Population size and migration

13.2.1 From 2001 to 2011, the population of Slough grew from 119,067[105] to 140,205[106] people according to ONS census data. Slough's population pyramid for mid-2015 is shown in **Figure 13.1**. This can be compared with data for Great Britain in **Figure 13.2**.

---

[105] ONS (2006) Usual resident population, 2001. Available at:
http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/LeadTableView.do?a=7&b=6275234&c=slough&d=13&e=15&g=6397889&i=1001x1003x1032x1004&m=0&r=1&s=1465464872232&enc=1&dsFamilyId=67
[106] ONS (2013) Usual resident population, 2011. Available at:
http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/LeadTableView.do?a=7&b=6275234&c=slough&d=13&e=62&g=6397889&i=1001x1003x1032x1004&m=0&r=1&s=1465464290044&enc=1&dsFamilyId=2473
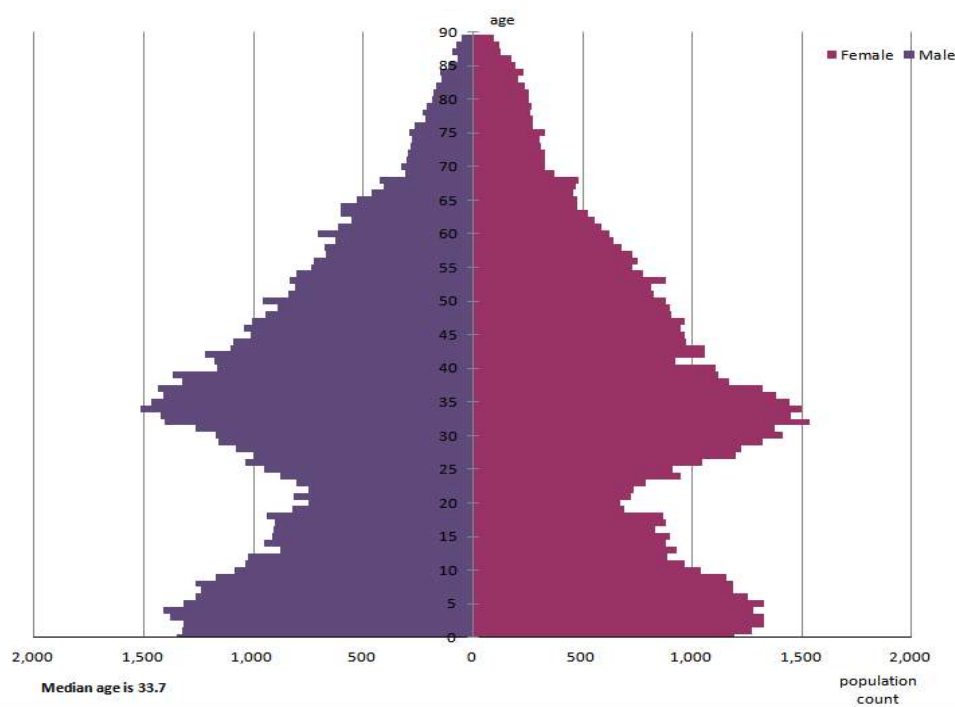
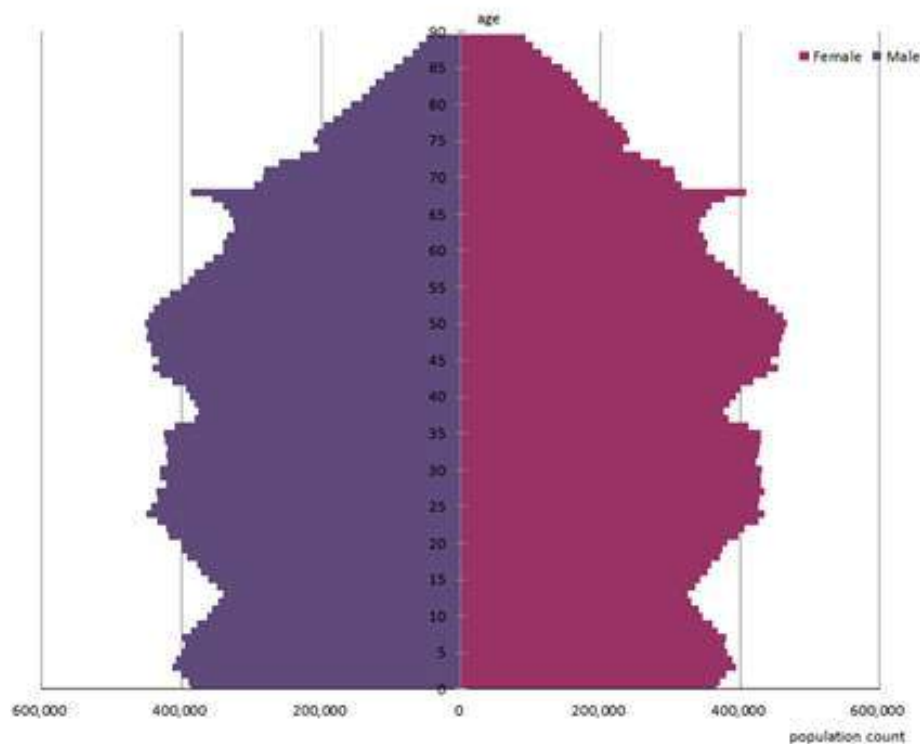**Figure 13.1:** Slough population pyramid mid-2015[107]

Figure 13.2: Great Britain population pyramid mid-2015[108]

---

[107] Graph based on ONS data (2016)

Age Structure

13.2.2   The age structure of Slough's resident population of all ages in June 2014 is shown alongside statistics for the South East and England in **Table 13.1.** In terms of age structure, Slough has a younger population than the South East and England. In Slough, 25.1% of residents fall into the 0 to 15 age band, this is higher than the South East at 19% and England at 19%. 9.4% of Slough residents fall into the 65 and over age band, this is lower than the South East at 18.6% and England at 17.6%. **Table 13.1** also shows that Slough has a high proportion of people in the 25 to 49 age band.

Table 13.1: Resident population estimates by broad age band as of June 2014[109].

	All ages	**0-15**	**16-24**	**25-49**	**50-64**	**65 and over**
Slough	144,600	25.1%	10.3%	40.8%	14.4%	9.4%
South East	8,873,800	19.0%	11.0%	32.9%	18.5%	18.6%
England	54,316,600	19.0%	11.4%	34.0%	18.1%	17.6%

13.2.3   The most significant growth factor that we have to consider is the likely increase in the number of people who live in the borough. Slough's population is predicted to grow from 144,600 in 2014 to 169,600 in 2036, which is an increase of 17%.

13.2.4   The main reason for this increase is that Slough has a very different population profile compared to the national average. Slough has a disproportionately high number of people in the 30 to 40 age groups who in turn have a disproportionately high number of children aged 0 to 10 (see **Figure 13.3**). There are more children under five in Slough (13,260) than there are people over 65 (12,440). This explains why Slough is likely to experience such a large increase in population as the majority of children remain in the borough. This is very significant because it can be seen that the projected population growth will mainly come about because of natural aging of our existing population rather than inward migration (see **Figure 13.4**).

[108] Graph based on ONS data (2016)
[109] ONS (2015) Resident population estimated by broad age band. Available at: http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/LeadTableView.do?a=7&b=6275234&c=slough&d=13&e=13&g=6397889&i=1001x1003x1004&m=0&r=1&s=1465467242872&enc=1&dsFamilyId=1818
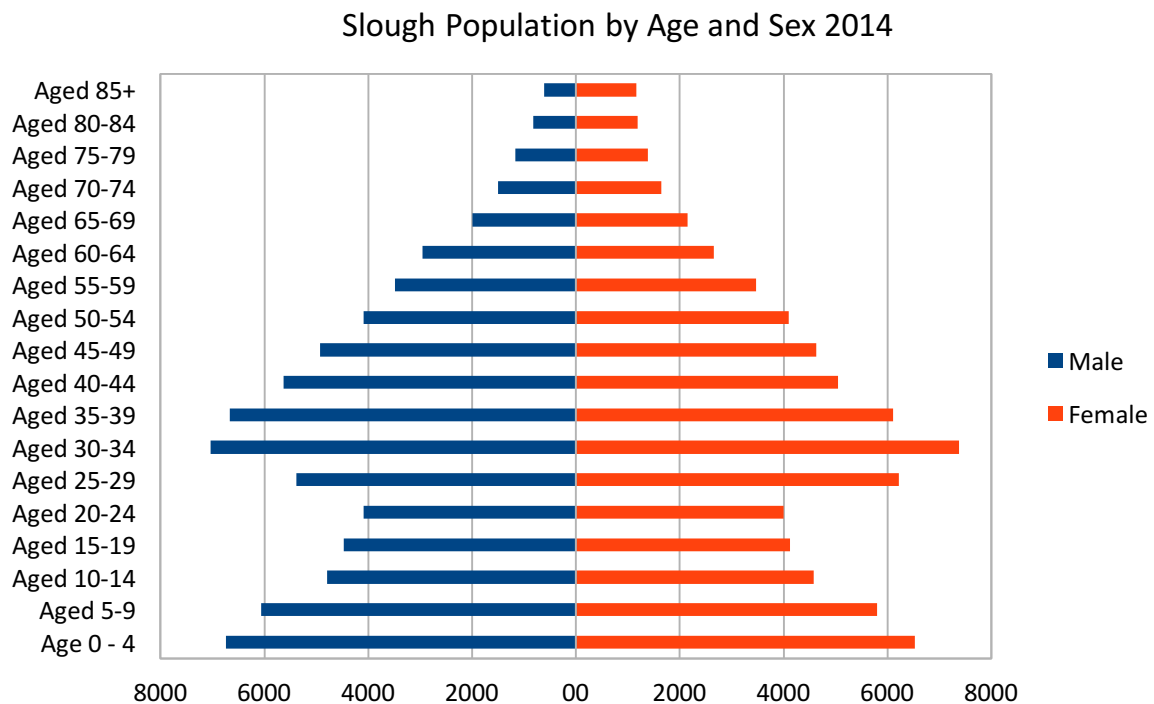
Slough Population by Age and Sex 2014

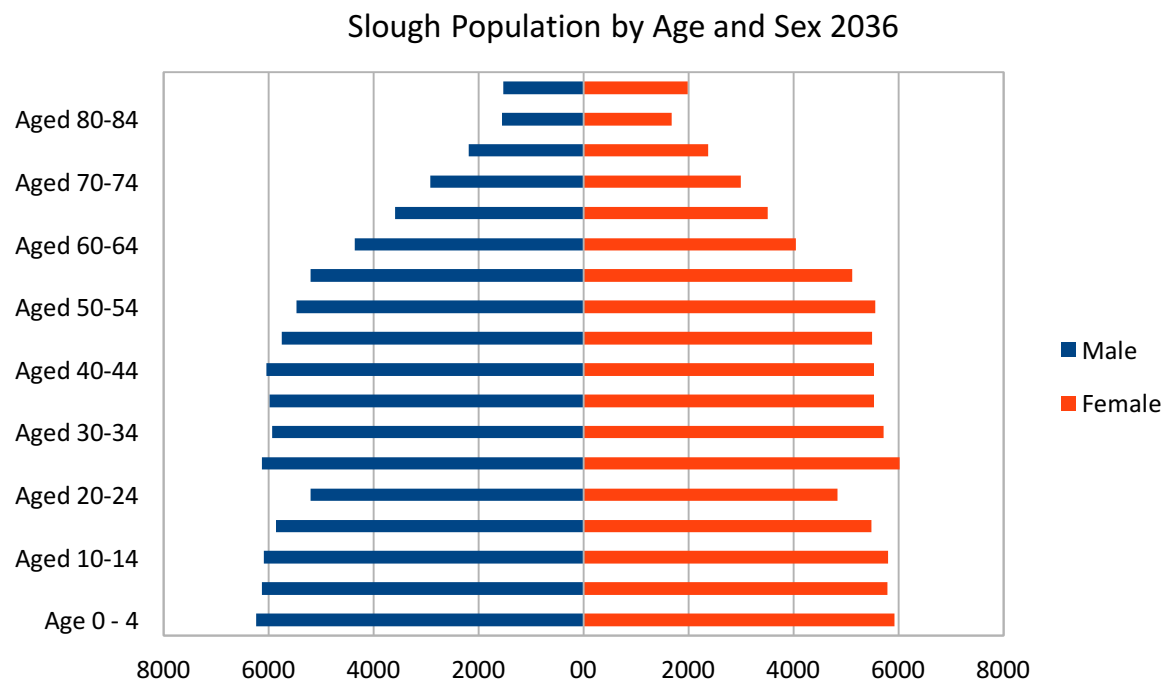**Figure 13.3:** Slough Population by Age and Sex 2014[110]

Slough Population by Age and Sex 2036

Figure 13.4: Slough Population by Age and Sex 2036[111]

---

[110] Graph based on ONS data
[111] Graph based on ONS data

Ethnicity

13.2.5 Census data shows that Slough has a lower percentage of White British residents (34.5%) than the South East (85.2%) and England (79.8%)[112].

13.2.6 In Slough, the most common religion is Christian at 41.2% of residents. Following this, Muslim is the second most common religion (23.3%) and following this, no religion (21.1%)[113].

Deprivation

13.2.7 The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2010 comprises seven aspects of deprivation and disadvantage, each containing a number of component indicators – income, employment, health, education & skills, barriers to housing & services, crime and living environment. These domains are weighted and combined to create the overall IMD 2010.   IMD is a nationally recognised measure of deprivation at lower layer Super-Output Area level (LSOA). LSOAs have on average, a population of around 1,500 people. They are smaller than wards, thus allowing the identification of small pockets of deprivation[114]. There are 78 LSOAs in Slough and 32,482 in England[115].

13.2.8 Slough is the most deprived local authority in Berkshire. Slough's most deprived LSOA is within the most deprived 7.5% of LSOAs nationally. In Slough, 77% of LSOAs are rated amongst the most deprived 50% of areas nationally. The main factors influencing deprivation within the borough of Slough were Crime and Barriers to Housing and Services. 51.3% of Slough's LSOAs are within the top 10% of most deprived LSOAs nationally[116]. **Figure 13.5** shows multiple deprivation across Slough's 78 LSOAs.

[112] ONS (2013) Ethnic Group, 2011. Available at:
http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/LeadTableView.do?a=7&b=6275234&c=slough&d=13&e=62&g=6397889&i=1001x1003x1032x1004&m=0&r=1&s=1465471971531&enc=1&dsFamilyId=2477
[113] ONS (2013) Religion, 2011. Available at:
http://www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk/dissemination/LeadTableView.do?a=7&b=6275234&c=slough&d=13&e=62&g=6397889&i=1001x1003x1032x1004&m=0&r=1&s=1465471971531&enc=1&dsFamilyId=2479
[114] DCLG (2011) The English Indices of Deprivation 2010. Available at:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6871/1871208.pdf
[115] Slough Borough Council (2010) The Index of Multiple Deprivation 2010. Available at:
https://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/Slough-IMD-Report.pdf
[116] Ibid.

Map 2.1 Multiple Deprivation across Slough's 78 LSOAs
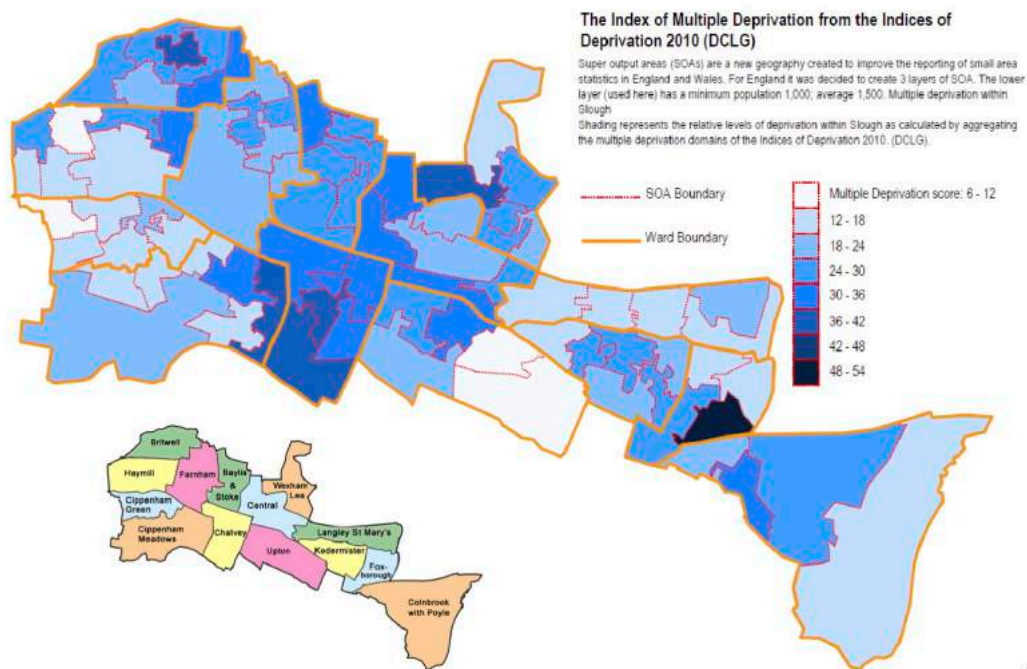
Figure 13.5: Multiple deprivation across Slough's 78 LSOAs[117]

Crime

13.2.9   From April 2012 to March 2013 there were 10,655 notifiable offences in Slough. The following year (2013/14) there were 10,021 notifiable offences. This represents a reduction of almost 6%. In 2014/15 crime in Slough fell further this time by 7.8% with 9,238 notifiable offences.

---

[117] Ibid.

Table 13.2: Crime Statistics for Slough (offences, April 2014 to March 2015)[118]

Offence	2014/15 Slough	2014/15 South East	2014/15 England
Bicycle theft	368	14,048	93,447
Criminal damage and arson	1,448	72,738	503,788
Domestic burglary	617	19,392	197,001
Drug offences	397	21,453	169,757
Miscellaneous crimes against society	151	7,885	52,398
Non-domestic burglary	409	29,650	214,421
Public order offences	348	21,189	159,478
Robbery	159	3,362	50,239
Sexual offences	280	13,131	88,082
Shoplifting	1,120	48,482	326,468
Theft from the person	301	7,652	78,803
Vehicle offences	1,332	39,733	351,438
Violence with injury	1,000	50,061	374,179
Violence without injury	1,308	61,796	404,194
Grand Total	9,238	410,572	3,063,693

13.2.10   Crimes including 'criminal damage and arson', 'domestic burglary', 'non domestic burglary', 'robbery' & 'vehicle offences', 'miscellaneous crimes against society' and 'public order' have seen year by year decreases.

13.2.11   Drug offences peaked in 2013/14 however 2014/15 saw its lowest figures in 3 years. Violence offences are currently at a stable rate. Bike theft and shoplifting fluctuate.

Box 13.1: Key Population and Quality of Life Issues Slough

- Slough's population will increase over the plan e has a young population

- Barriers to housing and crime are the greatest sources of deprivation in Slough

- Slough is the most deprived local authority in Berkshire

- Possible increase in violence with injury and violence without injury following re-classification of offences by the Home Office and improved recording practices by the police force which it is believed will reveal the true scale of violent crimes.

- Crime overall is expected to increase following the inclusion online crime/fraud and cybercrime for the first time.

---

[118] ONS (2015) Notifiable offences recorded by the police.

14 Water and Soil

14.1 Summary of policy and plan review

14.1.1 National water policies are primarily driven by the aims of the EU Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC, as translated into national law by the Water Framework Regulations 2003. Key objectives include improving the quality of rivers and other water bodies to 'good ecological status' by 2015; considering flood risk at all stages of the plan and development process in order to reduce future damage to property and loss of life; and incorporating water efficiency measures into new developments. The Water Framework Directive also requires groundwater to reach 'good status' in terms of quality and quantity by 2015.

14.1.2 National and regional strategies also have a focus on maintaining and protecting the availability of water. Thames Water's Water Resource Management Plan (WRMP) provides the means of enabling water to be supplied and treated in the area. Water supply and use is guided by Environment Agency's Catchment Abstraction Management Strategies (CAMS). The Colne and the Thames CAMS cover the borough of Slough. Setting out how water quality can be improved, the River Basin Management Plans for the Thames and Colne basins also has been prepared by the Environment Agency under the Water Framework Directive.

14.1.3 National and regional policies and strategies on soil seek to: prevent soil pollution; reduce soil erosion from wind and water; maintain soil diversity; improve the quality of soil, including through the remediation of contaminated land and through promoting an increase in organic matter in soil; protect and enhance stores of soil carbon and water; recognise soils' role for natural systems; and increase the resilience of soils to a changing climate.

14.1.4 The PPPs also have a focus on protecting the quality and availability of agricultural land, through reducing soil degradation, maintaining soil productivity, limiting compaction and range of other approaches.

14.1.5 The Environmental Protection Act 1990 (EPA 1990) places a statutory requirement on Slough Borough Council to regulate and enforce Part 2A of it. 'Initial action' taken under this act produced the Council's Prioritisation Procedure, which helped determine a number of Contaminated Sites and create a list of Potentially Contaminated Sites (some of which meet the requirements of a Brownfield Site).

14.1.6   Brownfield Sites play an important role in the most recent Housing and Planning Act 2016; the act received Royal Assent on the 12th May 2016, with the objective to ensure that 90% of suitable brownfield sites have planning permission for housing by 2020. Thus, an assessment of the sites identified as part of the EPA 1990 has the potential to identify and unlock further land suitable for residential development. This evaluation of the risks and costs associated with this task should also be considered.

Information regarding flooding is contained in Chapter 6 Climate change

14.2   Baseline data

Soil

14.2.1   As highlighted by the Soil Strategy for England[119], soil is a vital natural resource, with a range of key functions. These include:

- Support of food, fuel and fibre production;
- Environmental interaction functions (e.g. regulating the flow of and filtering substances from water, emitting and removing atmospheric gases, storing carbon);
- Support of habitats and biodiversity;
- Protection of cultural heritage and archaeology;
- Providing a platform for construction; and
- Providing raw materials.

14.2.2   Soil quality has a strong influence on the quality of agricultural land. The Agricultural Land Classification system provides a method for assessing the quality of farmland to enable informed choices to be made about its future use within the planning system. Land is classified into five grades, with Grade 3 subdivided into Subgrades 3a and 3b. The best and most versatile land is defined as Grades 1, 2 and 3a, which is deemed to be the land which is most flexible, productive and efficient in response to inputs and which can best deliver future crops for food and non food uses such as biomass, fibres and pharmaceuticals[120].

---

[119] DEFRA (2009) Safeguarding our Soils: A Strategy for England. Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69261/pb13297-soil-strategy-090910.pdf
[120] NPPF, (2012), Paragraph 143. Available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/6077/2116950.pdf

14.2.3   The borough of Slough consists mainly of land predominantly in urban use. The borough of Slough contains small areas of Grade 1, Grade 2 and Grade 3 land (See **Figure 14.1**).   The Natural England ALC map (**Figure 14.1**) does not distinguish between Grade 3a agricultural land, which is considered to be best and most versatile, and Grade 3b, which is not. The Magic[121] map application shows some areas of Grade 3a and Grade 3b agricultural land, but this is only mapped in very small areas in Slough.
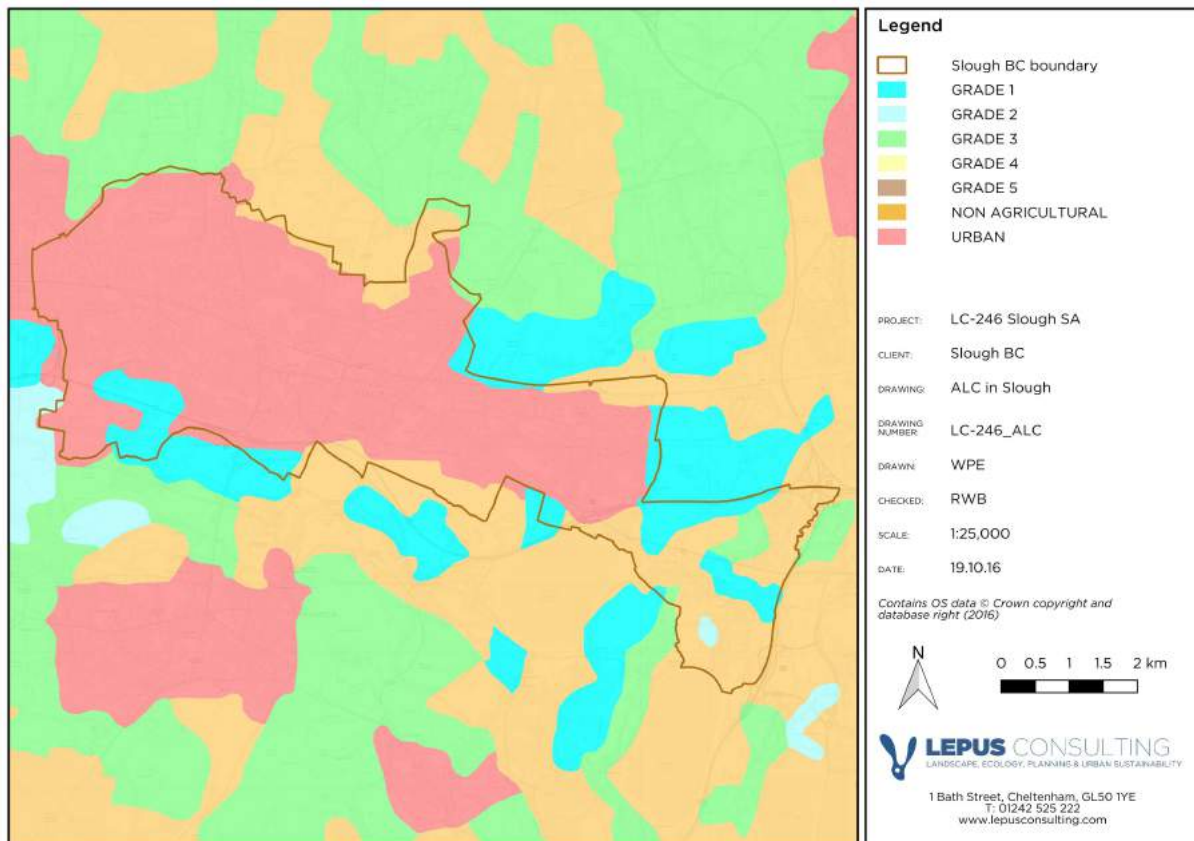

Figure 14.1: ALC map of Slough[122]

Contaminated Land:

14.2.4   Slough currently has three sites Determined as Contaminated Land and as part of identifying them an additional 1023 sites have been identified as Potentially Polluted (throughout the whole of Slough).   All environmental information in relation to potential contaminated sites will be in a spatial database (GIS).

Rivers, Streams and Canals

14.2.5   The plan area contains two main river catchments: the Lower Thames and the Colne[123].

---

[121] Natural England (2015) Magic, available at: http://www.magic.gov.uk/MagicMap.aspx
[122] Map contains ALC data from Natural England (2016)

14.2.6   The Thames River valley is located to the south of Slough and the Lower Colne valley runs through the Colnbrook and Poyle area in the far eastern area of Slough. Smaller watercourses also cross through Slough, these include:

- Jubilee River;
- Huntercombe Lane Stream;
- Two Mile Brook (Chalvey Brook);
- Salt Hill Stream;
- The Myrke;
- Datchet Common Brook;
- Colne Brook;
- Wraysbury River;
- Poyle Channel;
- County Ditch;
- Hawthorn Ditch; and
- Albany Park Ditch[124].

Water resources

14.2.7   Catchment Area Management Strategies (CAMS) are six-year strategies developed by the Environment Agency for managing water resources at the local level. CAMS are to be produced for every river catchment area in England and Wales. Slough is located within the Lower Thames and within the Colne catchment areas[125].

14.2.8   There is no water available for licensing in either the Colne[126] or the Thames catchment area[127]. Flows of the rivers in this catchment are likely to be below the requirement to meet Good Ecological Status. Both the Colne catchment and the Thames catchment have low resources reliability, with consumptive resource available less than 30% of the time.

14.2.9   Due to the limited water resource of the River Colne, the Environment Agency are investigating abstraction licenses within these waterbodies. This will lead to a series of actions to improve sustainability of water abstraction and to increase the ecological status of waterbodies.

[123] Environment Agency (2016) Catchment Data Explorer. Available at:
http://environment.data.gov.uk/catchment-planning/
[124] Slough Borough Council (2012) Slough Local Development Framework. Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. Available at:
https://www.slough.gov.uk/downloads/SFRA_rev_3_draft_May_2012_WebVn.pdf
[125] Environment Agency (2016) Catchment Data Explorer. Available at:
http://environment.data.gov.uk/catchment-planning/
[126] Environment Agency (2013) Colne Abstraction Licensing Strategy. Available at:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/289890/LIT_3256_b8 b491.pdf
[127] Environment Agency (2014) Thames Abstraction Licensing Strategy. Available at:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/321005/LIT_1855.pdf

14.2.10   The Thames Abstraction Licensing Strategy states that no reductions in abstraction are required and that other cost-efficient methods can be used to tackle the impacts of abstraction. The Environment Agency proposes to define the 'hands off flow (HOF)' (the reduction in flow below which abstraction must stop) depending on the level of abstraction required, the perceived level of risk to the waterbody and any local features in need of additional protection.

14.2.11   Slough is supplied with water by Thames Water. Sewerage services are provided by Thames Water. Thames Water states that household water use is expected to increase by over 250 Ml/d until 2040, whereas non-household water use is forecast to stay approximately the same. Drivers of increased water demand include increase in population, decrease in household occupancy and climate change. Thames Water plan to manage and meet future demand through encouraging water use efficiency, for example by installing water meters, and reducing leakage[128].

---

[128] Thames Water (2014) Final Water Resources Management Plan 2015-2040. Available at: http://www.thameswater.co.uk/about-us/5392.htm

Water quality

14.2.13   The vulnerability of groundwater to pollution is determined by the physical, chemical and biological properties of the soil and rocks, which control the ease with which an unprotected hazard can affect groundwater. Groundwater Source Protection Zones (SPZs) indicate the risk to groundwater supplies from potentially polluting activities and accidental releases of pollutants. Designed to protect individual groundwater sources, these zones show the risk of contamination from any activities that might cause pollution in the area. In this context they are used to inform pollution prevention measures in areas which are at a higher risk, and to monitor the activities of potential polluting activities nearby. SPZs are present across the plan area. This has been shown on **Figure 14.2**; areas in Zone 1 (shown in red) are most vulnerable to contamination.
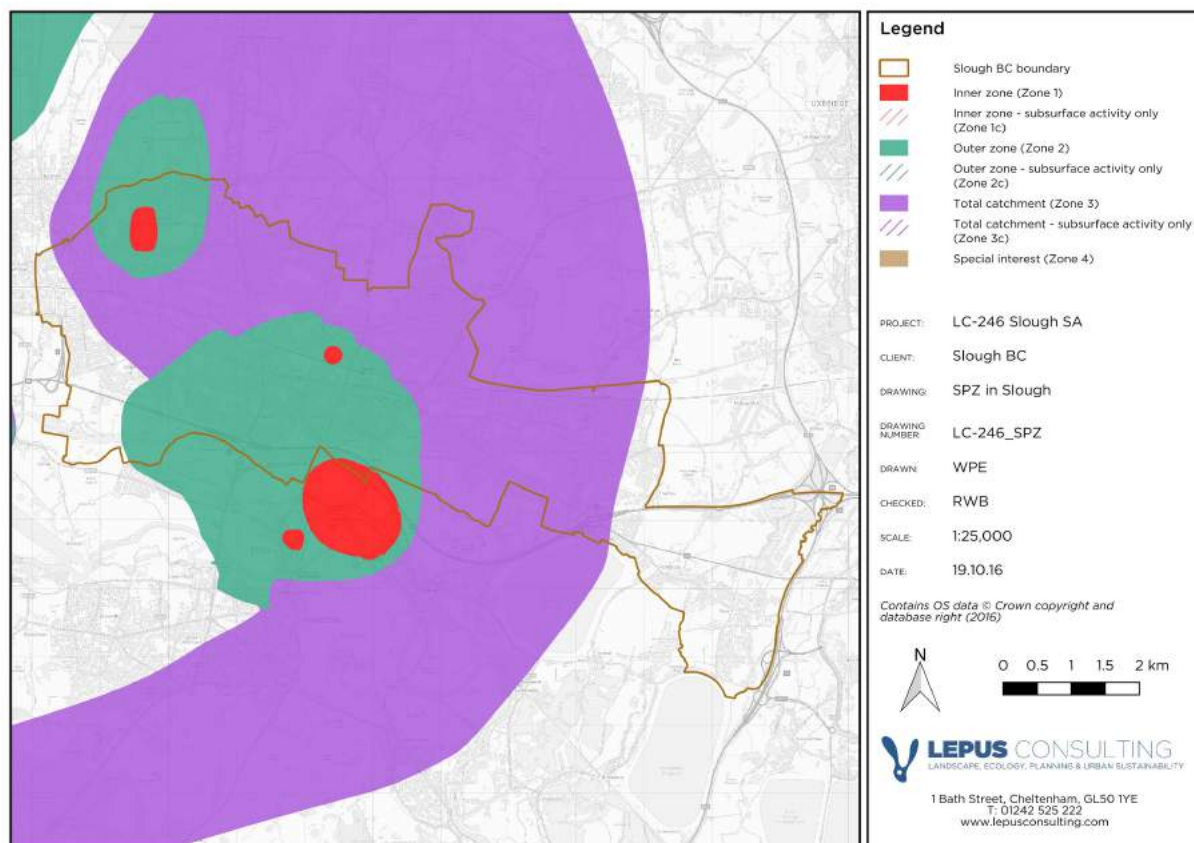

Figure 14.2: Source Protection Zones in Slough[129]

---

[129] Map contains SPZ data from Natural England (2016)

Box 14.1: Key Water and Soil Issues for Slough

- The supply of water to meet domestic and commercial demand is the responsibility of Water companies who produce their own plans to to reduce use per person and meet demand during the plan period.

- Slough has no water available for licensing.

- Slough contains large Source Protection Zones.

- Potentially contaminated sites have the potential to be identified as brownfield sites suitable for development.

- The borough Contaminated Land Strategy will be revised in 2016 based on a risk assessment approach and will also develop a developers guide.

15 SA Framework

15.1 The purpose of the SA Framework

15.1.1 The Slough Local Plan will be assessed through an SA Framework of objectives, decision-making criteria and indicators. The full SA Framework for the Local Plan is presented in **Appendix A**.

15.1.2 The SA Framework provides a way in which significant sustainability effects can be described, analysed and compared. The SA Framework consists of SA objectives, where practicable, the achievement of which is measurable using indicators. SA objectives and indicators can be revised as further baseline information is collected and sustainability issues and challenges are identified, and are used in monitoring the implementation of the plan.

15.1.3 To expand on the central focus of each SA Objective (as they are high-level and potentially open-ended) the SA Framework includes a series of questions or 'decision making criteria' for use when applying the SA Framework to the assessment of the vision, spatial strategy, issues and options and later specific site allocations and proposed policies. These are accompanied by the indicators and targets for each SA Objective.

15.2 Sustainability Appraisal objectives

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

15.2.2 The SA objectives have drawn on the baseline information, the key issues and other plans and programmes of particular interest discussed earlier in this Scoping Report (see **Chapters 3 to 14**). It should be noted that the ordering of the SA objectives do not infer any prioritisation.

15.2.3 A summary of the SA objectives for the Slough Local Plan is presented in **Table 15.1.**

Table 15.1: SA Objectives.

	SA Objectives	Reference information
1	**Transport:** Improve the efficiency of transport networks by increasing the proportion of travel by sustainable modes and by promoting policies which reduce the need to travel.	Chapter 3 - Accessibility and transportation SEA – Population Key issues box 3.1
2	**Biodiversity and geodiversity:** Protect, enhance and manage biodiversity and geodiversity.	Biodiversity and geodiversity. (SEA - Biodiversity, Flora, fauna) Chapter 5 Key issues box 5.1
3	**Climate change:** Minimise the borough's contribution to climate change.	Climate change – adaptation and mitigation (SEA-Climatic factors) Chapter 6 Key issues box 6.1
4	**Economy:** Develop a dynamic, diverse and knowledge-based economy that excels in innovation with higher value, lower impact activities.	Economic factors (SEA- Material Assets) Chapter 7 Key issues box .1
5	**Health:** Safeguard and improve community health, safety and wellbeing.	Health and wellbeing Climate Change (SEA – Human Health) Chapter 8 Key issues box 8.1
6	**Cultural heritage:** Protect, enhance and manage sites, features and areas of archaeological, historical and cultural heritage importance.	Historic environment (SEA – Cultural heritage) Chapter 9 Key issues box 9.1
7	**Housing:** Provide affordable, environmentally sound and good quality housing for all.	Housing (SEA – Population, material assets) Chapter 10 Key issues box 10.1
8	**Landscape:** Protect, enhance and manage the character and appearance of the landscape and townscape, maintaining and strengthening distinctiveness and its special qualities.	Landscape and townscape Protect and enhance natural resources (SEA – Landscape) Chapter 11 Key issues box 11.1
9	Provide sufficient land and infrastructure to support housing and employment and population growth.	Material assets (SEA – Material assets, natural resources)
10	**Pollution:** Reduce air, soil and water pollution.	Water and Soil Climate change mitigation and adaptation (air quality) Human Health (SEA – water, soil, air)

16 Subsequent stages to be carried out

16.1 Introduction

16.1.1 This chapter summarises the stages of, and approach to, the processes that will be carried out for the plan following consultation at the scoping stage. This has been presented through the stages set out in DCLG Plan Making Manual. Where appropriate, the assessment methods to be used have been included.

16.2 Refining options and assessing effects

16.2.1 The assessment of options (or alternatives) is an important requirement of the SEA Directive, which requires that the Environmental Report includes the following information about reasonable alternatives:

"an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know-how) encountered in compiling the required information"

16.2.2 Reasonable alternatives will be assessed through the SA process, and the assessment of alternatives will take place following consultation on the Scoping Report. This will enable options for the plan to be explored. Whilst this report would not be a requisite of the SEA Directive, a report of this nature can help demonstrate iteration between the plan making process and the SA, and provide a coherent story of the plan's evolution and choice of options.

16.3 Sustainability Appraisal and Publication/Submission

16.3.1 The results of the consultation will be used to review the SA Framework including objectives, indicators and also baseline information and methodology if required. A final scoping report taking into account the consultation responses will be produced and used to assess the significant social, economic and environmental impacts of the Plan on the Plan area. This will include informing the choice of a preferred option, reasons for the choices made and mitigation for impacts of the Plan that cannot be avoided.

16.3.2 The assessment will include consideration of the following criteria relating to significant effects arising from the plan:

- A description of the predicted effect;

- The duration of the effect: whether the effect is long, medium or short term;

- The frequency of the effect: will it be ongoing?

- Whether the effect is temporary or permanent;

- The geographic significance: whether the effect is of localised, regional, national or international significance;

- The magnitude of effect;

- The severity of significance; and

- Whether mitigation is required/possible to reduce the effect.

16.3.3   As required by the SEA Directive, cumulative, synergistic and indirect effects will also be identified and evaluated during the assessment. An explanation of these is as follows:

- Indirect effects are effects that are not a direct result of the plan, but occur away from the original effect or as a result of a complex pathway.

- Cumulative effects arise where several developments each have insignificant effects but together have a significant effect, or where several individual effects of the plan have a combined effect.

- Synergistic effects interact to produce a total effect greater than the sum of the individual effects.

16.3.4   Following consultation on the SA Report, any amendments that are made to the plan will be appraised before preparing the final version of the SA Report to accompany the Submission version of the plan.

Appendix A: Full SA Framework

Slough Local Plan SA Framework

	SA Objective	Reference information	Sustainability issue	Decision making considerations		Indicators (these will alter according to what is being assessed)
1	**Transport and accessibility:** Improve the efficiency of transport networks by increasing the proportion of travel by sustainable modes and by promoting policies which reduce the need to travel.	Chapter 3 - Accessibility and transportation SEA – Population Key issues box 3.1	Growing road traffic, congestion and dependence on private car use. Cultural and practical/percieved obstacles to walking and cycling, particularly for short journeys New rail connections – Western rail access to Heathrow Airport (WrltH) & Crossrail Finite capacity of junctions on road network Options for SMART technologies New road works delivering increased capacity	Q1a	Will it reduce the need to travel by private car?	• Improvements to non-car transport accessibility (quality of / quantity of/ access to walking, cycling, bus services, railway stations) • Location of higher trip generating development in the most accessible and sustainable locations • Density of development related to accessibility • Connectivity of links between non car modes
				Q1b	Will it increase congestion (especially in the peak hours)?	
				Q1c	Will it reduce use of the privater car for journeys under a mile, or improve 'first/last mile' accessibility?	
				Q1d	Will it encourage modal shift / promote travel by sustainable modes?	
				Q1e	Will it make more efficient use of existing transport infrastructure?	
				Q1f	Is it compatible with the Council's existing and emerging transport strategies	

	SA Objective	Reference information	Sustainability issue	Decision making considerations		Indicators (these will alter according to what is being assessed)
2	**Biodiversity and geodiversity:** Protect, enhance and manage biodiversity and geodiversity.	Biodiversity and geodiversity. (SEA - Biodiversity, Flora, fauna) Chapter 5 Key issues box 5.1	Declining quality and quantity of ecological sites important for local an regional biodiversity, and their connectivity. Legal duties to protect, enhance and manage biodiversity and geodiversity	Q2a	Will it protect and enhance regional or local biodiversity?	• Number and diversity of European Protected Species, BAP species and Section 41 species in the area • Area and condition of Biodiversity Opportunity Areas • Percentage of tree cover. • Area and condition of local biodiversity areas • Impact on the biodiversity and connectivity purposes of the Colne Valley Park
				Q2b	Will it contribute to regional or local habitat connectivity?	
				Q2c	Will it maintain and enhance sites designated for their biodiversity or geodiversity interest and increase their area?	
3	**Climate change:** Minimise the borough's contribution to climate change, and consider methods to adapt to climate change.	Climate change – adaptation and mitigation (SEA-Climatic factors) Chapter 6 Key issues box 6.1	Reducing contribution: Delivering energy efficiency Carbon Emissions - need to reduce Carbon emissions - compatible with the Council's carbon management plan Adapting to: Considering Heat Islands effect Flooding - localised, short term incidents from surface water; and fluvial flooding. -Consideration of the Councils Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.	Q3a	Scope out impact of increase in temperature, this is not a significant issue for this plan, and is dealt with elsewhere e.g. in building regulations or Green Infrastructure	• Scope out Solar gain: it is too detailed for this level of assessment • Energy efficiency of buildings including housing (LIDAR heat loss surveys if available) • Amount of inappropriate new development proposed in areas of flood risk. • Change in area of built development. • Provision of areas for water attenuation • Permeability for surface water drainage
				Q3b	Will it appropriately avoid or mitigate for development in areas at high risk of flooding from all sources?	
				Q3c	Proposals for renewable energy generation of use of energy from renewable resources or implementation of adaptive techniques such as SUDS, attenuation, holding ponds.	
				Q3d	Will it promote use of technologies and techniques to adapt to the impacts of non-fluvial flooding?	

	SA Objective	Reference information	Sustainability issue	Decision making considerations		Indicators (these will alter according to what is being assessed)
4	**Economy:** Develop a dynamic, diverse and resilent economy that excels in innovation with higher value, lower impact activities.	Economic factors (SEA- Material Assets) Chapter 7 Key issues box .1	Land use constraints to physical expansion to provide additional needs for business and jobs for residential communities. Changes resulting from Heathrow. Role of the town centre, Langley and others. Viability of intensification on brown field land – e.g. contaminated land remediation/ demolition High levels of 'footloose' B8 identified in the EDNA Disparity between resident skills and incomes compared to local jobs available Shortage of education facilities	Q4a	Developing a dynamic, diverse and resilent economy that excels in innovation with higher value, lower impact activities.	• Number of unemployed residents in Slough. • Increase in VAT registered businesses • Opportunities for Start ups • Changes to business floorspace • % of 15-year-old pupils in schools maintained by the LA achieving five or more GCSEs at grades A*-C or equivalent • Provision of new education and training facilities and opportunities
				Q4b	Building on the strengths of the Boroughs distinct employment areas – Existing Business Areas, especially the Slough Trading Estate and Poyle Trading Estate	
				Q4c	Regenerating the town centre	
				Q4d	Providing skills for local residents	

	SA Objective	Reference information	Sustainability issue		Decision making considerations	Indicators (these will alter according to what is being assessed)
5	**Health**: Safeguard and improve community health, safety and well being.	Health and wellbeing Climate Change (SEA – Human Health) Chapter 8 Key issues box 8.1	Poverty, deprivation, social exclusion, and overcrowding Shortage of open space in the Borough, Potential shortage of health facilities. Fast growing mixed ethnic population and overcrowding. Risk of flooding from all sources - see climate change Pollution – see below -see Need to protect and enhance the borough's cultural heritage – both that that is nationally important but also locally important Need to ensure adequate parks and play spaces	Q5a	Need to provide (accessible) quality and quantity of informal and formal leisure and recreation facilities	• Will it enhance access to and quality of the Councils including the Green Flag parks and the Colne Valley Park • Will it improve or promote access to neighbouring green infrastructure • Will it increase or improve quality, quantity and access to car free footpaths and cycle paths? • Does it consider need to design out crime with accessibility and permeability. • Will it support access to and retention of leisure facilities for exercise and informal recreation such as pitches, play areas, parks and open spaces? • Will it improve the public realm and design in urban areas including local neigbourhoods and the town centre?
				Q5b	Mitigation for loss of quantum by improved quality and access to facilities.	
				Q5c	Need to improve health and well-being of the community and reduce health inequalities	
				Q5d	Need to reduce crime and fear of crime and anti social behaviour	
				Q5e	Need to improve public realm and design to mitigate for increasing density of development to support well-being	
6	**Cultural heritage:** Protect, enhance and manage sites, features and areas of archaeological, historical and cultural heritage importance.	Historic environment (SEA – Cultural heritage) Chapter 9 Key issues box 9.1	Need to protect and enhance the borough's cultural heritage assets– both that that is nationally important but also locally important	Q6a	Will it preserve the areas of special character , including neighbourhoods, in Slough?	• Number of locally listed buildings • Changes to areas of special character • Changes to Conservation Areas
				Q6b	Will it preserve features of architectural, geological, archaeological and historic interest and, where possible encourage their conservation and setting?	

	SA Objective	Reference information	Sustainability issue	Decision making considerations		Indicators (these will alter according to what is being assessed)
7	**Housing:** Provide sufficient affordable, environmentally sound and good quality housing for the local population	Housing (SEA – Population, material assets) Chapter 10 Key issues box 10.1	High housing need (OAHN) within the Housing Market Area. Land use constraints to physical expansion to provide additional housing and affordable housing Relative affordability of property in Slough within the Housing Market Area and London Quality of existing stock. High occupancy rates, driven by choice and need. Viability impacts on quality of new stock. Availability of high quality housing to meet the aspirations of Slough residents	Q7a	Need to meet the Objectively Assessed Housing Need as close to where it arises as possible	• Minimum housing target • Types and tenure of new homes • Number of homes deemed unfit (or other evidence from the Housing stock study) • Percentages of flats and houses completed each year. • Number of and reasons for families on housing register (e.g. due to overcrowding, unfit property).
				Q7b	Need to provide tenure and types of housing to meet need and aspirations	
				Q7c	Compatibility with Emerging Housing Strategy	
				Q7d	Maintain minimum space and amenity standards.	
				Q7e	Ability to replace or improve existing low quality stock	
				Q7f	Cultural and financial implications on household formation and household size (consideration of ONS information regarding over and under occupation).	

	SA Objective	Reference information	Sustainability issue	Decision making considerations		Indicators (these will alter according to what is being assessed)
8	**Landscape:** Protect, enhance and manage the character and appearance of the landscape and townscape, maintaining and strengthening distinctiveness and its special qualities.	Landscape and townscape Protect and enhance natural resources (SEA – Landscape) Chapter 11 Key issues box 11.1	Need to protect locally valued (but not nationally protected) landscapes and townscapes, including versus purposes of the Green Belt Structural change from Heathrow Impact on the Borough from densification Poverty, deprivation, social exclusion, and overcrowding Desire to avoid negative social, economic and environmetal impacts of high density development :e.g. in unsuitable locations, without sufficent amenity or infrastructure	Q8a	Loss of trees	•Tree coverage in urban area •improvements to amenity of green infrastructure throughout the urban areas. • Regeneration of townscapes, including with high quality building design and public realm • Impact of Heathrow related development in the east of the Borough • Protection of street scene to main road frontages
				Q8b	Impact of structural change because of expansion at Heathrow, espc. due to the third runway for LHR in the east of the Borough.	
				Q8c	Impact on Slough's formal and informal green infrastructure (e.g. linear park, Herschel Park, Colne Valley Park, Salt Hill Park)	
				Q8d	Impact of policies on locally valued views – such as Windsor Castle and the Horlicks building	
				Q8e	Impact on quality of public realm and street scene	

	SA Objective	Reference information	Sustainability issue	Decision making considerations		Indicators (these will alter according to what is being assessed)
9	**Use of resources:** Promote the efficient use of land to support housing and employment and population growth	Material assets (SEA – Material assets, natural resources)	Capacity of utilities to meet demand for water ,sewerage, electricity, waste disposal	Q9a	Retain or support provision of infrastructure to support populations needs or sustainable supply	• Confirmation from Utilities that quantum or phasing of development needs to be constrained due to shortage of supply. • Provision of waste facilities • Areas of landfill, and land safeguarded for minerals • Percentage of new development on Previously Developed Land • Density of new residential dwellings
			Waste hierarchy (reduce, reuse, recycle) and Reducing use of landfill	Q9b	Assess practicality of current Minerals preferred areas within the Borough.	
			Sterilised supply of minerals (sand and gravel) Quality of undeveloped land (Large areas of landfill, low demand and limited supply of versatile agricultural land).	Q9c	High quality restoration of landfill	
10	**Pollution:** Reduce air, noise soil and water pollution.	Water and Soil Climate change mitigation and adaptation (air quality) Human Health (noise) (SEA – water, soil, air)	Risk to quality of local watercourses from storm events. Impacts of contaminated land on development -see Material assets re water and sewerage demand Poor air quality – spatial extent and quantum of exceedences (levels of NOx adding to base levels created by M4 and Heathrow related traffic) Noise pollution from transport and disturbance from higher density development	Q10a	Protect and improve quality of local watercourses	• Changes to Air Quality Management Areas • Recognition of land contamination • Recognition of areas at risk from sewers surcharging. • Recognition of noise contours on housing design
				Q10b	Meet legal requirements for contaminated land	
				Q10c	Build in costs of remediation to land values	
				Q10d	Legal duties regarding Air Quality	
				Q10e	Legal duties regarding the Water Framework Directive Noise impact	
				Q10f	Legal duties regarding impact of noise	

Appendix B: PPP Review

Appendix B: Plan, Policy and Programme Review

Title of PPP	Main objectives and environmental / socio-economic requirements of PPP
Biodiversity, flora and fauna	
EC Sixth Environmental Action Programme 2002-2012 (2002)	Nature and biodiversity (including soil communities) has been identified as one of four priority areas for Europe. The EAP requires specific action to counteract pressures arising notably from pollution, the introduction of non-native species, and potential risks from releasing genetically modified organisms.
Our life insurance, our natural capital: an EU biodiversity strategy to 2020 (2011)	The EU biodiversity strategy follows on from the EU Biodiversity Action Plan (2006). It aims to halt the loss of biodiversity and ecosystem services across the EU by 2020. The strategy contains six targets and 20 actions. The six targets cover: • Full implementation of EU nature legislation to protect biodiversity; • Better protection for ecosystems, and more use of green infrastructure; • More sustainable agriculture and forestry; • Better management of fish stocks; • Tighter controls on invasive alien species; and • A bigger EU contribution to averting global biodiversity loss.
The Pan-European Biological and Landscape Diversity Strategy (1995)	The strategy aims to stop and reverse the degradation of biological and landscape diversity values in Europe.

UN Convention on Biological Diversity (1992)	The aims of the Convention include the conservation of biological diversity (including a commitment to significantly reduce the current rate of biodiversity loss), the sustainable use of its components and the fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources.
Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (1979)	The Convention seeks to conserve wild flora and fauna and their natural habitats, and to monitor and control endangered and vulnerable species.
Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora 1992 (the Habitats Directive)	The main aim of the Habitats Directive is to promote the maintenance of biodiversity by requiring Member States to take measures to maintain or restore natural habitats and wild species listed on the Annexes to the Directive at a favourable conservation status, introducing robust protection for those habitats and species of European importance. In applying these measures Member States are required to take account of economic, social and cultural requirements, as well as regional and local characteristics. The provisions of the Directive require Member States to introduce a range of measures, including: • Maintain or restore European protected habitats and species listed in the Annexes at a favourable conservation status as defined in Articles 1 and 2; • Contribute to a coherent European ecological network of protected sites by designating Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) for habitats listed on Annex I and for species listed on Annex II. These measures are also to be applied to Special Protection Areas (SPAs) classified under Article 4 of the Birds Directive. Together SACs and SPAs make up the Natura 2000 network (Article 3); • Ensure conservation measures are in place to appropriately manage SACs and ensure appropriate assessment of plans and projects likely to have a significant effect on the integrity of an SAC. Projects may still be permitted if there are no alternatives, and there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest. In such cases compensatory measures are necessary to

	ensure the overall coherence of the Natura 2000 network (Article 6); • Member States shall also endeavour to encourage the management of features of the landscape that support the Natura 2000 network (Articles 3 and 10); • Undertake surveillance of habitats and species (Article 11); • Ensure strict protection of species listed on Annex IV (Article 12 for animals and Article 13 for plants). • Report on the implementation of the Directive every six years (Article 17), including assessment of the conservation status of species and habitats listed on the Annexes to the Directive.
Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds 2009 (the Birds Directive)	The Birds Directive requires Member States to take measures to preserve a sufficient diversity of habitats for all species of wild birds and that special measures are taken to conserve the habitat of certain particularly rare species and of migratory birds. The provisions of the Directive require Member States to introduce a range of measures, including: • Contribute to a coherent European ecological network of protected sites by designating Special Protection Areas (SPAs) classified under Article 4 of the Birds Directive. These measures are also to be applied to Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) for habitats listed on Annex I and for species listed on Annex II. Together SACs and SPAs make up the Natura 2000 network.
The Convention on Wetlands (Ramsar Convention)	The Ramsar Convention is an intergovernmental treaty that provides the framework for national action and international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands and their resources. This includes the designated of wetlands of international importance as Ramsar sites, which also contribute to the Natura 2000 network.
The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 (Habitats regulations)	This transposes into national law the Habitats Directive and also consolidates all amendments that have been made to the previous 1994 Regulations. This means that competent authorities have a general duty in the exercise of any of their functions to have regard to the Directive.

The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000	The Act provides for public access on foot to certain types of land, amends the law relating to public rights of way, increases measures for the management and protection for Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and strengthens wildlife enforcement legislation, and provides for better management of Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)
The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006	The Act makes provision in respect of biodiversity, pesticides harmful to wildlife and the protection of birds, and in respect of invasive non-native species. It alters enforcement powers in connection with wildlife protection, and extends time limits for prosecuting certain wildlife offences. It addresses a small number of gaps and uncertainties which have been identified in relation to the law on sites of special scientific interest. And it amends the functions and constitution of National Park authorities, the functions of the Broads Authority and the law on rights of way.
DEFRA Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981, as amended)	The principle mechanism for the legislative protection of wildlife in Great Britain.
DEFRA. Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services (2011)	The England biodiversity strategy 2020 ties in with the EU biodiversity strategy in addition to drawing links to the concept of ecosystem services. The strategy's vision for England is; "By 2050 our land and seas will be rich in wildlife, our biodiversity will be valued, conserved, restored, managed sustainably and be more resilient and able to adapt to change, providing essential services and delivering benefits for everyone". The Strategies overall mission is to: "to halt overall biodiversity loss, support healthy well-functioning ecosystems and establish coherent ecological networks, with more and better places for nature for the benefit of wildlife and people".
DoE Biodiversity: The UK Action	Government's strategy for protection and enhancement of biodiversity, from 1992 convention on

Plan (1994)	Biodiversity commitments. Advises on opportunities and threats for biodiversity.
TCPA: Biodiversity by Design: A Guide for Sustainable Communities (2004)	The development process should consider ecological potential of all areas including both greenfield and brownfield sites. Local authorities and developers have a responsibility to mitigate impacts of development on designated sites and priority habitats and species and avoid damage to ecosystems.
National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG 2012)	The recently released NPPF seeks to streamline the planning system and sets out the Governments planning policies and how these should be applied. At the heart of the NPPF is presumption in favour of sustainable development. The NPPF includes guidance on promoting the conservation and enhancement of the natural environment. It requires the planning system to contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by: • protecting and enhancing valued landscapes, geological conservation interests and soils; • recognising the wider benefits of ecosystem services; • minimising impacts on biodiversity and providing net gains in biodiversity where possible, contributing to the Government's commitment to halt the overall decline in biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures; • preventing both new and existing development from contributing to or being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by unacceptable levels of soil, air, water or noise pollution or land instability; and • remediating and mitigating despoiled, degraded, derelict, contaminated and unstable land, where appropriate

Natural England: Securing Biodiversity: A New Framework for Delivering Priority Species and Habitats in England	The guide sets out a framework which has been developed to enhance the recovery of priority habitats and species in England (published under section 41 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006). The Strategy seeks to: • encourage the adoption of an ecosystem approach and better embed climate change adaptation principles in conservation action; • achieve biodiversity enhancements across whole landscapes and seascapes; • achieve our priority habitat targets through greater collective emphasis on habitat restoration and expansion; • enhance the recovery of priority species by better integrating their needs into habitat-based work where possible, and through targeted species recovery work where necessary; • support the restoration of designated sites, including by enhancing the wider countryside in which they sit; • support the conservation of marine biodiversity, inside and outside of designated sites; • establish and implement a delivery programme, with agreed accountabilities, for priority species and habitats in England; • improve the integration of national, regional and local levels of delivery; • improve the links between relevant policy-makers and biodiversity practitioners; strengthen biodiversity partnerships by clarifying roles at England, regional and local levels.
Making Space for Nature: a review of England's wildlife sites	The Making Space for Nature report, which investigated the resilience of England's ecological network to multiple pressures, concluded that England's wildlife sites do not comprise of a coherent and resilient

and ecological network (2010)	ecological network. The report advocates the need for a step change in conservation of England's wildlife sites to ensure they are able to adapt and become part of a strong and resilient network. The report summarises what needs to be done to improve England's wildlife sites to enhance the resilience and coherence of England's ecological network in four words; more, bigger, better, and joined. There are five key approaches which encompass these, which also take into account of the land around the ecological network:
	(i) Improve the quality of current sites by better habitat management.
	(ii) Increase the size of current wildlife sites.
	(iii) Enhance connections between, or join up, sites, either through physical corridors, or through 'stepping stones'.
	(iv) Create new sites.
	(v) Reduce the pressures on wildlife by improving the wider environment, including through buffering wildlife sites.
	To establish a coherent ecological network 24 wide ranging recommendations have been made which are united under five key themes:
	(vi) There is a need to continue the recent progress in improving the management and condition of wildlife sites, particularly our SSSIs. We also make recommendations for how these should be designated and managed in ways that enhance their resilience to climate change.
	(vii) There is a need to properly plan ecological networks, including restoration areas. Restoration needs to take place throughout England. However, in some areas, both the scale of what can be delivered to enhance the network, and the ensuing benefits for wildlife and people, will be very high. These large areas should be formally recognised as Ecological Restoration Zones.
	(viii) There are a large number of surviving patches of important wildlife habitat scattered across England outside of SSSIs, for example in Local Wildlife Sites. We need to take steps to improve the

	protection and management of these remaining wildlife habitats. 'Protection' will usually be best achieved through incentive-based mechanisms, but at times may require designation.
	(ix) There is a need to become better at deriving multiple benefits from the ways we use and interact with our environment. There are many things that society has to do that may seem to have rather little to do with nature conservation, but could have, or even should have if we embrace more radical thinking; flood management by creating wetlands is an obvious example. We need to exploit these 'win-win' opportunities to the full. Being better at valuing a wider range of ecosystem services would help this process.
	(x) It will not be possible to achieve a step-change in nature conservation in England without society accepting it to be necessary, desirable, and achievable. This will require strong leadership from government and significant improvements in collaboration between local authorities, local communities, statutory agencies, the voluntary and private sectors, farmers, landowners and other land-managers and individual citizens
DEFRA England's Trees, Woods and Forests Strategy (2007)	The England's Trees, Woods, and Forest Strategy (2007) aims to: (i) provide, in England, a resource of trees, woods and forests in places where they can contribute most in terms of environmental, economic and social benefits now and for future generations (ii) ensure that existing and newly planted trees, woods and forests are resilient to the impacts of climate change and also contribute to the way in which biodiversity and natural resources adjust to a changing climate (iii) protect and enhance the environmental resources of water, soil, air, biodiversity and landscapes (both woodland and non-woodland), and the cultural and amenity values of trees and woodland (iv) increase the contribution that trees, woods and forests make to the quality of life for those living in, working in or visiting England (v) improve the competitiveness of woodland businesses and promote the development of new or

	improved markets for sustainable woodland products and ecosystem services where this will deliver identify able public benefits, nationally or locally, including the reduction of carbon emissions.
The Natural Choice: Securing the Value of Nature. The Natural Environment White Paper. (HM Government 2011)	Published in June 2011, the Natural Environment White paper sets out the Government's plans to ensure the natural environment is protected and fully integrated into society and economic growth. The White Paper sets out four key aims: (i) <u>Protecting and improving our natural environment</u> There is a need to improve the quality of our natural environment across England, moving to a net gain in the value of nature. It aims to arrest the decline in habitats and species and the degradation of landscapes. It will protect priority habitats and safeguard vulnerable non-renewable resources for future generations. It will support natural systems to function more effectively in town, in the country and at sea. It will achieve this through joined-up action at local and national levels to create an ecological network which is resilient to changing pressures. (ii) <u>Growing a green economy</u> The ambition is for a green and growing economy which not only uses natural capital in a responsible and fair way but also contributes to improving it. It will properly value the stocks and flows of natural capital. Growth will be green because it is intrinsically linked to the health of the country's natural resources. The economy will capture the value of nature. It will encourage businesses to use natural capital sustainably, protecting and improving it through their day-to-day operations and the management of their supply chains. (iii) <u>Reconnecting people and nature</u> The ambition is to strengthen the connections between people and nature. It wants more people to enjoy the benefits of nature by giving them freedom to connect with it. Everyone should have fair access to a good-quality natural environment. It wants to see every child in England given the opportunity to experience and learn about the natural environment. It wants to help people take

	more responsibility for their environment, putting local communities in control and making it easier for people to take positive action.
	(iv) <u>International and EU leadership</u>
	The global ambitions are:
	• internationally, to achieve environmentally and socially sustainable economic growth, together with food, water, climate and energy security; and
	• to put the EU on a path towards environmentally sustainable, low-carbon and resource-efficient growth, which is resilient to climate change, provides jobs and supports the wellbeing of citizens.
UK National Ecosystem Assessment (2011)	The UK National Ecosystem Assessment is the first analysis of the UK's natural environment and the benefits it provides to society and economic prosperity. The assessment leads on from the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (2005) and analyses services provided by ecosystem set against eight broad habitat types. The ecosystem services provided by these habitat types have been assessed to find their overall condition. The assessment sought to answer ten key questions: 1) What are the status and trends of the UK's ecosystems and the services they provide to society? 2) What are the drivers causing changes in the UK's ecosystems and their services? 3) How do ecosystem services affect human well-being, who and where are the beneficiaries, and how does this affect how they are valued and managed? 4) Which vital UK provisioning services are not provided by UK ecosystems? 5) What is the current public understanding of ecosystem services and the benefits they provide? 6) Why should we incorporate the economic values of ecosystem services into decision-making? 7) How might ecosystems and their services change in the UK under plausible future scenarios? 8) What are the economic implications of different plausible futures?

	9) How can we secure and improve the continued delivery of ecosystem services? How have we advanced our understanding of the influence of ecosystem services on human well-being and what are the knowledge constraints on more informed decision making?
DEFRA Guidance for Local Authorities on Implementing Biodiversity Duty (2007)	The Duty is set out in Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (NERC) 2006, and states that: "Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity". Particular areas of focus include: Policy, Strategy and Procurement; Management of Public Land and Buildings; Planning, Infrastructure and Development; and Education, Advice and Awareness.
CABE Making Contracts Work for Wildlife: How to Encourage Biodiversity in Urban Parks (2006)	Advises on how to make the most of the potential for biodiversity in urban parks and it shows how the commitment of individuals and employers can make the difference between failure and inspiring success.
Forestry and Woodlands Framework Steering Group (2004) Seeing the Wood for the Trees: A forestry and woodlands framework for South East England	This document outlines what woods can do for the region and what the region must do for its woods in order to protect and enhance them. The framework aims to realise the vision of "woods making an increasing contribution to the sustainable development of the South East region, in both rural and urban areas" by inspiring and informing those involved in planning and development as well as those involved in forest management.
South East England Biodiversity Forum (2009) South East Biodiversity Strategy	Provides a basis for creation of policies and actions to protect and enhance biodiversity in the region by setting out the best way forward and setting out a framework for sustainable development and environmental protection.

The Natural Environment in Berkshire. Biodiversity Strategy 2014–2020	This report describes how the wildlife of Berkshire is going to be enhanced and protected over a six year period (2014-2020).
Population and human health	
EC Together for Health: A Strategic Approach for the EU 2008-2013 (2007)	Building on current work, this Strategy aims to provide an overarching strategic framework spanning core issues in health as well as health in all policies and global health issues.
National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG, 2012)	The recently released NPPF seeks to streamline the planning system and sets out the Governments planning policies and how these should be applied. At the heart of the NPPF is presumption in favour of sustainable development. The NPPF includes guidance on promoting healthy communities. The NPPF requires local planning authorities to aim to achieve places which promote: • opportunities for meetings between members of the community who might not otherwise come into contact with each other, including through mixed-use developments, strong neighbourhood centres and active street frontages which bring together those who work, live and play in the vicinity; • safe and accessible environments where crime and disorder, and the fear of crime, do not undermine quality of life or community cohesion; and • safe and accessible developments, containing clear and legible pedestrian routes, and high quality public space, which encourage the active and continual use of public areas. In order to deliver the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services the community needs, planning policies and decisions should:

	• plan positively for the provision and use of shared space, community facilities (such as local shops, meeting places, sports venues, cultural buildings, public houses and places of worship) and other local services to enhance the sustainability of communities and residential environments; • guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services, particularly where this would reduce the community's ability to meet its day-to-day needs; • ensure that established shops, facilities and services are able to develop and modernise in a way that is sustainable, and retained for the benefit of the community; and ensure an integrated approach to considering the location of housing, economic uses and community facilities and services.
DCMS: Playing to win: a new era for sport. (2008)	The Government's vision for sport and physical activity for 2012 and beyond is to increase significantly levels of sport and physical activity for people of all ages and to achieve sustained levels of success in international competition. The ambition is for England to become –a truly world leading sporting nation. The vision is to give more people of all ages the opportunity to participate in high quality competitive sport.
DoH: Healthy Lives, Healthy People: Our strategy for public health in England White Paper (2010)	Sets out the Governments approach to tackling threats to public health and dealing with health inequalities. It sets out an approach that will: 1) protect the population from health threats – led by central government, with a strong system to the frontline; 2) empower local leadership and encourage wide responsibility across society to improve everyone's health and wellbeing, and tackle the wider factors that influence it; 3) focus on key outcomes, doing what works to deliver them, with transparency of outcomes to enable accountability through a proposed new public health outcomes framework;

	4) reflect the Government's core values of freedom, fairness and responsibility by strengthening self-esteem, confidence and personal responsibility; positively promoting healthy behaviours and lifestyles; and adapting the environment to make healthy choices easier; and 5) balance the freedoms of individuals and organisations with the need to avoid harm to others, use a 'ladder' of interventions to determine the least intrusive approach necessary to achieve the desired effect and aim to make voluntary approaches work before resorting to regulation.
DoH & Department for Work and Pensions. Improving health and work: changing lives: The Government's Response to Dame Carol Black's Review of the health of Britain's working-age population (2008)	This sets out the Governments response to a review into the health of Britain's working age population conducted by Dame Carol Black. The vision is to: "create a society where the positive links between work and health are recognised by all, where everyone aspires to a healthy and fulfilling working life and where health conditions and disabilities are not a bar to enjoying the benefits of work". To achieve the vision three key aspirations have been identified: 1. creating new perspectives on health and work; 2. improving work and workplaces; and 3. supporting people to work. Through these three aspirations Britain's working population will fulfil their full potential, create stronger communities and help relive the financial burden of health problems on the economy.
DoH: Our health, our care, our say: a new direction for community services (2005)	Puts emphasis on moving healthcare into the community and will therefore have an impact on sustainable development considerations, including supporting local economies and how people travel to healthcare facilities.
Health and Social Care Act 2012	An Act to establish and make provision about a National Health Service Commissioning Board and clinical commissioning groups and to make other provision about the National Health Service in England; to make provision about public health in the United Kingdom; to make provision about

	regulating health and adult social care services; to make provision about public involvement in health and social care matters, scrutiny of health matters by local authorities and co-operation between local authorities and commissioners of health care services; to make provision about regulating health and social care workers; to establish and make provision about a National Institute for Health and Care Excellence; to establish and make provision about a Health and Social Care Information Centre and to make other provision about information relating to health or social care matters; to abolish certain public bodies involved in health or social care; to make other provision about health care; and for connected purposes.
Forestry Commission: Trees and Woodlands - Nature's Health Service (2005)	Provides detailed examples of how the Woodland Sector (trees, woodlands and green spaces) can significantly contribute to people's health, well-being (physical, psychological and social) and quality of life. Increasing levels of physical activity is a particular priority.
Countryside Agency: The Countryside in and Around Towns – A vision for connecting town and country in the pursuit of sustainable development (2005)	A vision for the landscape of urban/rural fringe environments and how to better manage these areas and make improvements. Key functions for the environment include: a bridge to the country; a gateway to the town; a health centre; a classroom; a recycling and renewable energy centre; a productive landscape; a cultural legacy; a place for sustainable living; an engine for regeneration; and a nature reserve.
English Nature: Accessible Natural Green Space Standards in Towns and Cities: A Review and Toolkit for their Implementation (2003)	Aims to help Local Authorities develop policies which acknowledge, protect and enhance the contribution natural spaces make to local sustainability. Three aspects of natural space in cities and towns are discussed: their biodiversity; their ability to cope with urban pollution; ensuring natural spaces are accessible to everyone. The report aims to show how size and distance criteria can be used to identify the natural spaces which contribute most to local sustainability.
EU Sustainable Development Strategy (2006)	This Strategy identifies key priorities for an enlarged Europe. This includes health, social inclusion and fighting global poverty. It aims to achieve better policy integration in addressing these challenges, and

	to ensure that Europe looks beyond its boundaries in making informed decisions about sustainability. The sustainable Development Strategy was review in 2009 and "underlined that in recent years the EU has mainstreamed sustainable development into a broad range of its policies. In particular, the EU has taken the lead in the fight against climate change and the promotion of a low-carbon economy. At the same time, unsustainable trends persist in many areas and the efforts need to be intensified". Sustainable development is a key focus of the EU and the strategy continues to be monitored and reviewed.
UN The Aarhus Convention (1998)	Links environmental rights and human rights. It establishes that sustainable development can be achieved only through the involvement of all stakeholders and links government accountability and environmental protection.
Social Exclusion Unit: Preventing Social Exclusion (2001)	The primary aims are to prevent social exclusion, and reintegrate people who have become excluded. Improvement is required in the areas of truancy, rough sleeping, teenage pregnancy, youth at risk and deprived neighbourhoods.
DCLG Homes for the future: more affordable, more sustainable (2007)	The Housing Green Paper outlines plans for delivering homes; new ways of identifying and using land for development; more social housing- ensuring that a decent home at an affordable price is for the many; building homes more quickly; more affordable homes; and greener homes - with high environmental standards and flagship developments leading the way.
ODPM & Home Office: Safer Places: The Planning System and Crime Prevention (2004)	Practical guide to designs and layouts that may help with crime prevention and community safety, including well-defined routes, places structured so that different uses do not cause conflict, places designed to include natural surveillance and places designed with management and maintenance in mind.
Cabinet Office: Reaching Out: An Action Plan on Social Exclusion	Sets out an action plan to improve the life chances of those who suffer, or may suffer in the future, from disadvantage. Guiding principles for action include: better identification and earlier intervention; systematically identifying 'what works'; promoting multi-agency working; personalisation, rights and

(2006)	responsibilities; and supporting achievement and managing underperformance.
Slough Rights of way improvement plan (RoWIP) 2007-2017	The Slough RoWIP sets out Slough Borough Council's aspirations and priorities for the public rights of way and countryside access network. The plan sets out a vision for rights of way, to: "to maintain, develop and promote a borough wide network of rights of way that meets the needs of the public now and in the future for the purposes of open air recreation, exercise and access to local services".
Slough Housing Allocation Scheme 2013-2018 (2016)	This document sets out how applicants for affordable housing are prioritised fairly and transparently. The policy describes who qualifies for affordable housing and how applicants are prioritised based on need.
Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy 2013-2016	The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy sets the framework for supporting Slough residents' health and well being. Measures include increasing resident's level of physical activity and encouraging healthier eating. The key aims and objectives • Health - By 2028, Slough will be healthier, with reduced inequalities, improved wellbeing and opportunities for our residents to live positive, active and independent lives • Economy and Skills - By 2028, Slough will be an accessible location, competitive on the world stage with a sustainable and varied business sector and strong knowledge economy, supported by a local workforce who have the skills to meet local businesses' changing needs • Housing - By 2028 Slough will possess a strong, attractive and balanced housing market which recognises the importance of housing in supporting economic growth • Regeneration and Environment - By 2028, Slough will be distinctive from our competitors, harnessing the diversity and creativity of our people and our cultural and physical fabric to create an attractive local environment for our residents and businesses • Safer Communities - By 2028, Slough will have levels of crime and disorder that are not

	significantly higher than in any other town in the Thames Valley. Agencies will be working collaboratively to address the underlying causes of crime and communities will feel safe and able to play an active part in making Slough a better place to live, work and visit Two cross-cutting themes: • Civic responsibility • Promoting the image of the town
Get Active Leisure Strategy	The Get Active Leisure Strategy for Slough sets the framework for improving Slough residents' participation in sport and physical activity by promoting access to resources, quality provision and activity programmes. It has the following key aims and objectives: • To enhance the health and wellbeing of Slough residents by ensuring that physical activity and sport is adopted as a habit for life for all - more people, more active, more often • Provide community leadership; working with partners from the private, public and voluntary sector to improve and promote access to resources, quality provision and activity programmes in local neighbourhoods targeting priority groups • Ensure that there is a wide offer of indoor and outdoor leisure facilities which meet the current and future needs of the town • Work within neighbourhoods to deliver a comprehensive programme of sports and physical activity sessions including the 'Get Active' programme, targeting communities experiencing higher levels of health inequalities • Use the opportunity of the ending of the Slough Community Leisure contract in 2017 to get a new offer that focuses on the priorities of this strategy and which is targeted to achieve our key

	outcomes
	• Champion and promote the benefits of physical activity and sports participation in achieving health, community cohesion and community safety outcomes
	• Prioritise the provision of resources, including revenue funding, to incentivise and facilitate activity, targeting children, young people and women to address a number of emerging inequalities
	• Invest in a range of different types of facilities in our parks and open spaces, which will be accessible to the Slough population leading to an increase in use for physical activity purposes
	• Establish a strong governance model that holds to account those with the responsibility for the implementation of the strategy (Cabinet, scrutiny, Wellbeing Board etc. - officer and partner leadership)
	• Ensure we are informed by the best practice on what works to achieve our ambition, learning from others and working with the best in the sector
	• Set ourselves challenging outcomes and targets which are regularly monitored and reviewed
	• Have a clear delivery programme/action plan which details available resources and accountability for achieving outcomes/targets
	• Bring together partners to ensure resources are maximised and duplication is avoided
Housing and Homeless Strategy (Currently being developed)	The Housing and Homeless Strategy for Slough sets the framework for reducing homelessness and improving the provision of new homes. Key aspirations of the strategy are: 1. The right supply and mix of new homes including maximising affordable housing 2. That land and capital resources are used in the most efficient way

	3. That a sustainable balance is struck between housing supply, regenerated areas and community infrastructure demands
	4. That the private sector provides sufficient good quality market and sub market housing through increased quality control and regulation.
	5. That new homes are built by the council and all council homes are professionally managed and maintained to a high standard.
	6. That homelessness and rough sleeping is reduced through adopting an overall prevention approach as part of the Homeless Strategy
	7. That specialist accommodation is available for vulnerable and disadvantaged members of our community particularly young people, older people, people with disabilities and those on restricted incomes.
	8. That "Green" and "Healthy" homes are delivered.
Children and Young People's Plan 2015-2016	The Children and Young People's Plan for Slough sets the framework to support young people's physical wellbeing, promote the benefits of healthy eating and promote Everyone Active, Every Day (EAED). Key aims and objectives of the plan are: • To provide outstanding services to the most vulnerable children and young people in the borough • To support children and young people's emotional and mental wellbeing • To support children and young people's physical wellbeing • To reduce the level and impact of poverty on the life chances of children and young people in the borough • To deliver the expanded 'Families First' programme, achieving significant and sustained progress for our most troubled families • To strengthen our universal offer, making it accessible to vulnerable groups

	• To ensure children and young people are engaged and helped to access opportunities that will enable them to reach their full potential
Soil, water and air	
EC Air Quality Directive (1996)	Aims to improve air quality throughout Europe by controlling the level of certain pollutants and monitoring their concentrations. In particular, the Directive aims to establish levels for different air pollutants; draw up common methods for assessing air quality; methods to improve air quality; and make sure that information on air quality is easily accessible to Member States and the public.
DEFRA: The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland (2007).	The Strategy provides specific UK targets for reducing air pollution and sets out local authority responsibilities for achieving most of these. It states that land use planning has a key role to play in contributing to these targets.
DEFRA: Safeguarding our Soils: A Strategy for England (2009)	The Soil Strategy for England outlines the Government's approach to safeguarding our soils for the long term. It provides a vision to guide future policy development across a range of areas and sets out the practical steps that are needed to take to prevent further degradation of our soils, enhance, restore and ensure their resilience, and improve understanding of the threats to soil and best practice in responding to them. Key objectives of the strategy include: • Better protection for agricultural soils; • Protecting and enhancing stores of soil carbon; • Building the resilience of soils to a changing climate; • Preventing soil pollution; • Effective soil protection during construction and development; and • Dealing with our legacy of contaminated land

DEFRA (2012) Environmental Protection Act 1990: Part 2A. Contaminated Land Statutory Guidance	This document establishes a legal framework for dealing with contaminated land in England. This document provides guidelines for how local authorities should implement the regime, including how they should go about deciding whether land is contaminated land in the legal sense of the term. Key aims are as follows: • To identify and remove unacceptable risks to human health and the environment. • To seek to ensure that contaminated land is made suitable for its current use. • To ensure that the burdens faced by individuals, companies and society as a whole are proportionate, manageable and compatible with the principles of sustainable development.
Soils Lead Coordination Network: Soils and the Natural Heritage: a Vision by the Soils LCN for the Protection of the UK Soil Resource and Sustainable Use of Soils (2007)	This document sets out the Soils Lead Coordination Network's vision for soil conservation. The "desired outcomes" of the vision are as follows: (i) Maintaining the diversity and biodiversity of UK soils; (ii) Controlling and when appropriate reversing loss of soil carbon and water-holding capacity; (iii) Reducing accelerated soil erosion and sediment transport into watercourses; and (iv) Ensuring appropriate status of soils in mitigation and remediation scenarios to control the impact of climate change.
Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC	This provides an overarching strategy, including a requirement for EU Member States to ensure that they achieve 'good ecological status' by 2015. River Basin Management Plans were defined as the key means of achieving this. They contain the main issues for the water environment and the actions we all need to take to deal with them.
HM Government Strategy for Sustainable Construction (2008)	Encourages the construction industry to adopt a more sustainable approach towards development; identifies eleven Themes for targeting Action, which includes conserving water resources.

DEFRA The Water Environment (Water Framework Directive) (England and Wales) Regulations (2003)	Requires all inland and coastal waters to reach "good status" by 2015. It mandates that: • development must not cause a deterioration in status of a waterbody; and • development must not prevent future attainment of 'good status', hence it is not acceptable to allow an impact to occur just because other impacts are causing the status of a water body to already be less than good This is being done by establishing a river basin district structure within which demanding environmental objectives are being set, including ecological targets for surface waters.
Environment Agency: Building a Better Environment: A Guide for Developers (2006)	Guidance on addressing key environmental issues through the development process (focusing mainly on the issues dealt with by the Agency), including managing flood risk, surface water management, use of water resources, preventing pollution.
National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG, 2012)	The NPPF states that plans should prevent development from contributing to, or being put at risk of, air or water pollution. Plans should consider the presence of Air Quality Management Areas and cumulative impacts on air quality from individual sites in local areas. The NPPF states that planning should protect and enhance soils, particularly those recognized as best and most versatile agricultural land (Grades 1, 2 and 3a).
DEFRA (2009) Water for Life and Livelihoods: River Basin Management Plan, Thames River Basin District	River Basin Management Plans are prepared under the Water Framework Directive in order to identify the pressures facing the water environment and identify actions to address these pressures. Within The Thames River Basin District, Slough lies within both the Thames (Maidenhead to Sunbury) catchment and the Colne catchment. Key actions for the Colne catchment include: • Improving flows in the River Misbourne; • Promoting soil and nutrient management plans to local farmers; and • Assess improvements to fish passage on the River Colne at Denham Country Park.

	Key actions for the Thames (Maidenhead to Sunbury) catchment include: • Investigate improvements to sewage treatment works; • Assess the impact of abstraction on the ecology, recreation and navigation of the Lower Thames; and Carry out further monitoring and investigation to allow targeting of additional measures to improve the status of this catchment.
Environment Agency (2013) Colne Catchment Abstraction Licensing Strategy	Catchment Abstraction Management Strategies (CAMS) set out how water resources are to be managed, particularly in terms of water abstraction and guide decisions regarding granting abstraction licenses. There is no water available for licensing in the Colne catchment.
Environment Agency (2014) Thames Catchment Abstraction Licensing Strategy	Catchment Abstraction Management Strategies (CAMS) set out how water resources are to be managed, particularly in terms of water abstraction and guide decisions regarding granting abstraction licenses. There is no water available for licensing in the Thames catchment.
Thames Water (2014) Water Resources Management Plan 2015 - 2040	Thames Water provides Sewage services across the plan are and provides water supply to most of the plan area. This WRMP states that household water demand is expected to increase over the plan period, but this will be managed through reducing leaks and increasing water use efficiency.
Action Plan for Slough Air Quality Management Areas 3&4. Endorsed by Cabinet November 2012.	The Action Plan for Slough Air Quality Management Areas 3&4 sets the framework reducing air pollution in the borough. Measures for reducing air pollution in the borough include encouraging the use of sustainable modes of transport, reducing traffic congestion, limit the amount of parking in new development and require developers for prepare transport assessments of the impacts of the development. The Key aims and objectives of the action plan are: • The plan proposes measures to achieve objectives for AQMAs 3 and 4 • The 2011 Further Assessment indicates that substantial reductions in road traffic emissions are

	required in AQMA 3 and 4 to achieve the objective at monitoring sites
	• For measures to be successful there needs to be support and committed participation from all sections of the community
	• Whilst Slough Borough Council can have a direct positive influence through implementation of measures in its activities and infrastructure that come under its direct control - such as the local road network - wider participation throughout communities within Slough and the surrounding area is key for substantial improvements to happen
	• The majority of measures proposed in this draft action plan rely on specific or wider commitments by business, schools, workers, bus and freight operators, other stakeholders and the general public to help Slough Borough Council in its aim to achieve good air quality throughout the town so that all may benefit
Climatic factors	
UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (1992)	Sets an overall framework for intergovernmental efforts to tackle the challenge posed by climate change.
IPCC Kyoto Protocol to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (1997)	Commits member nations to reduce their emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, or engage in emissions trading if they maintain or increase emissions of these gases.
EC Sixth Environmental Action Programme 2002-2012 (2002)	Climate change has been identified as one of four priority areas for Europe. The EAP's main objective is a reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases without a reduction in levels of growth and prosperity, as well as adaptation and preparation for the effects of climate change.
EU Sustainable Development	This Strategy identifies key priorities for an enlarged Europe. This includes health, social inclusion and

Strategy (2006)	fighting global poverty. It aims to achieve better policy integration in addressing these challenges, and to ensure that Europe looks beyond its boundaries in making informed decisions about sustainability. The sustainable Development Strategy was review in 2009 and "underlined that in recent years the EU has mainstreamed sustainable development into a broad range of its policies. In particular, the EU has taken the lead in the fight against climate change and the promotion of a low-carbon economy. At the same time, unsustainable trends persist in many areas and the efforts need to be intensified". Sustainable development is a key focus of the EU and the strategy continues to be monitored and reviewed.
EU Floods Directive (2007)	Requires Local Authorities to feed in to the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment (already completed), as well as the Local Flood Risk Strategy (already completed), and ensure that objectives within Local Plans compliment the objectives of the Directive.
UK Climate Change Act 2008 (2008)	The 2008 Climate Change Act seeks to manage and respond to climate change in the UK, by: • Setting ambitious, legally binding targets; • Taking powers to help meet those targets; • Strengthening the institutional framework; • Enhancing the UK's ability to adapt to the impact of climate change; and • Establishing clear and regular accountability to the UK Parliament and to the devolved legislatures. Significantly, the Act sets a legally binding target of at least an 80 per cent cut in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 and at least a 34 per cent cut by 2020. These targets are against a 1990 baseline.

UK Renewable Energy Strategy (2009)	The UK has committed to sourcing 15% of its energy from renewable sources by 2020 – an increase in the share of renewables from about 2.25% in 2008. The Renewable Energy Strategy sets out how the Government will achieve this target through utilising a variety of mechanisms to encourage Renewable Energy provision in the UK. This includes streamlining the planning system, increasing investment in technologies as well as improving funding for advice and awareness raising.
The UK Low Carbon Transition Plan (2009)	The UK Low Carbon Transition Plan sets out how the UK will meet the Climate Change Act's legally binding target of 34 per cent cut in emissions on 1990 levels by 2020. It also seeks to deliver emissions cuts of 18% on 2008 levels. The main aims of the Transition Plan include the following: • Producing 30% of energy from renewables by 2020; • Improving the energy efficiency of existing housing; • Increasing the number of people in 'green jobs'; and • Supporting the use and development of clean technologies.
National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG, 2012)	The recently released NPPF seeks to streamline the planning system and sets out the Governments planning policies and how these should be applied. At the heart of the NPPF is presumption in favour of sustainable development. The NPPF includes guidance on climate change, flooding, and coastal change. Plans should take account of climate change over the longer term, including factors such as flood risk, coastal change, water supply and changes to biodiversity and landscape. New development should be planned to avoid increased vulnerability to the range of impacts arising from climate change. When new development is brought forward in areas which are vulnerable, care should be taken to ensure that risks can be managed through suitable adaptation measures, including through the planning of green infrastructure. To support the move to a low carbon future, local planning authorities should:

| | plan for new development in locations and ways which reduce greenhouse gas emissions; actively support energy efficiency improvements to existing buildings; and when setting any local requirement for a building's sustainability, do so in a way consistent with the Government's zero carbon buildings policy and adopt nationally described standards. Local Plans should apply a sequential, risk-based approach to the location of development to avoid where possible flood risk to people and property and manage any residual risk, taking account of the impacts of climate change, by: applying the Sequential Test; if necessary, applying the Exception Test; safeguarding land from development that is required for current and future flood management; using opportunities offered by new development to reduce the causes and impacts of flooding; and where climate change is expected to increase flood risk so that some existing development may not be sustainable in the long-term, seeking opportunities to facilitate the relocation of development, including housing, to more sustainable locations. Local planning authorities should reduce risk from coastal change by avoiding inappropriate development in vulnerable areas or adding to the impacts of physical changes to the coast. They should identify as a Coastal Change Management Area any area likely to be affected by physical changes to the coast, and: be clear as to what development will be appropriate in such areas and in what circumstances; and make provision for development and infrastructure that needs to be relocated away from Coastal |

	Change Management Areas.
DfT An Evidence Base Review of Public Attitudes to Climate Change and Transport Behaviour (2006)	Summary report of the findings of an evidence base review investigating the research base on public attitudes towards climate change and transport behaviour.
Carbon Trust: The Climate Change Challenge: Scientific Evidence and Implications (2005)	This report summarises the nature of the climate change issue. It explains the fundamental science and the accumulating evidence that climate change is real and needs to be addressed. It also explains the future potential impacts, including the outstanding uncertainties.
Energy Saving Trust: Renewable Energy Sources for Homes in Urban Environments (2005)	Provides information about the integration of renewable energy sources into new and existing dwellings in urban environments. It covers the basic principles, benefits, limitations, costs and suitability of various technologies.
Environment Agency, Adapting to Climate Change: A Checklist for Development (2005)	The document contains a checklist and guidance for new developments to adapt to climate change. The main actions are summarised in a checklist.
Floods & Water Management Act (2010)	Seeks to "localise" responsibility for flood risk, particularly from ordinary watercourses. Key policies within the act include: • providing the Environment Agency with an overview of all flood and coastal erosion risk management and unitary and county councils to lead in managing the risk of all local floods; • encouraging the uptake of sustainable drainage systems and providing for unitary and county councils to adopt SUDS for new developments and redevelopments;

	• introduce an improved risk based approach to reservoir safety; • widen the list of uses of water that water companies can control during periods of water shortage; • enabling water and sewerage companies to operate concessionary schemes for community groups on surface water drainage charges; • amending the Water Industry Act 1991 to provide a named customer and clarify who is responsible for paying the water bill; make it easier for water and sewerage companies to develop and implement social tariffs where companies consider there is a good cause to do so.
Climate Change Strategy for Slough 2011-2014	The Climate Change Strategy for Slough sets the framework for addressing climate change within the borough. This includes land use planning, designing new infrastructure with climate change in mind, designing and renovating buildings and effective emergency planning. Key aims and objectives of the strategy include: • Using 2005 Defra Statistics as a baseline, to reduce per capita CO2 emissions within Slough by 9% by 2011 • To ensure that the climate change risks to Slough are appropriately identified, assessed, communicated and managed • To contribute towards a reduction in Slough's carbon footprint, Slough Borough Council will aim to reduce CO2 emissions from its own activities, using 2008/09 as a baseline, by 40% by 2014
Carbon Management Plan April 2015-March 2020	The Carbon Management Plan sets the framework for reducing CO2 emissions in the borough. Key aims and objectives: • Outcome 1: At least a 3% reduction of CO2 net emissions per annum of all council operations

	• Outcome 2: A 20% reduction of CO2 emissions against the 13/14 baseline • Outcome 3: A reduction of 7 tonnes to 6 tonnes per Full Time Equivalent Employee (FTE) • Outcome 4: A revenue saving of 10% over lifetime of the plan against 13/14 baseline operating costs for the council
Material Assets	
EC Sixth Environmental Action Programme 2002-2012 (2002)	Natural resources and waste (in particular recycling) has been identified as one of four priority areas for Europe. The EAP requires member states to achieve 22% of electricity production from renewable energies by 2010; to significantly reduce the volumes of waste generated and the quantity going to disposal; and to give preference to waste recovery and especially to recycling.
EC Waste Framework Directive (1975, updated 2006)	Objective is the protection of human health and the environment against harmful effects caused by the collection, transport, treatment, storage and tipping of waste. Particular focus is placed on the re-use of recovered materials as raw materials; restricting the production of waste; promoting clean technologies; and the drawing up of waste management plans.
EC Landfill Directive (1999)	Aims to prevent or reduce as far as possible negative effects on the environment, in particular the pollution of surface water, groundwater, soil and air, and on the global environment, including the greenhouse effect, as well as any resulting risk to human health, from the landfilling of waste, during the whole lifecycle of the landfill.
Cabinet Office: Waste Not, Want Not, A Strategy for tackling the waste problem (2002)	A study into how England's current waste management practices could be improved to reduce the current, and growing, waste problem.
DEFRA Waste and Emissions	Sets out legislative provisions for waste (including waste sent to landfill, waste management in England and Wales, and recycling plans), and about penalties for non-compliance with schemes for the trading

Trading Act (2003)	of emissions quotas.
DEFRA Waste Strategy for England (2007)	Aims are to reduce waste by making products with fewer natural resources; break the link between economic growth and waste growth; re-use products or recycle their materials; and recover energy from other wastes where possible. Notes that for a small amount of residual material, landfill will be necessary.
Waste Local Plan for Berkshire (1998)	This document was published in December 1998 and is now out of date. Saved policies from this document will still apply for development management. The Waste Local Plan for Berkshire identifies four main aims: • To provide a policy framework for the development and use of land for waste management facilities consistent with the objectives and policies of the Waste Management Plan and planning policies in national and regional guidance and strategic and local plans; • To ensure that there are sufficient sites available within the Plan period to accommodate the new waste management facilities required to put the Waste Management Plan into effect; • To provide a detailed policy framework against which to judge specific proposals for waste facilities; and • To minimize the adverse impacts resulting from the development and operation of waste management facilities.
DECC Energy White Paper: Meeting the Energy Challenge (2007)	Sets out Government's long term energy policy, including requirements for cleaner, smarter energy; improved energy efficiency; reduced carbon emissions; and reliable, competitive and affordable supplies. The White Paper sets out the UK's international and domestic energy strategy, in the shape of four policy goals: 1) aiming to cut CO_2 emissions by some 60% by about 2050, with real progress by 2020;

	2) maintaining the reliability of energy supplies; 3) promoting competitive markets in the UK and beyond; and 4) ensuring every home is heated adequately and affordably.
DECC Sustainable Energy Act (2010)	Aims include increasing the use of renewable energy; cutting the UK's carbon emissions; maintaining the reliability of the UK's energy supplies; promoting competitive energy markets in the UK; and reducing the number of people living in fuel poverty.
DTI Micro Generation Strategy (2006)	Acknowledges that local authorities can be pro-active in promoting small-scale, local renewable energy generation schemes through "sensible use of planning policies".
EU Sustainable Development Strategy (2006)	This Strategy identifies key priorities for an enlarged Europe. This includes health, social inclusion and fighting global poverty. It aims to achieve better policy integration in addressing these challenges, and to ensure that Europe looks beyond its boundaries in making informed decisions about sustainability. The sustainable Development Strategy was review in 2009 and "underlined that in recent years the EU has mainstreamed sustainable development into a broad range of its policies. In particular, the EU has taken the lead in the fight against climate change and the promotion of a low-carbon economy. At the same time, unsustainable trends persist in many areas and the efforts need to be intensified". Sustainable development is a key focus of the EU and the strategy continues to be monitored and reviewed.
EU Transport White Paper. Roadmap to a Single European Transport Area – Towards a competitive and resource efficient transport system (2011)	The white paper sets out a European vision for a competitive and sustainable transport system for the EU. The white paper sets out an aim to achieve a 60% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions from the European transport system whilst growing transport systems and supporting mobility. The White paper sets out ten strategic goals.

National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG, 2012)	The recently released NPPF seeks to streamline the planning system and sets out the Governments planning policies and how these should be applied. At the heart of the NPPF is presumption in favour of sustainable development.
	The NPPF includes guidance on promoting sustainable transport. The NPPF requires development plans to seek to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and congestion, reduce the and to travel, and exploit opportunities for the sustainable movement of people and good. Developments should be located and designed where practical to:
	• accommodate the efficient delivery of goods and supplies;
	• give priority to pedestrian and cycle movements, and have access to high quality public transport facilities;
	• create safe and secure layouts which minimise conflicts between traffic and cyclists or pedestrians, avoiding street clutter and where appropriate establishing home zones;
	incorporate facilities for charging plug-in and other ultra-low emission vehicles; and consider the needs of people with disabilities by all modes of transport.
Department for Transport: Transport White Paper: The Future of Transport – A Network for 2030 (2004)	Sets out factors that will shape transport in the UK over the next thirty years. Also sets out how the Government will respond to the increasing demand for travel, while minimising the negative impact on people and the environment.
Department for Transport: Towards a Sustainable Transport System: Supporting Economic Growth in a Low Carbon World (November 2008)	Outlines five national goals for transport, focusing on the challenge of delivering strong economic growth while at the same time reducing greenhouse gas emissions. It outlines the key components of national infrastructure, discusses the difficulties of planning over the long term in the context of uncertain future demand and describes the substantial investments we are making to tackle congestion and crowding on transport networks. The National Goals for Transport are as follows:

	Goal 1: To reduce transport's emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, with the desired outcome of tackling climate change.
	Goal 2: To support economic competitiveness and growth, by delivering reliable and efficient transport networks.
	Goal 3: To promote greater equality of opportunity for all citizens, with the desired outcome of achieving a fairer society.
	Goal 4: To contribute to better safety, security and health and longer life expectancy by reducing the risk of death, injury or illness arising from transport, and by promoting travel modes that are beneficial to health.
	Goal 5: To improve quality of life for transport users and non-transport users, and to promote a healthy natural environment.
Department for Transport: The Future of Rail White Paper (2004)	Sets out a blueprint for a new streamlined structure for Britain's Railway. The proposals aim to provide a single point of accountability for the network's performance, allow closer working between track and train and provide for greater devolution of decision-making.
Department for Transport: An Evidence Base Review of Public Attitudes to Climate Change and Transport Behaviour (2006)	Summary report of the findings of an evidence base review investigating the research base on public attitudes towards climate change and transport behaviour.
Department for Transport: National Cycling Strategy and Review (1996, reviewed 2005)	The National Cycling Strategy aims to increase cycle use for all types of journey. The Review focuses on the mechanisms established for the delivery of cycling and the effect these have had on increasing cycling rates.
HS2 (High Speed 2)	In February 2011 the government published proposals for a new high speed rail route that would initially link London to Birmingham and ultimately extend to Manchester, Leeds and Scotland. The preferred

	consultation route would come up from Amersham, crossing the southern and western edge of Wendover, Stoke Mandeville and entire western flank of Aylesbury, then running east of Waddesdon before picking up the path of the disused railway line past Quainton, Calvert and proceeding up to the edge of Brackley.
	The proposed route was consulted on in July 2011 setting out the proposed route and alternative, its Sustainability Appraisal and project timeline A Safeguarding Direction is now in operation, where on average 60m either side of the proposed route is safeguarded.
	A Bill for the construction of Phase I of HS2 has been committed to a select committee with construction expected to commence in 2017.
Slough's Third Local Transport Plan (LTP3) 2011-2026	This document forms part of the Slough Local Transport Plan (LTP). The LTP is the third to have been prepared by Slough Borough Council and replaces the previous LTP, which covered the period from April 2006 to March 2011. The local transport plan sets the framework for transport infrastructure in the borough. Measures include ensuring that development locations are accessible by public transport, reducing the need to travel, protecting people and their property from flooding and facilitate the development of new housing. The key aims and objectives of the transport plan are: • To make sustainable transport options accessible to all • To enhance social inclusion and regeneration of deprived areas • To protect and improve personal health • To minimise the noise generated by the transport network, and its impacts • To achieve better links between neighbourhoods and access to the natural environment • To improve the journey experience of transport users across Slough's transport networks

	• To reduce the number of traffic accidents involving death or injury • To minimise the opportunity for crime, anti-social behaviour and terrorism and maximise personal safety on the transport network • To reduce transport's CO2 emissions and make the transport network resilient to the effects of climate change • To mitigate the effects of travel and the transport system on the natural environment, heritage and landscape • Ensure that the transport system helps Slough sustain its economic competitiveness and retain its position as an economic hub of the South East • To facilitate the development of new housing in accordance with the LDF
Secretary of State for Transport (2013) Aviation Policy Framework	This document will fully replace the 2003 Air Transport White Paper as Government's policy on aviation, alongside any decisions Government makes following the recommendations of the independent Airports Commission. Key aims of this document includes: • To ensure that the UK's air links continue to make it one of the best connected bountries in the world. This includes increasing our links to emerging markets so that the UK can compete successfully for economic growth opportunities. • To ensure that the aviation sector makes a significant and cost-effective contribution towards reducing global emissions. • To limit and where possible reduce the number of people in the UK significantly affected by aircraft noise.

	• To encourage the aviation industry and local stakeholders to strengthen and streamline the way in which they work together.
DEFRA (2010) Noise Policy Statement for England (NPSE)	This document seeks to clarify the underlying principles and aims in existing policy documents, legislation and guidance that relate to noise. The key aims of this document are as follows: • Avoid significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life; • Mitigate and minimise adverse impacts on health and quality of life; and • Where possible, contribute to the improvement of health and quality of life.
Environment Agency: Water for people and the environment: A Strategy for England and Wales (2009)	Looks at the steps needed, in the face of climate change, to manage water resources to the 2040s and beyond, with the overall aim of improving the environment while allowing enough water for human uses.
EU Sustainable Development Strategy (2006)	This Strategy identifies key priorities for an enlarged Europe. This includes health, social inclusion and fighting global poverty. It aims to achieve better policy integration in addressing these challenges, and to ensure that Europe looks beyond its boundaries in making informed decisions about sustainability. The sustainable Development Strategy was review in 2009 and "underlined that in recent years the EU has mainstreamed sustainable development into a broad range of its policies. In particular, the EU has taken the lead in the fight against climate change and the promotion of a low-carbon economy. At the same time, unsustainable trends persist in many areas and the efforts need to be intensified". Sustainable development is a key focus of the EU and the strategy continues to be monitored and reviewed.
DTI Draft Strategy for Sustainable Construction (2006)	"Themes for Action" include: re-use existing built assets; design for minimum waste; aim for lean construction; minimise energy in construction; minimise energy in building use; avoid polluting the environment; preserve and enhance bio-diversity; conserve water resources; respect people and their

	local environment; and set targets (benchmarks & performance indicators).
HM Treasury: Barker Review of Housing Supply, Delivering Stability: Securing our Future Housing Needs (2004)	Government objectives include: to achieve improvements in housing affordability in the market sector; a more stable housing market; location of housing supply which supports patterns of economic development; and an adequate supply of publicly-funded housing for those who need it.
Planning for Town Centres: Practice guidance on need, impact and the sequential approach (December 2009)	This practice guidance was intended to support the implementation of town centre policies set out in *Planning Policy Statement 4: Planning for Sustainable Economic Growth* (PPS4) (now replaced by PPG). It is aimed at helping those involved in preparing or reviewing need, impact and sequential site assessments.
Replacement Minerals Local Plan for Berkshire (2001)	This document was published in 2001 and is now out of date. Saved policies from this document will continue to apply for development control policies with the possible exception of Policy 10. The main issues addressed in this Plan are: • How much mineral (mainly sand and gravel) should be dug in Berkshire? • Where should extraction be allowed? • Where should extraction not be allowed? • What should be the objectives for the restoration of future mineral workings? • How can we ensure that mineral working is carried out in the least damaging way? • How can mineral working be used to secure long-term environmental and other public benefits? • How much mineral may have to be brought into Berkshire from elsewhere? • Where might depots be located to allow minerals to be brought in by rail?

Slough's Sustainable Community Strategy 2008-2028 (2008)	The Sustainable Community Strategy for Slough sets out an overarching framework and vision for delivering community cohesion, health and well being, community safety, improve the local environment and economy and skills.
Slough Economic development Strategic Plan for Growth 2014-2018	The Slough Economic Development Strategic Plan for Growth sets the framework for delivering economic growth in Slough. The key aims and objectives are: • Competitive workforce • Business generation, retention and inward investment • Physical and transport infrastructure • Generating more start up businesses • Supporting current businesses to retain and grow profit levels • Attracting new businesses to the area. Activity and infrastructure will need to enable all this to happen • Growth can be promoted in the town by physical regeneration and enabling businesses, communities and stakeholders to improve use of the physical space and infrastructure.

Five Year Plan 2016-2020	The Slough Five Year Plan sets the framework for delivering the council's ambition in Slough. Key aims and objectives • Slough will be the premier location in the south east for businesses of all sizes to locate, start, grow, and stay • There will be more homes in the borough, with quality improving across all tenures to support our ambition for Slough • The centre of Slough will be vibrant, providing business, living, and cultural opportunities • Slough will be one of the safest places in the Thames Valley • Children and young people in Slough will be healthy, resilient and have positive life chances • More people will take responsibility and manage their own health, care and support needs • The council's income and the value of its assets will be maximised • The council will be a leading digital transformation organisation
Centre of Slough Strategy 2015 onwards	The Centre of Slough Strategy sets the framework for regenerating the centre of Slough. Measures include ensuring the centre is the best connected town well served by road, rail, air and bus services and to make the High Street more convenient, accessible and vibrant for all shoppers. The key aims and objectives are: • "The centre of Slough is where people, businesses, shops, transport and public spaces come together to create an atmospheric, high quality and vibrant urban living environment. A place where the latest technology is harnessed, jobs are created, design is innovative and culture is celebrated" • A housing led regeneration

	• Attracting more business • Reshaping the shopping centre • Developing new attractions • Insisting on high quality development • Creating a sense of place • Taking care of and improving the local environment • Making the most of Slough's place in the world (Next to Heathrow, Windsor and the Thames Valley) • Getting best value from public and private investment (Slough Pound) • Connecting the centre with surrounding areas
Community Cohesion Strategy 2013-2015	The Community Cohesion Strategy for Slough sets the framework for delivering a good quality and maintained environment, accessible schools, community facilities and employment opportunities and empowering local people to take responsibility and accountability for their homes, their neighbourhoods and their communities. The key aims and objectives are: • Outcome 1: People feel a sense of pride and belonging • Outcome 2: Better life opportunities for all • Outcome 3: Diversity is valued • Outcome 4: Positive relationships within and between communities • Outcome 5: We all take responsibility.

Sustainable Community Strategy 2007–vision for the next 20 years	The Sustainable Community Strategy for Slough sets the framework for encouraging residents to live healthy and active lifestyles, reducing crime, encouraging the use of Slough's green spaces and increasing economic activity rates. The key aims and objectives: • The purpose of the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) is to create a positive vision that will deliver that sustainable community • It is the product of comprehensive consultation with local stakeholders, members of the community and the voluntary sector • Workshops exploring the issues and themes contained within the strategy were held in late 2007 • Local groups were given an opportunity to shape the vision and identify priorities
Asset Management Plan 2014-2017	The Asset Management Plan for Slough sets the framework for the council to improve customer experience, develop a skilled and capable workforce, develop new ways of working and achieve value for money. The key aims and objectives: • Key Aim One - Introduction of a proactive approach to Estate Management • Key Aim Two - To efficiently manage the disposal of surplus assets • Key Aim Three – Make a significant contribution to delivering transformational change • Key Aim Four – Use the council's assets to promote economic development and growth • Key Aim Five – To hold a rationalised portfolio that is in the right location, is fit for purpose and reduces ongoing revenue costs • Key Aim Six – To introduce a culture of continuous improvement • Key Aim Seven – To manage and deliver the emerging Strategic School Places Plan 2013-21

Historic Environment	
Council of Europe: Convention on the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (1985)	Aims for signatories to protect their architectural heritage by means of identifying monuments, buildings and sites to be protected; preventing the disfigurement, dilapidation or demolition of protected properties; providing financial support by the public authorities for maintaining and restoring the architectural heritage on its territory; and supporting scientific research for identifying and analysing the harmful effects of pollution and for defining ways and means to reduce or eradicate these effects.
Council of Europe: The Convention on the Protection of Archaeological Heritage (Revised) (Valetta Convention) (1992)	The convention defines archaeological heritage and identifies measures for its protection. Aims include integrated conservation of the archaeological heritage and financing of archaeological research and conservation.
DCMS Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979)	An act to consolidate and amend the law retain to ancient monuments, to make provision of matters of archaeological or historic interest, and to provide grants by secretary of state to the Architectural Heritage fund.
National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG, 2012)	The recently released NPPF seeks to streamline the planning system and sets out the Governments planning policies and how these should be applied. At the heart of the NPPF is presumption in favour of sustainable development. The NPPF includes guidance on conserving and enhancing the historic environment. It seeks to ensure local authorities plan recognise heritage assets as an irreplaceable resource and conserve them in a manner that reflects their significance. Local planning authorities should take into account: • the desirability of sustaining and enhancing the significance of heritage assets and putting them to viable uses consistent with their conservation;

	• the wider social, cultural, economic and environmental benefits that conservation of the historic environment can bring; • the desirability of new development making a positive contribution to local character and distinctiveness; and opportunities to draw on the contribution made by the historic environment to the character of a place.
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act (1990)	An act to consolidate certain enactments relating to special controls in respect of buildings and areas of special architectural or historic interest with amendments to give effect to recommendations to give effect to recommendations of the Law Commissions.
Circular on the Protection of World Heritage Sites, CLG 07/2009 2	The purpose of this circular, which applies only to England, is to provide updated policy guidance on the level of protection and management required for World Heritage Sites. The circular explains the national context and the Government's objectives for the protection of World Heritage Sites, the principles which underpin those objectives, and the actions necessary to achieve them.
English Heritage and CABE: Buildings in Context: New Development in Historic Areas (2002)	Aims to stimulate a high standard of design when development takes place in historically sensitive contexts by showing 15 case studies in which achievement is far above the ordinary and trying to draw some lessons both about design and about the development and planning process, particularly regarding building in sensitive locations.
Office of the Deputy Prime minister (ODPM) Secure and Sustainable Buildings Act (2004)	Amends the Building act, and others, with regard to sustainable construction practices and conservation of historic buildings. Also states the general nature of security provisions which should be in place at the construction stage and beyond.
English Heritage: Conservation Principles for the Sustainable Management of the Historic	This English Heritage document sets out the framework for the sustainable management of the historic environment. This is presented under the following six headline 'principles': Principle 1: The historic environment is a shared resource

Environment	Principle 2: Everyone should be able to participate in sustaining the historic environment
	Principle 3: Understanding the significance of places is vital
	Principle 4: Significant places should be managed to sustain their values
	Principle 5: Decisions about change must be reasonable, transparent and consistent
	Principle 6: Documenting and learning from decisions is essential.
English Heritage Guidance on Setting of Heritage Assets (2011)	This document sets out English Heritage guidance on managing change within the settings of heritage assets, including archaeological remains and historic buildings, sites, areas, and landscapes. It provides detailed advice intended to assist implementation of Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment and its supporting Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide, together with the historic environment provisions of the National Policy Statements for nationally significant infrastructure projects.
Landscape	
Council of Europe: European Landscape Convention (2006)	Aims to promote the protection, management and planning (including active design and creation of Europe's landscapes, both rural and urban, and to foster European co-operation on landscape issues.
English Heritage and CABE: Guidance on Tall Buildings (2007)	Provides advice and guidance on good practice in relation to tall buildings in the planning process and to highlight other related issues, which need to be taken into account, i.e. where tall buildings would and would not be appropriate.
National Planning Policy Framework (DCLG, 2012)	The NPPF sates that development could seek to promote or reinforce local distinctiveness; both aesthetic considerations and connections between people and places should be considered. The NPPF also promotes the protection and enhancements of valued landscapes, giving greatest weight to National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Lepus Consulting
1 Bath Street
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire GL50 1YE

t: 01242 525222
w: www.lepusconsulting.com
e: enquiries@lepusconsulting.com