

FALKIRK

Local Development Plan²

Proposed Plan

Strategic Environmental Assessment Revised Environmental Report

Appendix 3: Detailed Monitoring Proposals

September 2018



Falkirk Council

SEA Objectives	Monitoring Proposed	Rationale	Methods & Measures
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna - Habitats			
Safeguard and enhance priority habitats (as defined in the FABAP)	Area of priority habitat types across the Council Area.	Any loss of area of priority habitat type will be picked up by this measure.	Periodic updates of the phase 1 habitat survey. Last updated 2008.
	The effectiveness of mitigation measures put in place to reduce the impact on priority habitats.	If mitigation measures are effective then priority habitats will be successfully safeguarded.	Maintain a register of mitigation measures identified within the Environmental Report which is updated as and when the projects which they are associated to make progress.
Increase/enhance biodiversity in the wider environment.	Number of sites where additional habitat enhancement work has been secured.	Shows the extent of habitat enhancement work which has been undertaken	Existing Development Plan Monitoring Report indicator

SEA Objectives	Monitoring Proposed	Rationale	Methods & Measures
Safeguard ancient and long established woodland as a habitat resource of irreplaceable value	Area of ancient and long established woodland.	If the amount of ancient and long established woodland remains constant then it will have been safeguarded.	
	Area of ancient and long established woodland lost through development	If no ancient of long established woodland is lost through development then it will be successfully safeguarded.	Monitoring of planning consents.
Increase the rate of new woodland planting to help achieve the aims of the Falkirk Forestry and Woodland Strategy	Creation of new woodland.	Through monitoring this we will be able to determine whether we are likely to meet the Falkirk Forestry and Woodland Strategy's target of delivering 850ha of new woodland between 2015 and 2055	This indicator is monitored by the Central Scotland Green Network Trust and Forestry Commission Scotland
Protect Urban Open Space which has intrinsic biodiversity and nature conservation value or value as part of a network.	Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Value of Urban Open Space	If the overall biodiversity and nature conservation value of sites in the urban biodiversity network (shown in Map 1.2 in appendix 1 of the Environmental Report) remains static or improves then this objective will be met.	The Council's periodic open space audit.
	Loss of open space which forms part of the urban biodiversity network	If none of the urban biodiversity network (shown in Map 1.2 in appendix 1 of the Environmental Report) is lost to development then this objective will be met.	Monitoring of planning consents.
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna – Habitat Networks			
Prevent the further fragmentation of key habitat networks and contribute to improved habitat connectivity, guided by the Falkirk integrated habitat network study.	Number and total area of different types of habitat networks across the Council Area	Better connected environments enhance biodiversity	Through data collected as part of the Council's Integrated Habitat Network Study
	Percentage of less favoured habitat within that network	If the proportion of less favoured habitat decreases then biodiversity will be enhanced	Through data collected as part of the Council's Integrated Habitat Network Study
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna – Species			

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Maintain and enhance the populations of European Protected Species and other legally protected species, including protection of their resting places.	The conservation status of legally protected species known to occur within the Council Area	To understand whether these species are being effectively safeguarded	Through liaison with the Council's biodiversity officer and SNH.
Safeguard and enhance priority species (as defined in the FABAP)	The effectiveness of mitigation measures put in place to reduce the impact on protected species.	Specifically requested by SNH to understand whether mitigation measures proposed in the Local Plan are effective in avoiding adverse impacts on protected species	Maintain a register of mitigation measures identified within the Environmental Report which is updated as and when the projects which they are associated to make progress.
	Number and conservation status of priority species identified within the LBAP	Any local extinctions or changes in conservation status will indicate whether priority species are being effectively safeguarded	Through liaison with the Council's biodiversity officer and SNH.
Contain the spread and reduce the impact of invasive species	The extent and impact of invasive species	A reduction in the extent and impact of invasive species will demonstrate that this objective is being met.	Collation of more detailed baseline information in relation to the extent and impact of invasive species is a key action of the Local Biodiversity Action Plan and is in the process of being undertaken
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna – Protected Sites			
Avoid adverse effects on the integrity of Natura 2000 sites.	Number of planning applications with accompanying appropriate assessments.	Appropriate assessments are required to demonstrate that proposed development can take place without having an adverse effect on the integrity of Natura 2000 sites or where they can't identify compensatory measures and provide suitable justification.	Through liaison with SNH and Development Management officers.

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	Number of developments which are approved despite potential adverse effects on the integrity of Natura 2000 sites because of issues of over-riding public interest.		

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Protect and enhance sites which have been designated due to their biodiversity and nature conservation value	Overall area and number of ecological sites protected by local/national designations	A reduction in the number or extent of these sites will indicate that they are not being safeguarded	Existing Development Plan Monitoring Report indicator
	Loss/damage to ecological sites	The less damage caused to ecological sites the better they are being safeguarded	Existing Development Plan Monitoring Report indicator
	Details of sites where additional habitat enhancement work has been secured.	If designated sites continue to be enhanced then this objective will be met	Liaison the Council's biodiversity officer.
Designate any unprotected sites which have particular biodiversity and nature conservation value.	Number of potential Wildlife Sites and potential Sites of Importance for Nature conservation	If the number of designated sites increases then this SEA objective will be met.	Liaison the Council's biodiversity officer.
Population and Human Health - Population			
Ensure that new housing to accommodate projected population growth is located sustainably.	Latest population and household projections.		
Population and Human Health – Degraded Environment			
Increase the amount of land on the vacant and derelict land register which is brought back into beneficial use.	Area of contaminated land/land improved	Details where measures have been employed to reduce contaminated land	Existing Development Plan Monitoring Report indicator
Increase the amount of	Annual level of vacant and derelict land	Where level of dereliction is seen to drop this SEA objective will have been met	Indicator monitored as part of the Scottish Vacant and Derelict Land Survey

SEA Objectives	Monitoring Proposed	Rationale	Methods & Measures
potentially contaminated sites which are decontaminated through new development.	Percentage of the population of the Council area within 500m of a vacant or derelict site	Living close to a vacant or derelict site is understood to have an adverse impact on mental wellbeing	
	Percentage of the population of the Council area within 500m of any derelict site		
Population and Human Health – Waste Disposal and Management			
Ensure that there is a network of modern recycling facilities available across the Council area to support the staged targets within the Zero Waste Plan. Reduce waste through maximising the reuse, recycling and recovery of resources.	Level of recycling activity/waste arising	This will show whether production of waste is stabilising or not	Existing Development Plan Monitoring Report indicator
	Waste management infrastructure capacity	An increase in waste management infrastructure capacity will help to support the targets within the Zero Waste Plan	
	Identified active landfill capacity	Through limiting landfill capacity production of waste could be reduced.	Existing Development Plan Monitoring Report indicator
Population and Human Health – Access to Open Space, Recreation and Countryside			
Increase access to recreation and the countryside	Number/length of countryside access routes	In theory the greater the number and length of countryside access routes, the more access opportunities are enhanced.	Existing Development Plan Monitoring Report indicator
	Programme of recently implemented access improvements across the Council area	Demonstrates the level of investment into enhancing access opportunities.	Through liaison with the Council's outdoor access team, CSGNT, Forestry Commission Scotland and important local landowners such as Callendar Estates.
	Participation in outdoor recreation	Increasing levels of participation in outdoor recreation will point towards this objective being met.	Monitored as part of the Scottish Household Survey
Encourage the promotion	Investment in	Demonstrates where investment has taken	Existing Development Plan Monitoring Report

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and connectivity of the Central Scotland Green Network within and linking beyond Falkirk.	enhancement priority areas: town and village centres/gateways/transport corridors/canal corridor/ Falkirk Green space/urban regeneration areas/Conservation Areas)	place.	indicator
Population and Human Health – Open Space Quantity, Quality and Accessibility			
Ensure that all settlements 5ha/1000 people of open space;	Quantity of open space (Hectares per 1000 people) within settlements	Measuring the amount of open space within settlements relative to population level will measure performance against this objective	Analysis of data from the Council's Open Space Audit
	Loss of open space	Monitoring where open space is being lost and comparing it to the level of open space available within that settlement will measure performance against this objective	Monitoring of planning consents.
Improve the quality of open space	Quality of open space	If the overall quality of open space improved then this objective will be met.	Analysis of data from the Council's Open Space Audit
Ensure that households are within an acceptable walking distance to different types of open space with reference to the standards set out in the Open Space Strategy.	Accessibility to open space	The Council's Open Space Strategy sets a number of maximum walking distance targets for different types of open space (parks, playspace, sports areas, natural/semi natural open spaces and fit for purpose open space) if the percentage of households with access within these walking distances increases across the Council area then this objective will be met.	Analysis of data from the Council's Open Space Audit
Population and Human Health – Noise			
Reduce the proportion of the population affected by nuisance noise issues.	Number of nuisance noise complaints received per head of the population	If this proportion goes down then a reduction is being affected	Through liaison with Environmental Health

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Population and Human Health – Odour			
Reduce the proportion of the population affected by nuisance odour issues.	SEPA notifications in relation to landfill sites	If the number of notifications goes down then a reduction is being affected.	Through liaison with SEPA.
	Number of nuisance odour complaints received per head of the population	If this proportion goes down then a reduction is being affected	Through liaison with Environmental Health
Population and Human Health – Exposure to Risk of Injury from Major Hazards			
Reduce the amount of new development sites which are impacted by HSE consultation zones	Monitor the number of planning applications received which have to go through the PADI system	In a plan lead system, the number of planning applications received in areas which are impacted by HSE consultation zones should reduce as development will have been directed away from these areas	Through liaison with development management officers
	Housing or mixed-use sites within major hazard consultation zones	If the number of housing or mixed use sites allocated within major hazards consultation zones reduces then this objective will be met.	Desk-top analysis of LDP allocations and major hazard consultation zones using GIS
Soil – Contaminated Land			
Reduce contamination and safeguard soil quality and quantity	Area of contaminated land/land improved	Details where measures have been employed to reduce contaminated land	Existing Development Plan Monitoring Report indicator
Soil – Abandoned Mineral Workings			
Increase the amount of abandoned mineral workings rehabilitated through the development process	Extent of abandoned mineral workings	If the extent of abandoned mineral workings goes down then this objective will be met.	Through liaison with development management officers
Soil – Unstable Land			
Increase the amount of unstable land remediated through the development process	Extent of land affected by legacy mining issues	If the extent of land affected by legacy mining issues decreases then this objective will be met.	Through liaison with the Coal Authority.

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Soil – Agricultural Land			
Reduce the amount of prime quality agricultural land which is allocated for development.	Prime agricultural land lost to development	Will show whether agricultural land is lost to development thereby suggesting it is not being properly safeguarded. A reduction in the loss of prime quality agricultural land will demonstrate that it is being suitably protected over the long term.	Existing Development Plan Monitoring Report indicator
Protect prime quality agricultural land	Prime quality agricultural land allocated for development.	A long term reduction in the amount of prime quality agricultural land allocated for development will show that it is being suitably protected.	Desktop analysis of sites allocated within the LDP.
Soil – Carbon Rich and Rare Soils			
Protect carbon rich and rare soils	Carbon rich or rare soil allocated for development	A long term reduction in the amount of carbon rich or rare soil allocated for development will show that it is being suitably protected.	Desktop analysis of sites allocated within the LDP.
Soil - Geodiversity			
Ensure that Local Geodiversity Sites are afforded a protected status	Local Geodiversity Sites (LGS) which are affected by allocated development sites	A long term reduction in the number of LGS affected by allocated development sites will show that it is being suitably protected.	Desktop analysis of sites allocated within the LDP.
Improve the opportunities for education and interpretation at Local Geodiversity Sites	Opportunities for education and interpretation at Local Geodiversity Sites	If more opportunities are implemented then this objective will be met.	Liaison with the Council's Environment Team.
Water – Ecological Status of Waterbodies			
Prevent deterioration and enhance the status of the	Changes to waterbody status	Any deterioration or improvement in status will be swiftly identified	From SEPA's database on the status of waterbodies.

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<p>water environment</p> <p>Prevent deterioration and enhance the status of groundwater bodies</p> <p>Achieve good ecological status</p>	<p>Current waterbody status</p> <hr/> <p>Overall status of groundwater bodies in the Council area</p>		
Promote sustainable water use	Changes to water flows and levels status in the waterbody classification data	If the proportion of waterbodies with high or good status of water flows and levels is maintained or improved then this SEA objective will be being met.	SEPA waterbody classification data.
Water – Flooding			
Ensure that new development avoids areas of flood risk and safeguards the functional flood plain	Flood mitigation measures introduced	The introduction of flood mitigation measures should reduce overall flood risk	Through liaison with the Council's Flooding officers.
	Number of flooding events	If flood risk is reduced then the number of flooding events where people are affected should slowly reduce.	Existing Development Plan Monitoring Report indicator
Reduce overall flood risk	The proportion of new development in areas at risk of flooding.	Specifically requested by SEPA	Monitoring of the weekly list to identify new developments are within the indicative flood plain
Air – Air Quality			
Keep air pollution below Local Air Quality Management thresholds.	Air quality monitoring data	To better understand the effect of the Local Plan on air quality.	Existing Development Plan Monitoring Report indicator

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Air – Exposure to Reduced Air Quality			
Reduce the proportion of the population affected by reduced air quality.	Addresses within AQMA	A reduction in addresses within AQMA should correspond to a reduction in the population affected by reduced air quality.	Desktop GIS analysis using AQMA and Corporate Address Gazetteer datasets.
Avoid the designation of new AQMA	The number of Air Quality Management Areas	If new AQMA are designated then the number of AQMA will increase.	Liaison with the Council's Environmental Health Unit.
Avoid breaches of National Air Quality standards	Air quality monitoring data	If breaches occur these will be picked up in air quality monitoring data.	Liaison with the Council's Environmental Health Unit.
Air - Emissions from Motorised Transport			
Minimise the need to travel by private car and promote sustainable transport modes	Number of schools covered by school travel plans	School travel plans promote the use of sustainable transport methods to reach school so the greater number of schools covered by school travel plans the more that has been done to reduce non essential trips.	Existing Development Plan Monitoring Report indicator
	Traffic levels	Decreasing traffic levels relative to population would suggest that this objective is being met.	Scottish Transport Statistics
	Parking rates and numbers in town centres	A reduction in parking rates in town centres could indicate a reduction in the number of trips by private motor transport.	Existing Development Plan Monitoring Report indicator
	Number of houses in new developments within 400m of a bus stop	In theory locating new development within 400m of a bus stop should make using public transport more attractive and reduce the number of trips by private motor transport	Monitoring of the weekly list to identify new developments within and out with this threshold.
	Usage of sustainable transport modes	This will detail whether usage of public transport is increasing.	Existing Development Plan Monitoring Report indicator
	Total length of new pedestrian/cycle routes	By expanding the network of pedestrian and cycle routes, walking and cycling will be	Existing Development Plan Monitoring Report indicator

SEA Objectives	Monitoring Proposed	Rationale	Methods & Measures
		promoted.	
	Modal share for trips made by Council residents for commuting, and journeys to school and Falkirk Town Centre	This will show whether walking and cycling are increasing their overall modal share	Existing Development Plan Monitoring Report indicator
Climatic Factors – Greenhouse Gas Emissions			
Reduce greenhouse gas emissions	Falkirk Council Carbon Footprint	If greenhouse gas emissions decrease this objective will be met.	CO2 emissions Falkirk Council's operations are tracked by the Council's sustainable development officers CO2 emissions from the entire Falkirk Council area are monitored by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy
Promote renewable energy generation;	Renewable energy generation	To show whether installed renewable energy generation capacity is increasing or not.	Existing Development Plan Monitoring Report indicator
Climatic Factors – Climate Change Adaptation			
Improve Falkirk's resilience to future climate change impacts	Climate projections	Once an adequate understanding of the impacts of future climate change and measures to improve resilience to it is achieved, detailed monitoring proposals will be able to be formed	Liaison with the Council's sustainable development officer.
Reduce overall flood risk in a sustainable way	Number of sites allocated for development within areas of known flood risk	The most sustainable way to reduce overall flood risk is to avoid building on sites which are in areas of high flood risk.	Desktop analysis of LDP sites.
	Sustainable flood alleviation projects implemented	Managed coastal realignment and upper catchment management are more sustainable ways of reducing flood risk than the construction of new flood defences	Liaison with the Flood Management team and other partners who are involved in the delivery of sustainable flood alleviation.

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Material Assets – Quality of the Built Environment			
Improve design quality within the built environment.	Number of areas of townscape value	An increase in the number of areas of townscape value would indicate an overall enhancement of townscape quality	Through liaison with the Council's conservation offices
	Number of townscape heritage initiatives	The more townscape heritage initiatives in place the more townscape quality is likely to be enhanced	Through liaison with the Council's conservation offices
	Level of investment in townscape improvement projects	This will show where improvements to townscape quality are being implemented.	Through liaison with Council departments involved in townscape improvement.
Material Assets – Transport Network			
Reduce levels of traffic congestion within the Council area	Reported levels of traffic congestion	If this level reduces then this objective will be being met	Liaison with the Transportation Planning Unit
	Car ownership	A reduction in car ownership per head of population would point towards lower levels of traffic congestion	Scottish Transport Statistics
	Implementation of transportation infrastructure projects	Transportation infrastructure projects should in theory reduce levels of congestion	Liaison with the Transportation Planning Unit
Slow down the rate of traffic growth on the road network.	Rate of traffic growth	If this rate slows then this objective will be being met	Liaison with the Transportation Planning Unit
	Road Network condition	If road network condition does not deteriorate then this would point towards a slower rate of traffic growth.	Scottish Transport Statistics
Material Assets – Active Travel Network			
Protect against the destruction/obstruction of the core path network	Total length of the core path network	If the total length of the core path network goes down, then some of it will have been lost.	Liaison with the Outdoor Access Team

SEA Objectives	Monitoring Proposed	Rationale	Methods & Measures
Improve the quality of the core path network	Total length of improved core path network	Not all of the core path network is in an improved state. By monitoring the amount of improved core path network an understanding of whether this objective is being met can be formed	Liaison with the Outdoor Access Team
Material Assets – Recreational Facilities			
Improve the provision and distribution of recreation facilities throughout the Council Area	Number of sports and leisure centres across the Council area and their proximity to communities.	Once an understanding is gained of the current levels of provision then it will be possible to understand whether the situation is improving or not in subsequent audits	Liaison with Falkirk Community Trust.
Material Assets – Low and Zero Carbon Energy Generation Capacity			
Enable the development of low carbon and renewable energy technologies within the Council area.	Renewable energy generation	To show whether installed renewable energy generation capacity is increasing or not. If it is increasing then its development is being effectively enabled	Existing Development Plan Monitoring Report indicator
Enable the development of low carbon heat networks within the Council area	Number of low carbon heat networks within the Council area	If the number of low carbon heat networks is increasing then their development is being effectively enabled.	Liaison with the Council's Sustainable Development Officers
Material Assets – Primary Resources			
Safeguard valuable mineral deposits from sterilisation through inappropriate development.	Location of mineral deposits in relation to allocated development	By knowing where valuable mineral deposits are likely to be in relation to development allocations, we will be able to identify those sites likely to sterilise those deposits and take appropriate remedial action.	Liaison with the Coal Authority and the Development Management Unit.
Reduce the use of primary resources within the construction process	Type, location and consents of mineral workings	If no further consents for mineral workings are being granted then an effort is being made to limit supply and consequently reduce consumption.	Existing Development Plan Monitoring Report indicator
	Number of applications approved for mineral	If no further consents for mineral workings are being granted then an effort is being	Through monitoring the weekly list for consents to extract minerals

SEA Objectives	Monitoring Proposed	Rationale	Methods & Measures
	extraction or extensions to mineral extraction licenses.	made to limit supply and consequently reduce consumption	
Material Assets – Water and Drainage Infrastructure			
Avoid the need to increase capacity at existing waste water treatment plants	Capacity of waste water treatment works	If the capacity of waste water treatment works stays above the level of planned growth within its catchment then this objective will be met.	Liaison with Scottish Water
	Number of waste water treatment work which will need to be extended to accommodate planned housing growth	Reducing the number of waste water treatment works which need to be extended to accommodate planned housing growth will achieve this objective	
Alleviate sewer network capacity constraints	The extent of sewer network capacity constraints is not publicly available.	Development sometimes has the opportunity to alleviate existing sewer network capacity constraints by disconnecting existing surface water drains from the combined sewer. Liaison with Scottish Water should identify where there are opportunities to improve things	
Cultural Heritage – Conservation Areas			
Promote the enhancement of Conservation Areas in line with the associated Conservation Area Management Plan	Number of Conservation Area Appraisals/ Conservation Area Management Plans completed	The recent completion of a conservation area appraisal is a key factor in safeguarding conservation areas	Existing Development Plan Monitoring Report indicator
Protect the historic character of Conservation Areas	Number and Extent of Conservation Areas	If the number and extent of conservation areas increases then this objective will be met.	Liaison with the Council's Environment Team.
Cultural Heritage – Listed Buildings			

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Protect the special interest and setting of listed buildings	Listed buildings brought back into use/demolished	This indicator will show the success stories of listed buildings brought back into use and the failures of listed buildings being demolished	Existing Development Plan Monitoring Report indicator
Cultural Heritage – Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes			
Protect the character and setting of sites identified in the Inventory of Gardens and Designed Landscapes in Scotland Protect the historical significance, integrity and condition of other historic gardens and designed landscapes	Number and Extent of Historic Gardens and Designed Landscapes	If the number and extent of inventory and non-inventory historic gardens and designed landscapes increases then this objective will be met.	Liaison with the Council's Environment Team.
Cultural Heritage – World Heritage Sites			
Retain, protect, preserve and enhance the Antonine Wall and its associated archaeology, character and setting.	Details of planning consents granted where the Antonine Wall WHS is affected.	This will identify whether the Antonine Wall is being retained, protected, preserved and enhanced.	Through liaison with the Development Management unit and Historic Environment Scotland
	Extent of the Antonine Wall World Heritage Site and its buffer zone	Useful baseline information which will help to track whether the WHS or its buffer zone is shrinking over time.	Liaison with Historic Environment Scotland
Cultural Heritage – Scheduled Ancient Monuments			
Preserve scheduled ancient monuments and other identified nationally important archaeological resources in situ and protect the integrity of their setting	Number of SAM preserved in situ whilst under development pressure.	This indicator will show whether policies designed to protect the historic environment are achieving their aim of preserving archaeological resources in situ.	Through liaison with the Development Management unit and Historic Environment Scotland
	Details of planning consents granted where	This will identify whether Scheduled Ancient Monuments are being preserved in situ and	Through liaison with the Development Management unit and Historic Environment

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	scheduled ancient monuments are affected.	having the integrity of their setting protected.	Environment Scotland.
Cultural Heritage – Historic Battlefields			
Promote the sensitive management and interpretation of battlefield sites	Number and extent of sites on the Inventory of Historic Battlefields	Useful baseline information	Through liaison with Historic Environment Scotland
	Non-Inventory Battlefields	Useful baseline information	Through liaison with the Council's Archaeologist
Preserve the integrity of sites listed on the Inventory of Historic Battlefields	Details of planning consents granted where sites on the Inventory of Historic Battlefields are affected.	This will identify whether the integrity of sites listed on the Inventory of Historic Battlefields has been preserved	Through liaison with Historic Environment Scotland and the Council's Development Management Unit
Landscape – Green Belt			
Ensure Green Belts continue to: maintain the separate identity and visual separation of settlements; protect the landscape setting of settlements; and protect and give access to greenspace for recreation.	Details of Green Belt release promoted in the LDP	Details of and justification for green belt release promoted through the LDP will help to determine whether the function of the greenbelt has been retained.	Liaison with the Council's Development Plans Team.
	Details of planning applications approved within the green belt	The justification for granting planning permission for uses within the greenbelt will help to determine whether the function of the greenbelt has been retained.	Liaison with the Council's Development Management Unit.
Landscape – Greenfield Land			
Reduce the proportion of new development which takes place on greenfield land.	Housing completions by settlement and brownfield/greenfield split	An increase in the proportion of new housing on brownfield land would indicate that countryside and open land is being protected	Existing Development Plan Monitoring Report indicator
Landscape – Landscape Character and Quality			

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Protect and enhance the distinctive character of the landscape.	Details of landscape character areas including their landscape and visual capacity	Useful baseline information	Liaison with the Council's Planning and Environment Unit.
Protect and enhance Special Landscape Areas.	The extent of land covered by Special Landscape Areas and quality or amenity value designations	The extent of land covered by such designations would need to be established in order that any trend or loss of designated land, as an effect of policies in the LP can be measured.	Through interrogating the Council's GIS database

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