

7. Other Plans

7.1 The challenges and objectives outlined cannot be tackled by the Local Planning Framework alone. They are already being addressed in varying degrees by a range of other strategies and policies at national, county and local levels. It is therefore important that the Core Strategy and other Development Plan Documents complement and reinforce these. Figure 7 lists some of these key documents and strategies.

Figure 7: Other Key Documents and Strategies

National
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) • Planning Circulars
County or Sub-region
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hertfordshire 2021: A Brighter Future • Hertfordshire's Economic Development Strategy 2009-2021 • Local Economic Assessment (LEA) • Local Transport Plan (LTP) • Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) • Green Arc Strategic Green Infrastructure Plan (with Hertfordshire) • Minerals and Waste Development Framework for Hertfordshire • Management Plan for the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty • Documents and strategies produced by the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)
Local
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Destination Dacorum - The Dacorum Sustainable Community Strategy • Corporate Plan • Housing Strategies • Green Space Strategy • Dacorum's Economic Development Strategy • Dacorum Development Programme • Maylands Master Plan • Local Biodiversity Action Plan

National Planning Policy Framework

7.2 The National Planning Policy Framework provides the main context for local plans. It also provides guidance for decision-making in the absence of relevant local planning policies. The Government asks councils to be positive and proactive, and support development which contributes to economic growth and sustainable communities. The local planning framework must tackle all these matters coherently and provide the appropriate breadth and depth of coverage in its policies.

POLICY NP1: Supporting Development

The Council will take a positive approach to the consideration of development proposals, reflecting the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained in the National Planning Policy Framework. The Council will work proactively with applicants to find solutions for development proposals that help to improve the economic, social and environmental conditions in Dacorum.

Proposals which accord with the development plan will be brought forward and approved unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

If the development plan contains no policy relevant to the consideration of a planning application or policies are out of date, the Council will grant permission unless

- policies in the National Planning Policy Framework*, or
- other material circumstances

indicate otherwise.

Footnote: *This element of the policy means that planning permission can be refused if:

- there are specific policies in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which indicate development should be restricted, or
- there are adverse impacts which would demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in the NPPF as a whole.

The Community Strategy

7.3 'Destination Dacorum' - the Dacorum Sustainable Community Strategy (2012) - sets out the community's ambitions for Dacorum. It was produced by the area's Local Strategic Partnership (LSP). This group represents the Borough and County Councils and delivery partners, such as local healthcare providers, the police, community groups and voluntary organisations operating within Dacorum. The Sustainable Community Strategy aims to balance the needs of the community within three priority areas:

- business growth, housing and regeneration;
- environment, health and well-being; and
- safe and active communities.

In order to focus effort, Destination Dacorum is intended to have a key focus for action. At the start; this was economic well-being. Six ambitions, contributing to economic well-being, are targeted: they aim to make the destination of Dacorum a more vibrant place, a healthier place, a more prosperous place, a safer place and a better connected place – a great place. The Local Planning Framework is a key delivery mechanism for the wider Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS). Its objectives must therefore link with, reinforce and elaborate upon the ambitions and objectives for the SCS. The Core Strategy has taken account of both the ambitions of 'Destination Dacorum' and the objectives of the previous sustainable community strategy 'Towards 2021' produced by the LSP. Figure 8 compares the objectives of

the previous SCS with the Core Strategy. 'Destination Dacorum' focuses on "encouraging business and local employment", but other objectives which support this one are also relevant.

- 7.4 The objectives of Dacorum's SCS broadly correspond to those set out within the County's community strategy, 'Hertfordshire 2021 A Brighter Future,' prepared by Hertfordshire Forward. The principal difference relates to the inclusion of specific objectives relating to transport and access within the Hertfordshire strategy.

Figure 8: Relationship between the Sustainable Community Strategy* and Local Planning Framework Objectives and Policies

Community Strategy Objective	Equivalent Strategic Objective(s)	Principal Core Strategy Policies
Reducing crime and creating a safer Dacorum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote healthy and sustainable communities and a high quality of life • To create safe and attractive environments through high quality design 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CS10 • CS11 • CS12 • CS13 • CS23 • CS29 • CS30
Creating a cleaner and healthier environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To protect and enhance Dacorum's distinctive landscape character, open spaces, biological and geological diversity and historic environment. • To mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change. • To minimise the effects of pollution on people and the environment. • To promote the use of renewable resources, reduce carbon emissions, protect natural resources and reduce waste. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CS23 • CS24 • CS25 • CS26 • CS28 • CS29 • CS30 • CS31 • CS32
Delivering lifelong learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote a vibrant and prosperous economy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to strengthen confidence in Hemel Hempstead's role as a thriving sub-regional business centre and shopping hub; - to develop Maylands Business Park as a leader 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CS7 • CS14 • CS15 • CS16 • CS23

	<p>of “green enterprise” and focus of the low carbon economy;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to maintain commercial enterprise and employment opportunities in the market towns and large villages; and - to support rural enterprise. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote social inclusion and cohesiveness, embrace diversity and reduce inequalities. • To provide for a full range of social, leisure and community facilities and services. 	
Encouraging business and local employment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote a vibrant and prosperous economy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to strengthen confidence in Hemel Hempstead’s role as a thriving sub-regional business centre and shopping hub; - to develop Maylands Business Park as a leader of “green enterprise” and focus of the low carbon economy; - to maintain commercial enterprise and employment opportunities in the market towns and large villages; and - to support rural enterprise. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CS4 • CS7 • CS14 • CS15 • CS16
Meeting housing need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide a mix of new homes to meet the needs of the population. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CS3 • CS6 • CS7 • CS17 • CS18 • CS19 • CS20 • CS21 • CS22
Promoting culture, arts, leisure and	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide for a full range of social, leisure and community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CS14 • CS23

tourism	<p>facilities and services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To protect and enhance Dacorum's distinctive landscape character, open spaces, biological and geological diversity and historic environment. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CS24 • CS25 • CS26 • CS27
Encouraging community involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To promote social inclusion and cohesiveness, embrace diversity and reduce inequalities. • To provide for a full range of social, leisure and community facilities and services. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CS1 • CS2 • CS8 • CS23
Meeting the needs of children and young people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide for a full range of social, leisure and community facilities and services. • To enable convenient access between jobs, homes and facilities, minimise the impact of traffic and reduce the overall need to travel by car. • To co-ordinate the delivery of new infrastructure with development. • To ensure that all development contributes appropriately to local and strategic infrastructure requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CS8 • CS9 • CS23 • CS34
Improving social care and health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide for a full range of social, leisure and community facilities and services. • To promote social inclusion and cohesiveness, embrace diversity and reduce inequalities. • To co-ordinate the delivery of new infrastructure with development. • To ensure that all development contributes appropriately to local and strategic infrastructure requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CS2 • CS23 • CS34
Meeting the needs of older people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide for a full range of social, leisure and community 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CS8 • CS9

	<p>facilities and services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To enable convenient access between jobs, homes and facilities, minimise the impact of traffic and reduce the overall need to travel by car. • To co-ordinate the delivery of new infrastructure with development. • To ensure that all development contributes appropriately to local and strategic infrastructure requirements. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CS23 • CS34
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Note: * i.e. the objectives in 'Towards 2021'

7.5 The Sustainable Community Strategy's cross cutting themes (Promoting healthy and caring lifestyles; Developing community cohesion; Rejuvenating Dacorum and Acting on climate change) will be supported by the Core Strategy as a whole, rather than being linked to an individual objective or policy.