

East Hampshire District Council

# Green Infrastructure Strategy 2011 - 2028



Part 1 - Main Strategy  
July 2013

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## Acknowledgements

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We would also like to acknowledge and thank all the attendees at the workshops of 11<sup>th</sup> April 2013, for their input and constructive comments on the draft strategic priorities.

Cover photos courtesy of East Hampshire District Council, Environment X Change, South Downs National Park Authority. Left to right, Alice Holt woodland ride, Alice Holt Visitor Centre, River Wey, heathland near Whitehill & Bordon, downland scarp slope, Whitehill & Bordon

# Executive Summary

This Green Infrastructure Strategy for East Hampshire was commissioned as part of the evidence base for East Hampshire District Local Plan: Joint Core Strategy.

This Strategy focuses on the green infrastructure that lies between and links with settlements and builds on the work of the East Hampshire Green Infrastructure Study of 2011. It also sits alongside the Whitehill & Bordon Green Infrastructure Strategy (2011), developed for the Eco-town, and links with the Partnership for Urban South Hampshire (PUSH) Green Infrastructure Strategy (2010).

The Strategy assesses the existing green infrastructure of East Hampshire, identifies where there are gaps in provision and explores opportunities to improve the green infrastructure network. By taking both a thematic and spatial approach, the Strategy uses mapped and documentary evidence to develop strategic priorities. The analysis of evidence and recommendations extends beyond East Hampshire's boundaries into the South Downs National Park and neighbouring districts. This provides a more complete picture of the green infrastructure resource and identifies opportunities for developing the network and partnership working.

The Strategy is intended, among other things, as a tool for developers and planning officers in helping them to consider and design-in green infrastructure into proposals.

The key conclusions of the Strategy are that:

- East Hampshire's existing green infrastructure is valuable, but is increasingly coming under pressure;
- Green infrastructure could be improved in areas of deficit by taking a strategic approach to deliver a range of benefits;
- Opportunities exist for working cross-boundary, through existing or new partnerships, to gain mutual benefits;
- It is important to engage with local communities in developing and delivering this Strategy;
- The delivery of green infrastructure will be made possible through a number of potential funding mechanisms, notably development contributions;
- An East Hampshire Green Infrastructure Implementation Plan will provide a strategic approach to directing prioritised actions and a consistent method of monitoring and reporting on delivery;
- The creation of an East Hampshire Green Infrastructure Partnership would help to raise the profile of green infrastructure, ensure initiatives are resourced, and support further planned development.



Educational visit South Downs National Park Authority

# Introduction

## About this Strategy

This Green Infrastructure Strategy for East Hampshire District Council has been produced in support of the Joint Core Strategy and its Green Infrastructure Policy CP20. Together with earlier studies, this Strategy provides the framework for a planned, high quality, well-connected and multifunctional green infrastructure network for East Hampshire, which provides a range of benefits both for residents and the environment.

The Strategy sits alongside the East Hampshire Green Infrastructure Study (2011). It extends this previous work through reviewing provision both within and between settlements, as well as considering green infrastructure provision, strategies and other influencing factors in neighbouring authorities.

The Strategy describes the key approaches required to deliver a robust and integrated green infrastructure network for East Hampshire. It identifies how East Hampshire District can best protect, enhance and extend the green infrastructure network, whilst also taking account of planned growth into the future.

The Strategy sets out ten strategic priorities for the district that are intended to be used by developers, planning officers, councillors, key stakeholders and the local community.

In creating this Strategy:

- Local and national green infrastructure policy was reviewed;
- Green infrastructure mapping was undertaken and updated to form the evidence base for the strategic priorities;
- An area of 10km around the district was included to capture cross-boundary issues;
- Through workshop sessions, district councillors and key stakeholders were consulted and had an input into setting the strategic priorities.



Woodland above Selborne

# What is Green Infrastructure?

Green infrastructure is a term used to describe the network of green spaces and the links between them. Elements of green infrastructure range from allotments to parks and gardens and from village greens to footpaths and rivers. Each element can provide different functions such as spaces for recreation, habitats for wildlife, natural flood management or the production of food and timber. Together, they make a vital contribution to our health and quality of life, as well as to the healthy functioning of the environment.

Green infrastructure includes:

- Woodland and scrub, grassland, heath and moor
- Wetlands, open and running water
- Parks and gardens
- Amenity greenspace, play areas and outdoor sports facilities
- Allotments and city farms
- Cemeteries and churchyards
- Green and Blue Corridors – road verges, cycling routes and rights of way, rivers and canals
- Nature conservation sites
- Historic and culturally significant greenspaces
- Sustainable Drainage Schemes (SUDS) and green roofs

There are many definitions of green infrastructure. This Strategy uses the National Planning Policy Framework definition:

'a network of multi-functional greenspace, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities'.

Ref: DCLG (2012) National Planning Policy Framework: Department for Communities and Local Government



Petersfield guided walk, South Downs National Park Authority

# Strategic Framework

Green infrastructure is an important contributor to sustainable development and is promoted through a range of national and local strategies and policies.

## National

Government policy calls for planning authorities to recognise green infrastructure and its benefits so that it can be protected, improved and extended. The recent shift towards spatial planning within a statutory framework offers an unprecedented opportunity to take a strategic and proactive approach to green infrastructure planning.

The [National Planning and Policy Framework \(NPPF\)](#)<sup>1</sup> affirms the importance of green infrastructure:

*“Local planning authorities should set out a strategic approach in their Local Plans, planning positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure”.*

The NPPF supports the approach of “*more, bigger, better and joined*” ecological networks.

The [Natural Environment White Paper](#)<sup>2</sup> confirms the Government's pledge to “*promote greenspaces and wildlife corridors*”. It draws on the findings of the UK National Ecosystem Assessment, which outlines clear evidence of the social and economic benefits provided by our environment.

The White Paper calls for better protection and enhancement of the environment to halt biodiversity decline, address the effects of climate change and population increase and promote partnerships to achieve multiple benefits.

The ‘[Healthy Lives, Healthy People](#)’ White Paper<sup>3</sup> also recognises the contribution of the environment to people’s health and well-being.

The [Localism Act 2011](#) supports decision making at a local level by encouraging neighbourhood planning and joint working across local authority boundaries, advocating a strategic approach to green infrastructure planning.

The National Ecosystem Assessment highlights a 30% decline in our ecosystems’ functions, along with reductions in the quality and quantity of urban greenspaces.

It also shows that the health benefits of having access to, and enjoyment of, greenspaces is worth almost £300 per person each year.

Ref: UK-NEA (2011) The UK National Ecosystem Assessment: Synthesis of the Key Findings.

## Local

The need for and importance of green infrastructure is found throughout the submitted [Joint Core Strategy for East Hampshire District Council and the South Downs National Park](#) and will be an essential consideration in the future [Local Plan: Allocations](#).

The [PUSH<sup>4</sup> Green Infrastructure Strategy](#) identifies opportunities for creating and enhancing a strategic network of greenspaces to meet the needs of the growing sub-region. The southern part of East Hampshire District lies within the PUSH study area.

PUSH strategic projects with specific relevance to East Hampshire District are:

- Forest of Bere;
- Havant Thicket;
- The Strategic Countryside Recreation Network;
- Woodfuel Renewable Energy Project;
- Local Sustainable Food Production.

The [Green Infrastructure Study for East Hampshire \(2011\)](#) focused on the main settlements in East Hampshire District, identifying the services provided by green infrastructure and interventions and projects required to strengthen and enhance the network.

The [South Downs National Park Authority](#) was set up in 2011 and covers 57% of East Hampshire District.

Paragraphs 52 and 201 of the 2010 National 'Vision and Circular'<sup>5</sup> for National Parks specifically reference green infrastructure and the importance of strategic greenspace networks.

The National Park is in the process of preparing both a South Downs Management Plan and a Local Plan. This Strategy reflects the ambitions of the Management Plan. The recommendations are consistent with the purposes and duty of the National Park as well as the draft policies of the management plan.

### Other Relevant Local Plans and Strategies:

- The East Hampshire Sustainable Community Strategy;
- The Whitehill & Bordon Green Infrastructure Strategy;
- The Green Infrastructure plans and strategies prepared by neighbouring local authorities (Basingstoke and Deane Borough, Hart District, Waverley Borough, Chichester District, Havant Borough and Winchester City).

The South Downs National Park has the statutory purposes to:

- 1) Conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the area.
- 2) Promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the Park by the public.

It also has a duty to foster the economic and social well-being of the local communities within the National Park.

<sup>1</sup> Department for Communities and Local Government (2012), National Planning Policy Framework, London.

<sup>2</sup> HM Government (2011), The Natural Choice: Securing the Value of Nature, Cm 8082.

<sup>3</sup> HM Government (2010), Healthy Lives, Healthy People – Our Strategy for Public Health in England

<sup>4</sup> Partnership for Urban South Hampshire

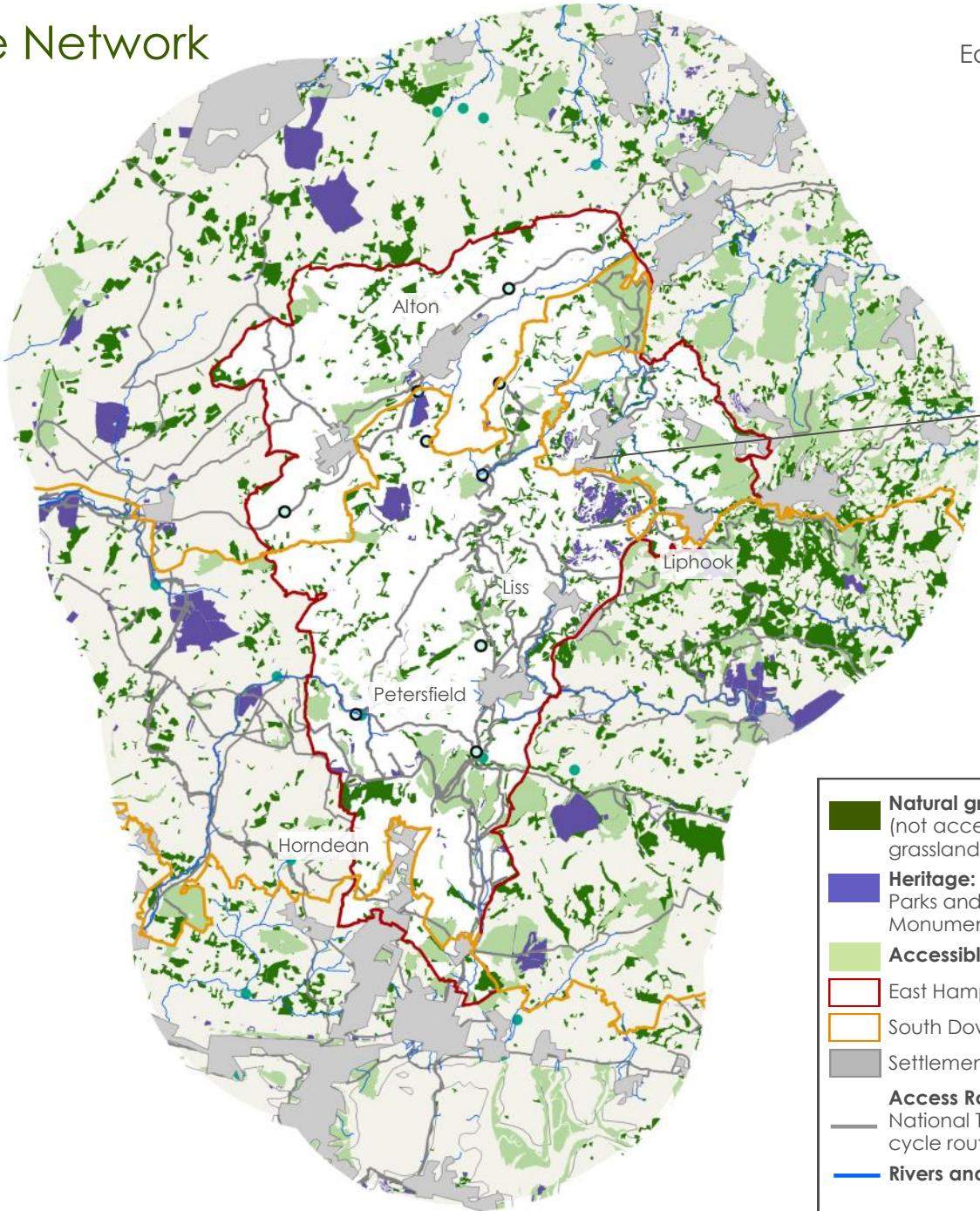
<sup>5</sup> Defra (2010), English National Parks and the Broads, UK Government and Circular Planning Regulations

# The Green Infrastructure Network

## East Hampshire's Green Infrastructure Network

Green infrastructure can bring many social, economic and environmental benefits across a wide range of themes, from enhancing biodiversity and landscape quality to improving access for local people.

This plan shows key elements of East Hampshire's existing green infrastructure network.



	<b>Natural greenspaces:</b> Woodlands (not accessible), heaths and grassland
	<b>Heritage:</b> National Trust, Registered Parks and Gardens and Scheduled Monuments
	<b>Accessible Greenspace</b>
	East Hampshire District Boundary
	South Downs National Park Boundary
	Settlements
	<b>Access Routes:</b> Long distance paths, National Trails, national and regional cycle routes
	<b>Rivers and streams</b>



# Delivering Green Infrastructure

To provide continuity with the 2011 East Hampshire Green Infrastructure Study, this Strategy uses a similar range of themes to identify green infrastructure opportunities:

## Themes

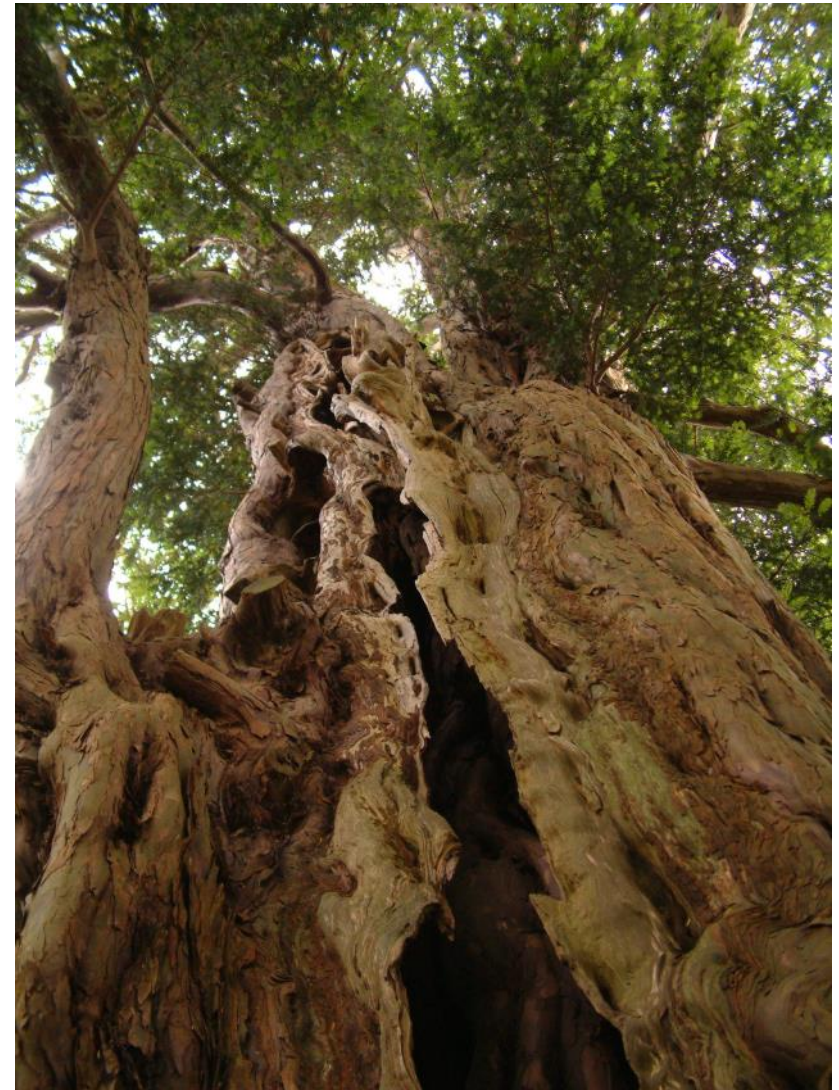
- Landscape, Heritage and Sense of Place;
- Biodiversity;
- Water Resources;
- Woodlands;
- Access and Recreation;
- Health and Well-being;
- Local Awareness and Involvement.

For each of the above themes the issues, opportunities and potential actions are detailed and set out as follows:

- **Strategic Aims** – the overarching principal aim for each theme;
- **Strategic Priorities** – the high level priorities for that theme;
- **Potential Actions** – a list of potential key projects or plans, both new and existing, which will help make a tangible improvement under this theme.

Many of the potential actions proposed will, and indeed should, aim to deliver benefits to a number of these themes through a single approach or programme. This also maximises the benefits gained for investment.

An assessment of the provision and distribution of green infrastructure in East Hampshire has revealed some areas where improvements are needed. In taking a strategic approach to developing a functioning green infrastructure network, opportunities for improvements are considered under the themes, as well as targeted at particular areas of need within the district.



Ancient yew tree, Priors Dean churchyard  
South Downs National Park Authority



Ashford Hangers, South Downs National Park Authority

A range of strategic 'tools' have been used to describe the elements of the green infrastructure network. They will ensure the delivery of a robust and integrated green infrastructure network that will bring many benefits.

### Green Infrastructure Investment Areas (GIAs)

Areas in which several green infrastructure improvements need to be delivered.

### Green and Blue Corridors

Corridors extend and link wildlife habitats, enhance the landscape, naturalise river corridors and provide access, linking towns and villages to the wider countryside.

### New Greenspaces

Targeted in areas where there are gaps in provision, either locally or to serve wider recreational needs, or areas with increasing pressure from housing growth.

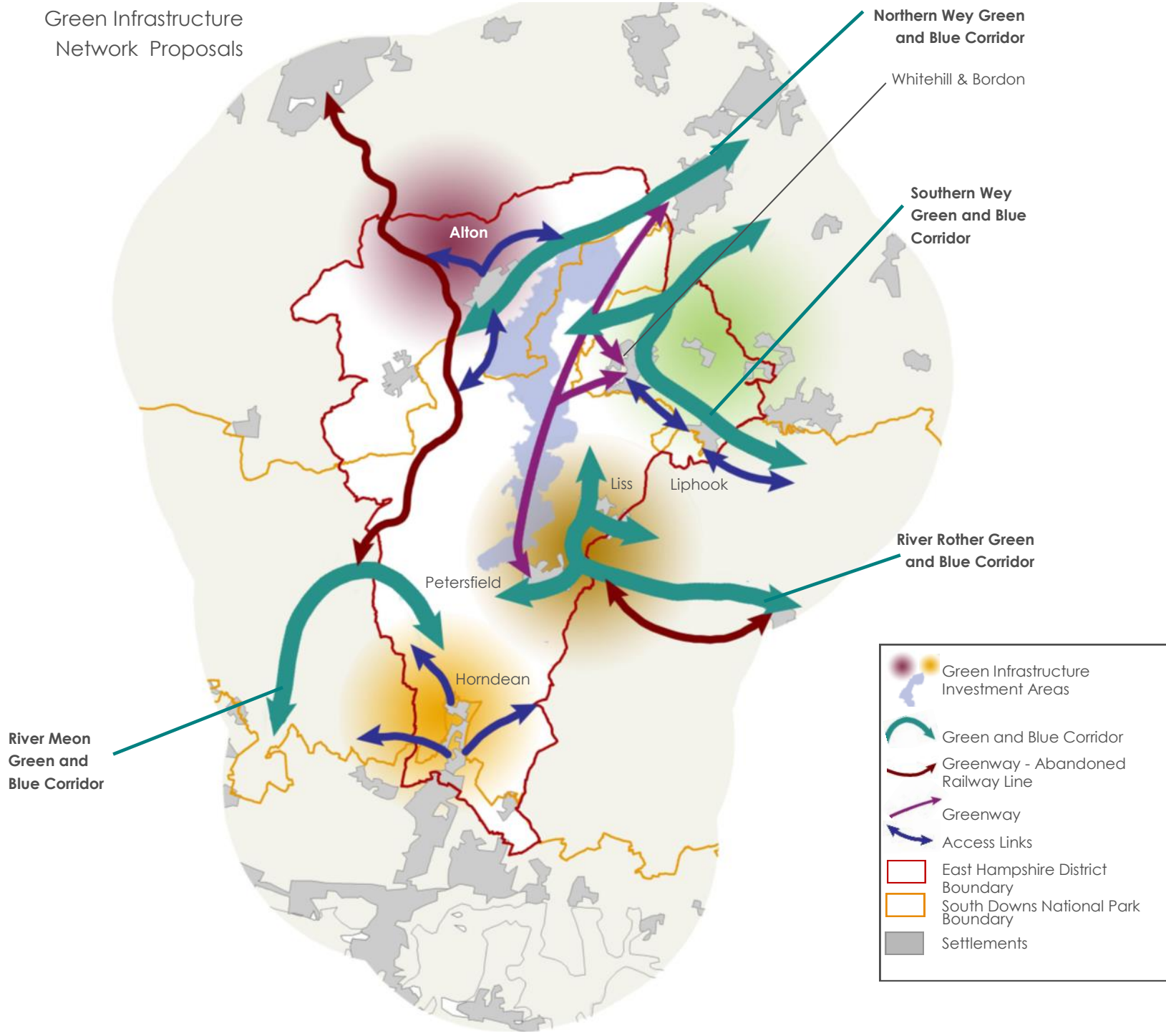
### Greenways and Access Links

Provide routes to connect settlements with greenspaces and the wider access network.

### Green Visitor Hubs

These are points of access into the countryside and the South Downs National Park, which provide a range of visitor facilities, relieve pressure on honeypot sites and support local businesses.

Green Infrastructure Network Proposals



Green Infrastructure Investment Areas	
Alton	
River Wey (North and South) Green and Blue Corridors	
Major new recreation site	
Whitehill & Bordon	
Increase accessible natural greenspace	
Strengthen heathland mosaic	
Integrated visitor management	
Link access network into surrounding countryside	
Hanger Woodlands and Selborne	
Restore fragmented habitats	
Develop a Landscape and Cultural Heritage Initiative	
Petersfield and River Rother	
Restore river and stream corridors, enhance floodplain habitats and connect access between streams around the town	
Increase accessible natural greenspace	
Green Visitor Hub	
Major new recreation site	
River Rother Green and Blue Corridor and Greenway	
Horndean	
Major new recreation site	
Restore chalk downland, extend NIA	
Increase accessible natural greenspace	
Improve access to greenspace sites and the South Downs	

# Theme 1: Landscape, Heritage and Sense of Place

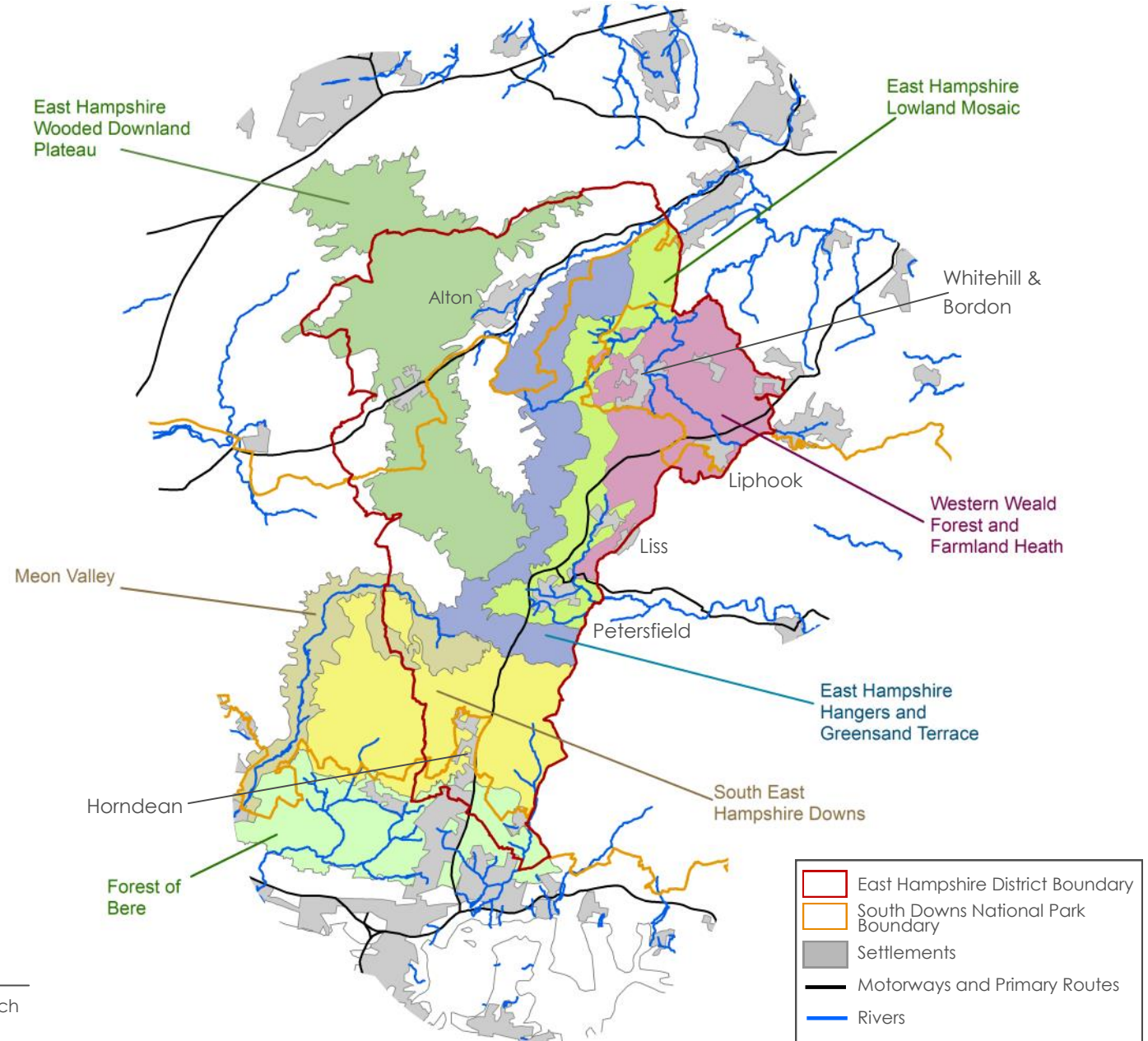
## Key Landscapes

East Hampshire is a predominantly rural district, renowned for its attractive countryside. Approximately 57 % of the district lies within the South Downs National Park, reflecting the exceptional national quality of the natural and cultural landscape.

East Hampshire has a wide diversity of landscapes, from the open chalk of the South Downs to the heathlands of the western Weald and the distinctive wooded Hangers.

The landscape is steeped in historical and cultural heritage, with historic parklands, medieval villages and a wealth of ancient monuments.

Landscape Character is important in helping to define the East Hampshire landscape and the 'sense of place' of parts of the district. The character is made up from a combination of factors including underlying geology, soil types, human changes over time and vegetation cover. The landscape of East Hampshire ranges across a number of different character areas, each one supporting its own type of natural and semi-natural vegetation such as chalk grassland, broad-leaved woodland or heathland.<sup>6</sup>



<sup>6</sup> The Supporting Information document gives more detail on each Landscape Character Area.

## Issues and Opportunities

The landscape is changing as agricultural practices alter due to a range of economic and other factors. In the past, arable cultivation replaced more traditional mixed farming, resulting in the loss of chalk downland, a key feature of East Hampshire's landscape and wildlife heritage. The active management of natural and semi-natural woodland has also declined, whilst some ancient woodlands have become softwood plantations.

Opportunities exist to strengthen the distinctive and varied character of the landscape, and to conserve and enhance cultural and heritage features through a strategic approach to green infrastructure.

A framework for the delivery of a high quality network of green infrastructure would:

- Protect the local gaps between settlements and ensure new development reflects the local style with the use of local materials to preserve a sense of place;
- Enhance the rural setting of small towns and villages;
- Preserve areas of tranquillity;
- Improve awareness of the landscape by involving local people in actively caring for it;
- Address poor landscape quality through landscape improvement initiatives;
- Improve entrances into the National Park and access to and from key towns and villages;
- Recognise the value of existing projects and provide support where it is needed to deliver a coordinated and sustained approach to landscape enhancement and improvement.



South Downs scarp slope, South Downs National Park

## Landscape Heritage and Sense of Place: Strategic Aim

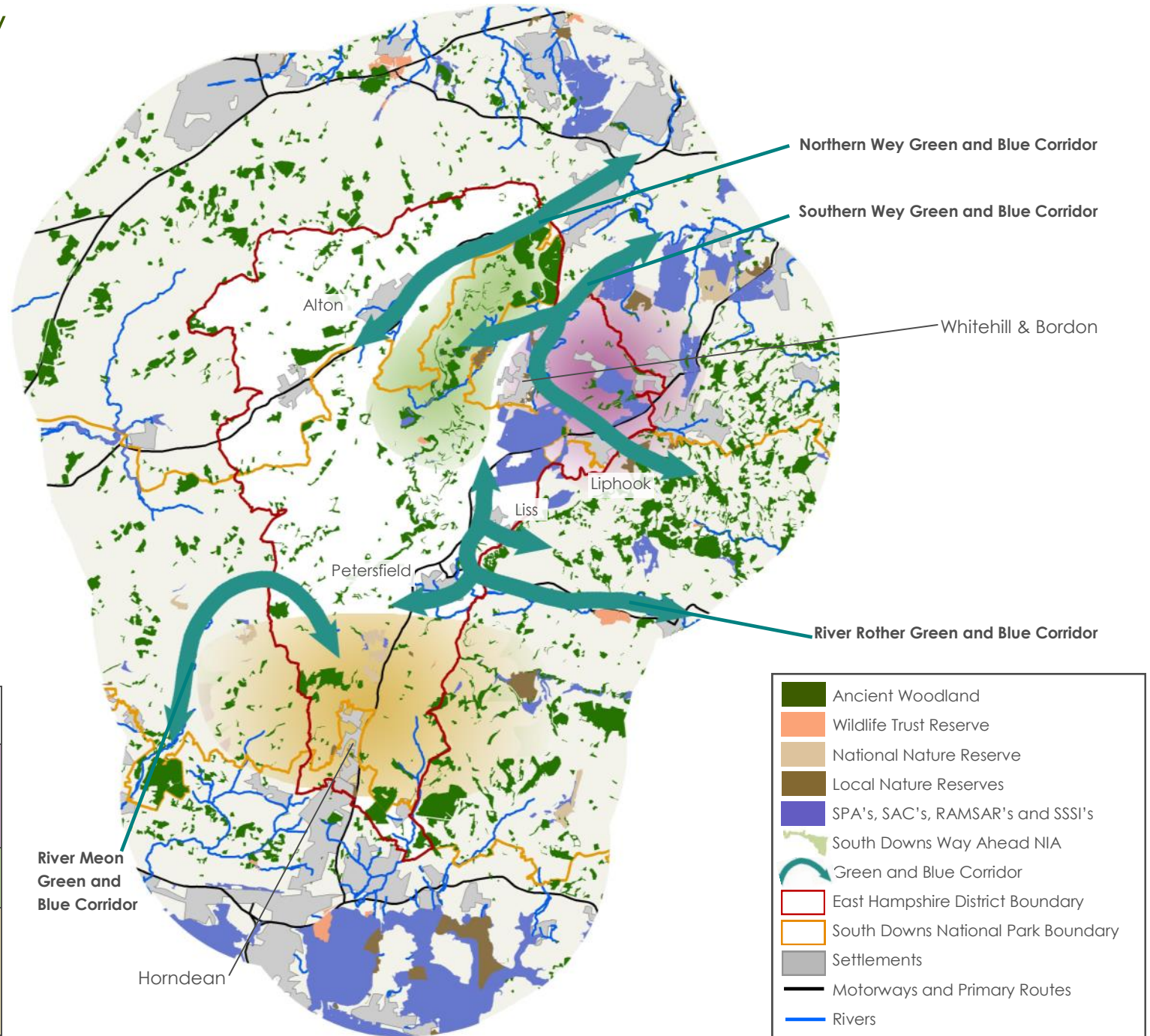
Deliver a Green Infrastructure Network that will protect and enhance the unique character and diversity of the East Hampshire landscape

Strategic Priorities	Potential Actions
<p><b>1</b> Multifunctional Corridors - linking towns and villages to the wider countryside, improving accessibility, enhancing river corridors and extending wildlife habitats.</p>	<p>Investigate Corridors from the main towns, enhancing the landscape setting and providing multifunctional corridors, e.g. from Liphook to Chichester, to provide recreation links to woodland sites and create access links to improve cycling networks.</p>
<p><b>2</b> Raise awareness of the importance of historical and cultural heritage and its interrelationship with the landscape, the natural environment and sense of place.</p>	<p>Awareness raising campaigns to promote local character and heritage and encourage community involvement in local landscapes, e.g. set up a landscape and cultural heritage initiative for the Hanger Woodlands, Selborne.</p> <p>Encourage local communities to engage in developing neighbourhood plans, village design guides and identifying local greenspace.</p>
<p><b>3</b> Green Infrastructure Investment Areas (GIAs) - strategic areas of opportunity for green infrastructure development where a range of multifunctional benefits can be focused as part of the green infrastructure network.</p>	<p>Establish GIAs to improve degraded landscape character, where there are also opportunities to deliver a range of benefits, including improvements to the quantity and quality of greenspaces, enhancements to watercourses, protection of habitats and access linkages.</p> <p>Potential GIAs include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In the southern part of the district from Petersfield, to include boundary areas with Chichester, Havant and Winchester. Explore the potential for new Green Visitor Hubs to the National Park to relieve access pressure on sensitive biodiversity sites and landscapes;</li> <li>• North west of Alton, to include the boundary area with Basingstoke and Deane, explore opportunities for large areas of accessible greenspace, together with access improvements and opportunities to develop local heritage, building on the work of the Loddon and Eversley Heritage Project;</li> <li>• Around Petersfield and surrounding areas, addressing a range of issues including the potential for further Green and Blue Corridors, access improvements, provision of greenspaces and facilities to support Petersfield as a Green Visitor Hub and key access point into the National Park;</li> <li>• From Alice Holt Forest to north of Petersfield to comprise the Hanger Woodlands, Selborne; to develop a Landscape and Cultural Heritage Initiative;</li> <li>• The area including and surrounding the site of the Eco-town at Whitehill &amp; Bordon. Develop an integrated approach to visitor management that includes a potential Green Visitor Hub into the South Downs National Park, links to the access network in the surrounding countryside and new areas of accessible greenspace just beyond the boundary. Strengthen the heathland mosaic.</li> </ul>

# Theme 2: Biodiversity

East Hampshire has a wealth of wildlife habitats, with rolling chalk downland, steep wooded slopes and hanger woodlands, river floodplains and valleys and lowland heath. It also has a number of large internationally, nationally and locally designated sites. This makes the district one of the most diverse areas for wildlife in Hampshire.

Green infrastructure has an important role in improving ecological connections across the landscape and can provide wildlife corridors, stepping stones and wildlife refuges.



## Issues and Opportunities

Fragmentation and isolation of sites is an issue in both the Hanger Woodlands and heathlands. These sites are of European and national importance for their biodiversity. Fragmentation of chalk downland and major roads creating barriers to species' dispersal are issues in the south of the district.

Changes in land use management, such as conversion of unimproved grassland to arable farming or to higher intensity grazing, has led to the loss of habitats and a reduction in biodiversity. In the Hanger Woodlands and heathlands important semi-natural habitats have been lost to development, agriculture and plantations.

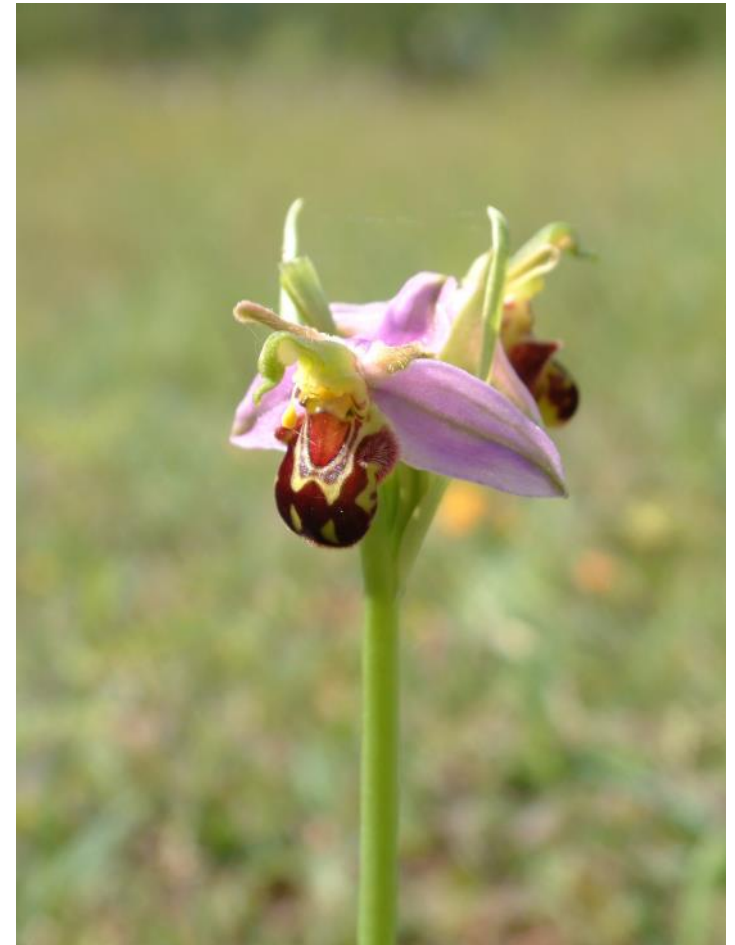
Inadequate nature conservation management also results in loss of habitat, for example lack of grazing can lead to the encroachment of scrub on both chalk downlands and heathlands.

Several of the heathland sites are designated for bird species which can be sensitive to recreational disturbance. It is important that development proposals in the catchment area for these sites consider avoidance and mitigation measures to ensure that there is no increase in recreational pressure.

Working in partnership with neighbouring authorities and other bodies would help to manage and mitigate recreational pressures on the heathlands, enabling an integrated approach.

There are opportunities for biodiversity enhancement, focusing on expanding existing core biodiversity areas and Biodiversity Opportunity Areas (BOAs). Important areas include the heathlands, the Hanger Woodlands and around Catherington Down, Butser Hill and the Forest of Bere. The existing Nature Improvement Area (NIA) could also be extended.

Areas deficient in levels of local accessible natural greenspace could also be targeted, taking the opportunity to incorporate biodiversity into wider green infrastructure. Key areas are Alton, Horndean and Clanfield.



Bee orchid, South Downs National Park Authority

'East Hampshire has a uniquely complex geology and is influenced by two climatic zones. As a result the open hilltops and rolling chalk downland of the South Downs, the dramatic wooded scarp slopes of the hanger woodlands, the meandering plains of the river valleys and the lowland heath areas, provide some of the most beautiful and varied countryside in the UK'.  
East Hampshire Biodiversity Plan 2009



## Biodiversity: Strategic Aim

At a landscape scale, strengthen the network of biodiverse habitats across East Hampshire, improving ecological connectivity, reducing habitat fragmentation and managing threats to habitats.

Strategic Priorities	Potential Actions
<p><b>4</b> To interconnect, restore, enhance and protect our most important habitats ('more, bigger, better and joined').</p>	<p>Increase natural greenspace provision around Alton and Whitehill &amp; Bordon, considering in particular the creation of new Local Nature Reserves (LNRs), strengthening fragmented habitats and exploring the potential to develop Green and Blue Corridors to enhance biodiversity and open up river corridors for access and landscape enhancements.</p>
	<p>Increase natural accessible greenspace and wildlife corridors at Petersfield, to include a Green and Blue Corridor initiative to build on existing work, identify additional sites as potential LNRs and to join woodland Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs).</p>
	<p>An integrated assessment of all accessible natural greenspace provision and management in the north east of the district around the heathland habitat Special Protection Areas (SPA) and Special Areas for Conservation (SAC) in order to produce and implement a multi-agency strategy to manage and direct recreational pressures.</p>
	<p>Increase accessible natural greenspace around Horndean and Clanfield, seeking where possible to deliver the aims of the Biodiversity Opportunity Area and to increase the size of individual sites and strengthen existing biodiversity sites around Catherington Down, Butser Hill, Rowlands Castle and the Forest of Bere; supporting the delivery of actions proposed in the PUSH Green Infrastructure Strategy.</p>
	<p>Consider the identification of new designated Nature Improvement Areas (NIA) and explore the potential to extend the existing South Downs Way Ahead NIA to cover more chalk downland areas in East Hampshire.</p>
	<p>Undertake a district-wide review of SINCs in relation to green infrastructure, to identify the potential suitability for these sites to be designated and developed as LNRs, with the opportunity to increase access and improve management; providing enhanced opportunities for access to natural greenspace close to settlements.</p>
	<p>Landscape-scale initiative for the Hanger Woodlands, to ensure the future management and development of the designated sites, to explore the potential to join the sites to form larger areas and to review the nearby SINC sites with a view to buffering or enlarging them.</p>
	<p>Designate LNRs where appropriate to increase access and secure management.</p>

## Theme 3: Water Resources

Good quality water resources are a major asset of East Hampshire. Water resource management is a priority issue for the district to protect groundwater supplies, maintain high quality water bodies and retain healthy river corridors. A catchment scale approach to water resources management is the most effective and integrated way to do this. Catchment Partnerships including local authorities, the South Downs National Park, the Environment Agency, water companies and other key environmental and amenity bodies are currently being set up for East Hampshire and the Arun and Western Streams catchments.

### Issues and Opportunities

Groundwater stored in the extensive chalk and lower greensand aquifers is the source of springs and clean drinking water for East Hampshire residents. Unfortunately the groundwater bodies in East Hampshire do not always achieve good status under the Water Framework Directive because of abstraction pressures and nitrate pollution, but the ecological status of most rivers in the district is good.

Development to the south of the district will create an increased demand for good quality water in the future and over-abstraction is a problem which will increase if the resource is not managed effectively. Most aquifers are close to capacity for abstraction licences.

Fluctuating water table levels also cause groundwater flooding in parts of the district, as well as causing some ponds and streams to dry up in the summer months.

Demand management, monitoring of abstraction licences and effective use of current water supplies, in addition to strategic planning and investment for water in the future is necessary. A variety of water resource schemes are being considered including water recycling and a planned reservoir at Havant Thicket.

Water Resource Plans, Groundwater Safeguard Zone Action Plans, Catchment Abstraction Management Strategies, Surface Water Management Plans (SWAMPs) and Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS) will all assist in the strategic and local management of the East Hampshire water environment.



River Wey

## Blue Corridors

Strategic Blue Corridors consist of rivers, streams and static water bodies, from reservoirs to lakes, ponds and springs. They link with networks of green infrastructure to provide a dynamic water environment with a wealth of multifunctional benefits, including landscape, ecosystem enhancement, flood control and recreation. Blue corridors are not only critical for maintaining the diversity and abundance of wildlife populations, but also provide a place for people to connect with nature and enjoy recreational and water based activities.

The Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC requires the protection, enhancement and restoration of all bodies of surface water with the aim of achieving good surface water quality status. The Environment Agency promotes catchment planning under the Directive and East Hampshire falls within the SE River Drainage Basin District (RDBD) and the Thames RDBD.



River Rother, Adhurst Estate, South Downs National Park Authority

## Water Resources: Strategic Aim

Deliver a green infrastructure network in East Hampshire that will help to provide high quality water resources, increase water retention and manage flood risk.

Strategic Priorities	Potential Actions
<p><b>5</b> Identify a network of Blue Corridors that can provide important natural refuges, linking adjacent greenspaces, for both people and wildlife.</p>	<p>Develop a Blue Corridor initiative to include the Rother, Wey and Meon, through a series of projects focusing on multifunctional benefits including restoration, recreation, landscape, flood management and biodiversity.</p> <p>Support Partnership projects (in the Meon and Rother valleys and the wetland habitat areas of the Loddon and Eversley) in order to deliver Green and Blue Corridor projects on the ground.</p> <p>River Wey (Alton/Liphook) – improve wetland habitat of the floodplain of the northern branch of the river and North Wey Valley Biodiversity Opportunity Area - enhance the natural river corridor of the Caker Stream, Alton.</p> <p>'Follow the River' – projects focusing on Blue Corridor developments from local settlements; providing gateways into the countryside and the National Park.</p> <p>Support the Havant Thicket Reservoir scheme to increase water storage capacity and provide recreation opportunities.</p> <p>Enhance the biodiversity and recreational potential of the Rother Valley BOA in particular restore wetland habitat along the river Rother to reduce the flood risk to residential areas.</p> <p>In Petersfield restore river and stream corridors, enhance floodplain habitats and connect access between the streams around the town.</p>
<p><b>6</b> Catchment-scale management approach to water resources, ponds, lakes, rivers and their floodplains, to improve their multifunctional benefits and ecosystem services (recreation, access, flood storage and flood defence, wildlife and landscape).</p>	<p>Support the South East River Drainage Basin Management Plan and the Catchment Partnerships producing the Arun &amp; Western Streams Catchment Plan, the East Hampshire Catchment Plan, the Arun and Rother Rivers Trust Management Plan, and Catchment Abstraction Licensing Strategies, namely East Hampshire and the Wey.</p> <p>Implement Groundwater Safeguard Zone Action Plans, Surface Water Management Plans (SWAMPs) and SUDS to assist in the strategic and local management of the water environment by working in partnership with the County Council, Water Companies and the Environment Agency.</p>

# Theme 4: Woodlands

Woodland is an essential component of East Hampshire's landscape character.

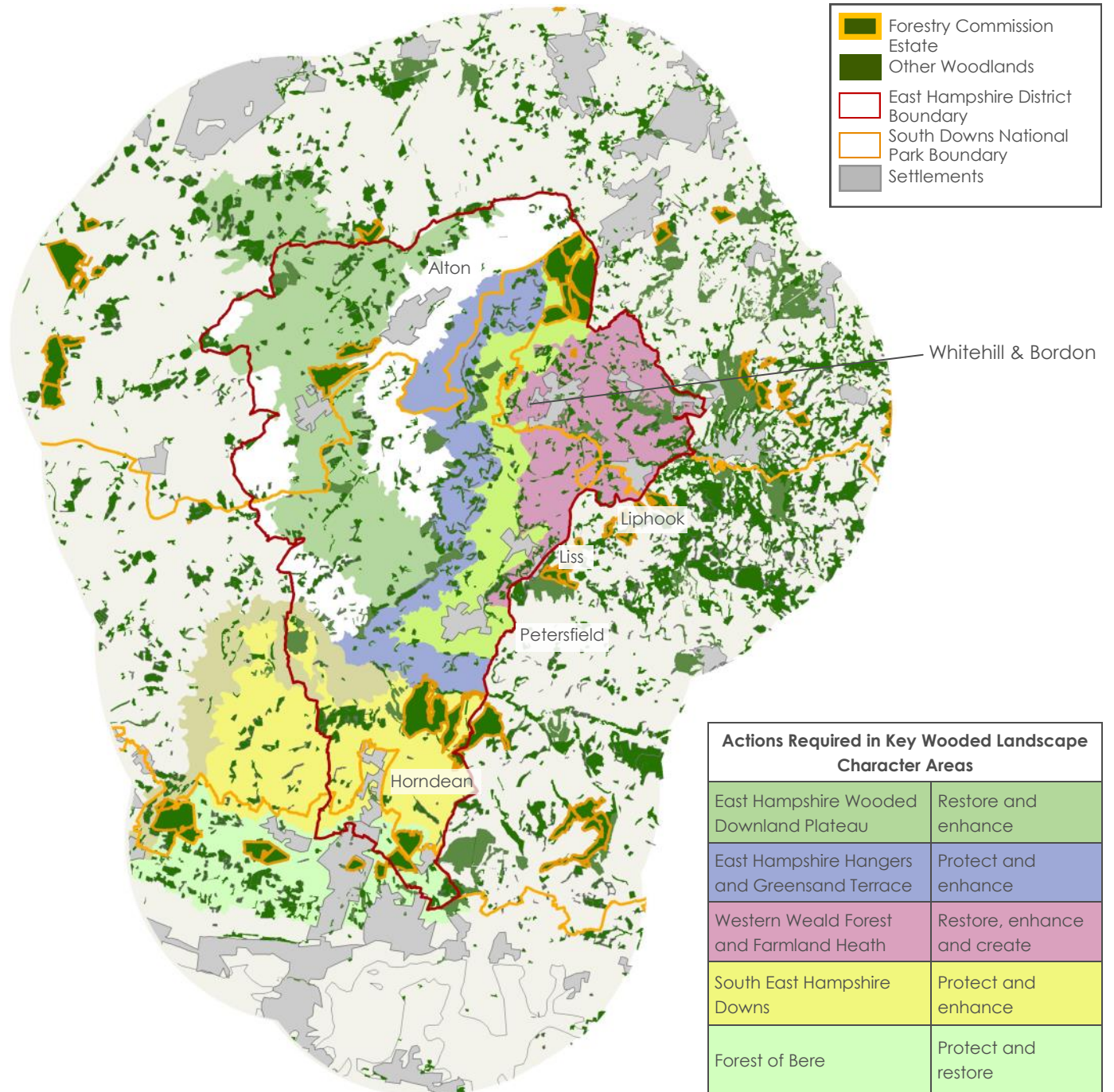
The majority of woodlands in the district are in private ownership and although some are neglected they are a valuable resource for wildlife, timber, wood fuel and access.

Woodlands play an important role in delivering many green infrastructure benefits, including providing recreation opportunities, supporting healthy living, climate change adaptation and mitigation, enhancing biodiversity and providing local timber products and wood fuel.

## Issues and Opportunities

Many woodland sites are small and fragmented, leaving wildlife habitats vulnerable to degradation and loss, affecting their resilience to climate change and other pressures. A large number of woodland sites are not open for public access, however the Forestry Commission owns extensive forestry plantations and ancient woodlands and manages key accessible sites in the district.

Ancient woodland accounts for 40% of woodland cover in the district and is important for nature conservation and rare species. The future management of this irreplaceable resource is uncertain.



Improvements to the management of woodlands would help restore degraded ancient woodland, maximise the use of private woodlands for access, timber and wood fuel production and enhance biodiversity. The woodland economy in East Hampshire could be developed on a co-operative basis to provide the economies of scale to encourage investment in equipment and machinery and provide long term sustainable markets for woodland products.

With future planned housing growth in East Hampshire and surrounding areas there is an increasing need for accessible greenspace. Access to existing woodland and open countryside could accommodate the increase in population and is well within the carrying capacity of the current resource.

Management of woodland across district boundaries could enhance access and recreation, landscape character, wildlife linkages and provide a valuable access and recreation resource.

Local gaps between settlements contribute to their character and identity. Where appropriate to the landscape character, woodland planting can strengthen the gaps, providing valuable access and wildlife links.

Urban tree planting programmes can counter the effects of climate change and contribute to a more comfortable urban environment.

There are 11,000 hectares of woodland in East Hampshire covering 21% of the land area. 2,100 hectares are owned by the Forestry Commission, with the remaining 8,900 hectares in mostly private ownership.



Hanger Woodlands

Woodlands: Strategic Aim

To improve the management of woodland in the East Hampshire District to ensure it is actively managed for timber, wood fuel, wildlife and access

Strategic Priorities	Potential Actions
<p><b>7</b> A strategic approach to the future management and development of all areas of woodland in the district.</p>	<p>Consider developing a Woodland Plan for East Hampshire in partnership. The plan can take a landscape scale approach to woodland enhancement, management and tree planting, including enhancements to landscape, habitats, recreation and amenity. The plan can:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify opportunities to work with public and private woodland owners to increase active woodland management, to provide economic, wildlife and access benefits;</li> <li>• Develop woodland and forestry partnerships (e.g. the South Downs Forestry Partnership), to enable funding and encourage the participation of private woodland owners in management;</li> <li>• Prepare site specific plans to enlarge existing woodlands and improve connectivity, link wildlife habitats and ancient woodlands and improve access links;</li> <li>• Consider developing the potential to enhance public access and visitor facilities at Forestry Commission woodlands (e.g. West Harting Down, close to Queen Elizabeth Country Park), to provide alternative visitor destination sites;</li> <li>• Support the delivery and promotion of woodland initiatives and cross boundary actions, including existing initiatives (e.g. the PUSH project proposals - Forest of Bere, West Walk, Havant Thicket, Wood Fuel Project), the Ancient and Hanger Woodlands and Liphook recreational woodland links;</li> <li>• Promote the economic value of woodland management by supporting the marketing of local woodland products such as wood fuel, charcoal, woodchip (biomass) and construction timber.</li> </ul> <p>Support the creation of linear woodlands and copses as part of the development of Green and Blue Corridors.</p> <p>Create new areas of woodland planting where appropriate, to reinforce local gaps and woodland areas that enhance the landscape character of settlements, for example around Petersfield, Liss and to the west of Whitehill &amp; Bordon.</p> <p>Develop an urban tree planting initiative.</p>

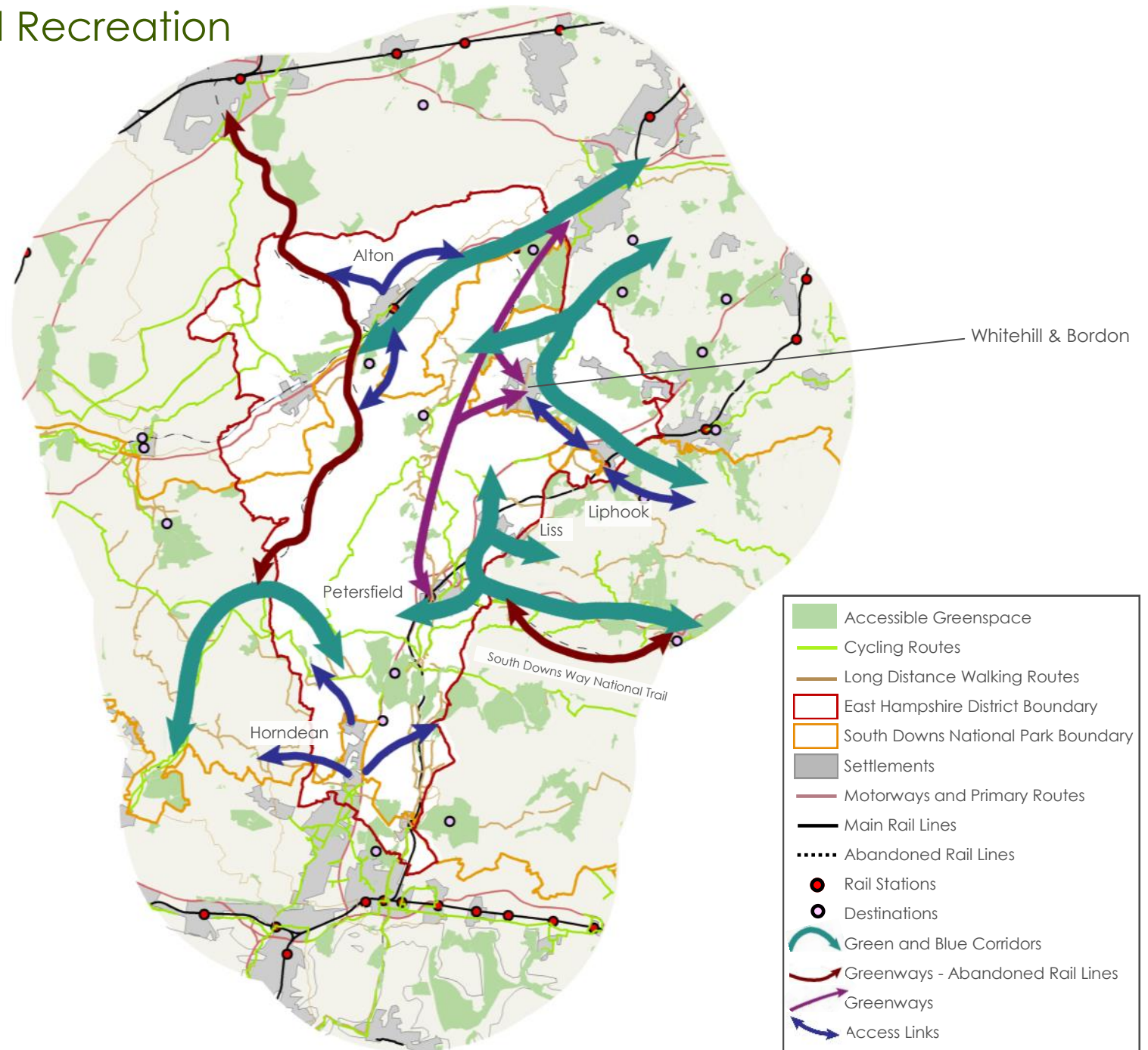
# Theme 5: Access and Recreation

Access to the countryside is important, both for East Hampshire residents and as a major attraction for visitors. The district has extensive tracts of open access land, large areas of woodland, country parks and an excellent rights of way network. There is good provision of walking and cycling routes and an expanding Sustrans network. The South Downs Way National Trail runs across the district within the National Park with additional long distance routes including St Swithun's Way, the Hangers Way and the Shipwrights Way.

## Issues and Opportunities

Many residents would like to have access to open spaces within walking distance of home. This is particularly important in areas of poorer health, as there is a direct link between ease of access to greenspace and improved mental and physical health.

Availability of accessible greenspace and rights of way is not, however, consistent throughout the district. Some towns such as parts of





Alton and Horndean are less well provided for in terms of local accessible greenspace, making it difficult for those without cars to visit open spaces and the countryside.

There is a need for a range of new sites from smaller, local sites to major countryside recreation sites serving larger areas. In the Hampshire Downs, for example, and neighbouring Borough of Basingstoke and Deane, there are few country parks or recreational access sites.

In some areas the rights of way network is fragmented. Gaps in the network around towns and villages should be targeted to create circular routes and provide good local access to the countryside. In the National Park there is demand for circular routes to link transport hubs with access sites and the 'honey pots' that attract large numbers of visitors.

Cycle routes between settlements, visitor destinations, railway stations and national and regional cycle routes will also enhance the network and encourage use. Where gaps occur across administrative boundaries, there may be opportunities to develop partnership arrangements between authorities.

Major road corridors can create barriers particularly, for example, the A3. A survey of road crossing points and junctions could

highlight where improvements to the access network are needed to make it safer.

The opportunities for access by less mobile people can be restricted in places by steep topography. An Access for All Improvement Programme that includes rights of way and greenspaces would help target the areas to be improved to ensure 'access for all'.

Pressure on key visitor sites is likely to increase with planned development requiring new sites to be developed. Queen Elizabeth Country Park and Alice Holt are already highly used for recreation and are within easy reach of new housing areas planned in the southern boroughs and districts and around Whitehill & Bordon.

Whitehill & Bordon also provides opportunities to connect a new access and greenspaces network into the surrounding countryside as part of its overall masterplan.

A strategic approach to visitor management in East Hampshire, including the National Park, would help to target activities and resources and to focus improvements on key visitor facilities. This will also bring benefits to local rural tourism and local economies. A programme of improvements could include a consistent approach to visitor signage in the National Park and wider district making routes easier to follow. Providing better information at visitor sites and on the internet will facilitate access and encourage responsible use.



View to Woolmer Forest, South Downs National Park Authority

## Access and Recreation: Strategic Aim

To provide local residents and visitors to East Hampshire with sustainable access to the countryside and open spaces, improving connectivity, safety and promotion and enhancing the quality and accessibility of existing networks as well as creating new routes and links.

Strategic Priorities	Potential Actions
<p><b>8</b> Develop an interconnected network of sites, routes and facilities to provide a range of social, environmental and economic benefits across broad areas of the landscape.</p>	<p>Address deficiencies in strategic greenspace provision, pressures on 'honeypot' sites and accessibility through creating major new recreation sites to serve Alton, Petersfield and Horndean; considering partnerships with neighbouring districts to identify potential sites.</p>
	<p>Investigate the potential for Green Visitor Hubs, such as Petersfield, providing facilities and access points into the National Park and the wider countryside. Potential to combine with Corridors, enhancing the landscape, access, visitor facilities and local economic development.</p>
	<p>Target improvements to the green infrastructure network, including new greenspaces and Blue Corridors, to areas with higher levels of deprivation, poorer health and poor access to open space.</p>
	<p>Enhance the access network:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing accessible routes linking towns and villages to the countryside;</li> <li>• Creating circular routes, in particular from towns and villages and railway stations;</li> <li>• Identifying barriers to the access network and prioritising improvements.</li> <li>• Developing 'access for all' opportunities.</li> </ul>
	<p>Consider a range of measures to relieve pressure on highly visited sites, notably Queen Elizabeth Country Park, for example the creation of new alternative visitor areas and increasing the capacity of other existing sites through management changes and access improvements.</p>
	<p>Work with neighbouring authorities to provide access links and address areas of open space deficiency and recreational pressure in areas where there is increasing pressure from housing growth both within and outside of East Hampshire, e.g. recreation links to woodland sites and new cycling networks from Liphook eastwards into Chichester District.</p>
	<p>Improve and update information and promotion, to include signage and interpretation improvements, working with neighbouring authorities and utilising new technologies, e.g. smart phones.</p>
	<p>Havant Thicket Reservoir - an opportunity to create sustainable accessible natural greenspace which will be a significant recreational attraction.</p>
	<p>Develop activities for young people within residential areas, accessible by foot, bicycle or regular bus services.</p>
	<p>Improve the quality and safety of existing walking and cycling routes between schools and residential areas, as well as creating new ones.</p>
<p>Ensure traffic-free routes are included as part of green infrastructure proposals for major new developments.</p>	

## Theme 6: Health and Well-Being

Two thirds of the population of East Hampshire live in the four main urban areas. It is a comparatively affluent area with low levels of deprivation, crime and child poverty. Overall well-being indicators are better than the England averages.

### Issues and Opportunities

The rural nature of East Hampshire presents challenges in terms of healthcare access, fuel poverty and the management of chronic diseases and long term conditions. The East Hampshire Green Infrastructure Study 2011 highlights a number of health issues, including:

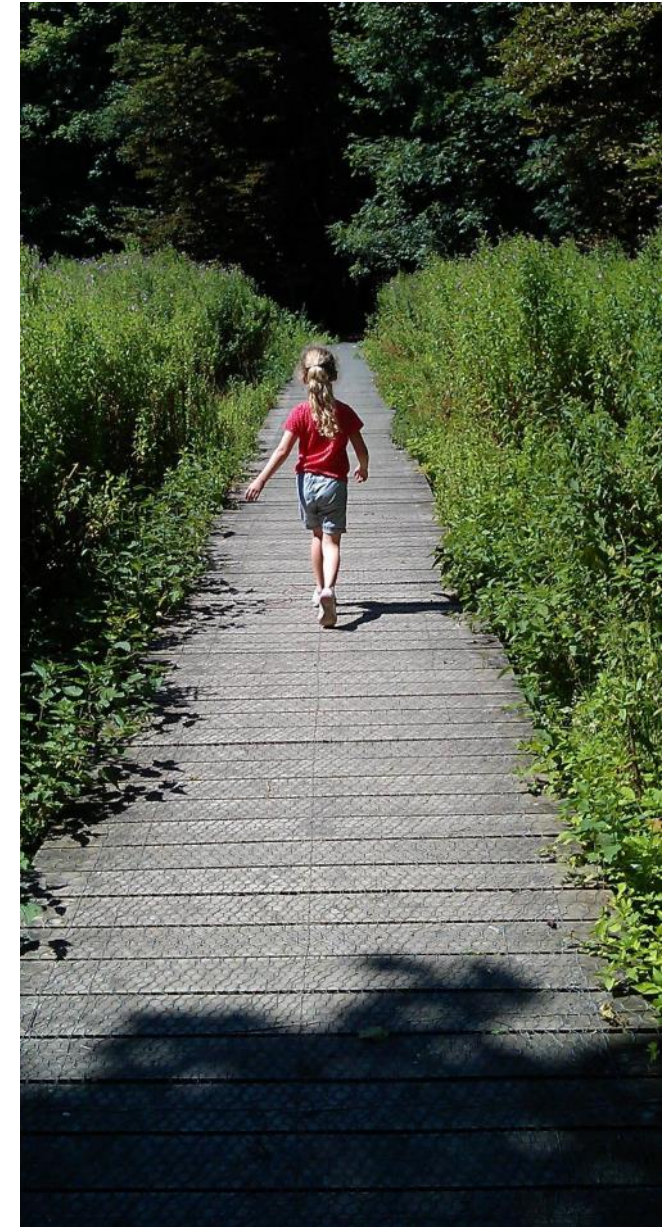
- Adult obesity – more than one in five (22%). This rate is slightly less than the county but is thought to be increasing;
- Child obesity – this is also on the increase with 14.6% of 10 year olds classed as obese (predicted to rise by 6% in the next two years) and a further 14.5% overweight;
- Ageing population – the population of people over sixty-five years will grow substantially over the next twenty years.

Green Infrastructure can help health issues through:

- Providing opportunities for recreation and physical exercise;
- Stimulating informal recreation such as walking and cycling;
- Encouraging the take-up of sustainable transport with benefits for traffic congestion, air pollution and reduction in greenhouse gases;
- Supporting healthy eating and outdoor exercise through the provision of allotments, school and community gardens and village greens;
- Reducing East Hampshire's health costs in the adult and child obesity and mental health sectors.

“Participating in physical activity in green settings is associated with decreased feelings of tension, confusion, anger and depression, while exhibiting greater feelings of revitalisation.”

Thompson Coon et al. 2011



Healthy exercise benefits all ages

## Health and Well-Being: Strategic Aim

To increase the levels of physical, mental and social well-being for the residents of East Hampshire by providing opportunities for access to and enjoyment of greenspaces.

Strategic Priorities	Potential Actions
<p><b>9</b> Develop opportunities to support healthy lifestyles through providing a network of green access routes to connect communities with local facilities, schools, places of work, open space and countryside and provide multifunctional greenspaces for sport, play, recreation and amenity.</p>	<p>Identify new areas of accessible natural greenspace to serve the urban population as part of an emerging network of green infrastructure.</p>
	<p>Develop a network of accessible natural greenspaces of varying sizes to provide for local communities and to meet national standards, in conjunction with Green and/or Blue Corridors connecting the towns into the surrounding rural area. Target activities towards areas of poorer health and deprivation that are deficient in open space and/or access routes.</p>
	<p>Develop local health initiatives based around greenspace and access routes to support local health improvements.</p>
	<p>Review the management of urban open spaces to develop more natural greenspace.</p>



Greenspace provides health benefits whilst enjoying recreation, taking part in sport or choosing active travel modes

## Theme 7: Local Awareness and Involvement

East Hampshire is a safe and well educated district, where there is a strong community spirit and sense of neighbourliness.<sup>7</sup> There are over 2000 voluntary groups in the district and over half of all adults regularly volunteer. Volunteering takes many forms, from community action groups to working with charities and improving the local environment.

Community engagement is vital in the creation and management of new green infrastructure. Local people enjoy participating, get a high level of satisfaction in achievement and gain a sense of ownership of their local greenspaces. Young people, in particular, are able to learn about the natural environment, enjoy playing in the open air and retain a positive perception of their local greenspaces. The involvement of the local community brings both environmental and social benefits.



Community action - creating a grass maze

Creating green infrastructure networks that people enjoy can encourage local action and a change in attitudes and behaviour. For example, a shift from driving to walking and cycling can bring multiple benefits, such as a reduction in carbon emissions, reduced congestion and improvements to health.

It is important to provide opportunities for local communities of all ages to play an active role in deciding what their open spaces should be like, how they should be used and how they should be cared for. This will increase a sense of local ownership of greenspaces, enhance understanding of green infrastructure and biodiversity, foster appreciation of the environment and promote responsible recreation.

### Issues and Opportunities

People choose to volunteer for a variety of different reasons, ranging from the altruistic desire to help others to wanting to have fun.<sup>8</sup> However, evidence points to a lack of diversity in the age of environmental volunteers, with young people, the unemployed and people with disabilities under-represented as volunteers.

The current interest in local empowerment and decision-making through the changes in the current planning system and particularly through the Localism Act 2011, offers exciting prospects for community action in green infrastructure. The new planning legislation empowers local communities to prepare neighbourhood plans and identify local greenspace, enabling local authorities, landowners, developers and communities to work together to realise the benefits of green infrastructure in their neighbourhoods.

<sup>7</sup> East Hampshire Green Infrastructure Study (2011)

<sup>8</sup> Low, N. Butt, S., Ellis Paine, A. and Davis Smith, J. (2007;) Helping out: a national survey of volunteering and charitable giving

## Local Awareness and Involvement: Strategic Aim

To increase the level and diversity of community participation in the planning, development and use of East Hampshire's green infrastructure.

Strategic Priorities	Potential Actions
<p><b>10</b> Develop a co-ordinated district-wide approach to improving the understanding and profile of green infrastructure and encourage community participation in its creation and management, promoting opportunities for volunteering and skills training and encourage local activities.</p>	<p>Encourage the preparation of Neighbourhood/Local Plans and village design statements which offer a community led approach to the development of green infrastructure.</p>
	<p>Develop a Local Greenspace Toolkit that provides advice and support to those wishing to designate greenspaces valued by local communities, e.g. similar to Leicestershire's toolkit 'Green Spaces in Leicester'. <a href="http://www.leics.gov.uk/greenspaces">www.leics.gov.uk/greenspaces</a></p>
	<p>Create a 'Get to know your Greenspace' web page (on the East Hampshire Network portal) to raise community awareness, help establish new local groups and encourage participation across the district to deliver more projects 'on the ground'.</p>
	<p>Bring together expertise from a range of fields, developing partnerships with the health, education, youth and development sectors, e.g. the Local Strategic Partnership, Community Partnership, East Hampshire Biodiversity Partnership and Community Forums.</p>
	<p>Extend the 'Get Active' programme to 'Get Active – Get Involved' to provide co-ordination, support, information and encouragement for local communities to get involved in planning and managing their local greenspaces, working with partners from a range of fields.</p>
	<p>Bring together partnerships of environmental organisations and public groups to develop a joined up approach to environmental education and skills training.</p>
	<p>Increase the number of allotments, targeting Horndean, Alton, Bramshott and Liphook.</p>

# Delivery, Funding and Monitoring

## Delivery

### East Hampshire Green Infrastructure Implementation Plan

Following the adoption of the Joint Core Strategy, the next stage in delivering the East Hampshire green infrastructure network is to develop an Implementation Plan. The plan will provide a framework for collective action by partners and stakeholders to deliver some of the strategic priorities. Working in partnership will help address issues around funding and management of the projects.

The relationship between the District's Green Infrastructure Strategy, Implementation Plan and other strategies, plans and initiatives spans a range of disciplines across different areas of responsibility and organisations. A green infrastructure approach cuts across these institutional boundaries, building partnerships that identify mutual benefits and unlocking resources for environmental improvements and local communities.

### Partnership Working

Cross-boundary partnerships help to provide the coordination and leadership to drive green infrastructure initiatives forward. They promote green infrastructure as essential infrastructure and ensure decision-making is taken at a landscape scale with cross-boundary initiatives. In East Hampshire partnerships include county and district authorities, the National Park Authority, statutory agencies and

voluntary bodies, community organisations, water companies and in Hampshire the newly formed Hampshire Local Nature Partnership.

### Green Infrastructure Partnership for East Hampshire

A lot of excellent work is already being done to develop elements of green infrastructure in East Hampshire. However, a lack of coordination between these activities can result in missed opportunities for joint actions and for attracting much-needed additional resources.

A strategic approach to the delivery of green infrastructure through the development of an East Hampshire Green Infrastructure Partnership would raise the profile of existing activities and partnerships, highlighting the need for overarching support and guidance to ensure these initiatives are resourced and supporting the further planned development of the green infrastructure network. This partnership would clarify developer contribution arrangements and create a central resource to ensure green infrastructure is delivered at all scales. Terms of Reference should be developed to ensure that this Partnership is established.

### Community Engagement

Community participation in the development and maintenance of green infrastructure is important at an early stage. Engagement of local groups encourages leadership, ownership and participation in managing and shaping local greenspaces.



Wildflowers at the Olympic Park

## Infrastructure Delivery Plans

Local authority Infrastructure Delivery Plans are important in identifying the infrastructure required to implement the objectives and proposals within the Joint Core Strategy. Strategic green infrastructure can be planned and included alongside 'grey infrastructure' as the essential infrastructure required to facilitate housing delivery.

## Funding Mechanisms

Green infrastructure can be delivered and funded through a number of mechanisms, including:

- Planning conditions, obligations and/or Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) placed on developers;
- Special projects that draw on external funding or grant schemes; and
- Local community action, including fundraising and use of the voluntary sector and charitable trusts.



East Meon village, South Downs National Park Authority

## Developer Contributions, Section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy

Within new planning permissions, planning conditions can require developers to design and establish new green infrastructure as part of a development proposal and to prepare and instigate plans for on-going maintenance. Where it is not possible to incorporate green infrastructure into a development site, the collection of developer contributions provides the opportunity for green infrastructure initiatives to be delivered offsite.

Section 106 (s106) is an existing method of obtaining contributions from developments and often includes green infrastructure. The introduction of a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) also provides a funding mechanism for local and sub-regional infrastructure to support the development of the area in line with statutory development plans.

The East Hampshire Green Infrastructure Strategy provides the evidence required to support requests for green infrastructure contributions through CIL, and is a tool that can help planning decisions for developers and planners. Green infrastructure provision is highlighted in the Joint Core Strategy and will need to be included within site specific development documents. Future neighbourhood plans could also identify green infrastructure needs. CIL rates can include capital for green infrastructure, design, planning, maintenance and management within its CIL schedule.

### A Community Trust Approach - Marston Vale

The Trust adopted a social enterprise model with profits from the operation of a thriving visitor centre and conferencing facility being ploughed directly back into managing over 6000 hectares of multifunctional greenspace.  
[www.marstonvale.org](http://www.marstonvale.org)



### Community and Independent Trusts

Opportunities to establish innovative funding and management arrangements should be explored to ensure maximum multifunctional benefit from green infrastructure.

Current and emerging public policy also strongly encourages community enterprise approaches to the acquisition and long term management of public assets. An example is investing green infrastructure assets in a Community Trust endowed with funds for long term management. Such Trusts have the potential to gain funding through planning conditions, CIL and s106 agreements to meet the capital costs of initial overheads and management resources and to deliver green infrastructure.

### Environmental Stewardship Scheme

Environmental Stewardship is an agri-environment scheme that provides funding under the Common Agricultural Policy to farmers and land managers to deliver environmental management on their land.

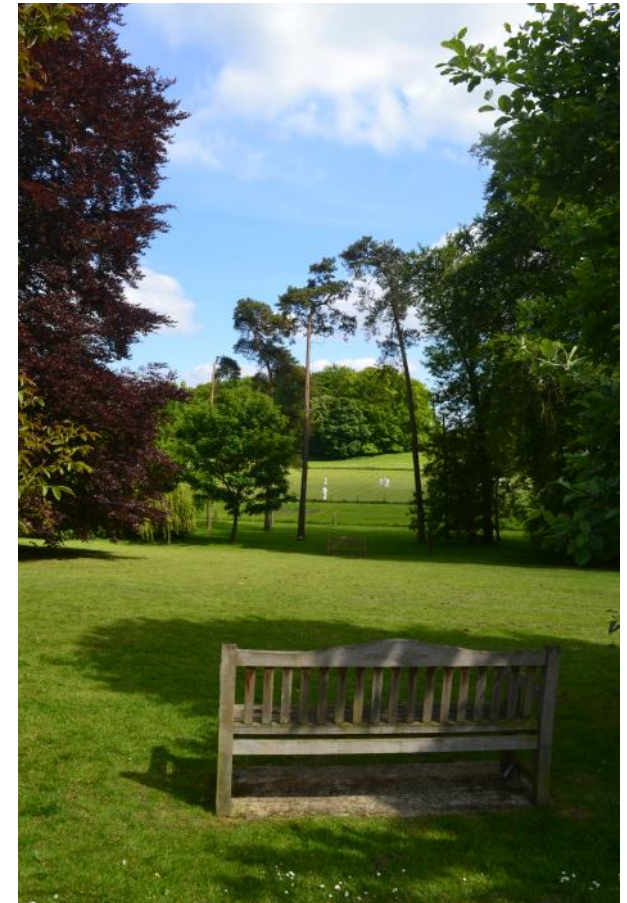
The current Rural Development Programme for England (RDPE) ends at the end of 2013 and the successor schemes are being developed. Partnership working with landowners, local authorities and Natural England could deliver more ambitious landscape and green infrastructure improvements.

### Habitat Banking and Biodiversity Offsetting

Habitat or conservation banking is intended as an additional tool in conserving biodiversity. It is a funding approach to ensure that the environmental loss caused by development is given a monetary value. Developers offset the impact of development on ecosystem services and biodiversity by purchasing credits to compensate for the loss. The method allows compensation for unavoidable damage on site and funding for habitat development elsewhere.

### Monitoring

Monitoring will help to inform and refine future spatial plans and policies relating to green infrastructure. Strategic monitoring will focus on the extent to which the planned green infrastructure network is delivered and at a local level what multifunctional benefits are actually being delivered on the ground. A consistent method of monitoring delivery and developing a co-ordinated and consistent method of reporting green infrastructure delivery should form part of an East Hampshire Green Infrastructure Implementation Plan.



Chawton Recreation Ground

# Glossary

**Accessible Greenspace:** places available for public access, usually free of charge and without time restrictions.

**Natural Greenspace:** places that include semi-natural habitat, either forming the whole site or an element within a site.

**Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards (ANGSt):** Natural England's standards recognising the importance of having access to natural greenspace, especially near to where people live.

**Ancient Woodland:** an area which has been continuously wooded since at least 1600. These are often the richest woodlands in terms of biodiversity.

**Biodiversity:** the term used to describe the diverse forms of biological life.

**Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP):** a strategy prepared for a local area to provide a framework for conserving and enhancing biodiversity, identifying priority species and habitats and setting out the necessary actions to safeguard these.

**Biodiversity Offsetting:** compensates for any adverse biodiversity impact that remains after appropriate prevention and mitigation measures have been taken in response to development.

**Blue Corridors:** used to describe linear green infrastructure based around watercourses, including streams, rivers or canals.

**Catchment Management:** the coordinated planning and management of a river catchment by a group of stakeholders.

**Climate Change Adaptation:** the changes that need to take place in an area, or that are naturally taking place, in response to changes in the climate.

**Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL):** a levy on new development to be set by local planning authorities and used to pay for new infrastructure, such as schools, roads and green infrastructure.

**Ecosystem:** a system of physical and biological elements which function together as a unit.

**Ecosystem Services:** the wide range of essential services and benefits that are derived from a functioning natural environment, including the management of basic resources such as water, food, fuel, air quality and recreation.

**Greenways:** traffic-free routes running through greenspaces or other areas of green infrastructure, providing safe and attractive routes for walking and cycling.

**Green Corridor:** linear green infrastructure which includes, amongst others, cycleways, rights of way and disused railway lines. They can also support ecological connectivity.

**Green Infrastructure Network:** the linking together of areas of green infrastructure to create an interconnected network, providing opportunities for recreation, increasing ecological connectivity and enhancing the landscape.

**Landscape-scale:** a landscape-scale approach seeks to provide multiple benefits, taking a holistic approach which considers biodiversity alongside other issues such as recreation, economics, agriculture and tourism, looking beyond protected areas and discrete wildlife sites to wider natural processes, functioning across the landscape.

**Landscape Character:** the distinct and recognisable patterns and elements that occur consistently in a particular type of landscape, and how people perceive these.

**Landscape Mosaic:** The intermingling of the different components that form a landscape, for example woodlands, hedgerows and farmed land.

**Multifunctional:** the ability to provide more than one benefit or function on a piece of land or across a green infrastructure network.

**Nature Improvement Area (NIA):** Large areas where local partnerships will create a shared vision for their natural environment, planning and delivering significant improvements for wildlife and people and connecting ecological networks.

**Secondary Woodland:** a woodland that has grown on land that was previously not woodland, either through planting or establishing naturally.

**Section 106 (s106) Agreement:** Section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 enables local authorities to negotiate contributions towards a range of infrastructure and services as part of a condition of planning consent, such as community facilities, public open space, transport improvements and/or affordable housing

**Sustainable Drainage Systems (SUDS):** systems designed to reduce the potential impact of new and existing developments on surface water drainage.

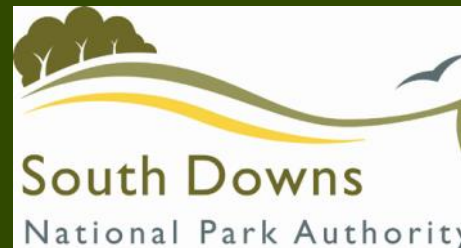
**WFD:** abbreviation for the European Water Framework Directive (2003), concerned with the water quality of all water bodies.

**Wildlife Corridors:** areas of habitat through which species can move to other wildlife areas.

**Woodfuel:** a sustainable, low carbon, source of energy that is produced from managed woods, where felled trees are replanted.

Part 2 of this report, 'Supporting Information', provides technical background. The supporting report includes:

- Green Infrastructure National Policy Review
- Methodology and Analysis Report
- Workshop Report
- Additional supporting information



Produced by Environment X Change on behalf of East Hampshire District Council and the South Downs National Park Authority

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