Table 5.1: Proposed Welwyn Hatfield Sustainability Appraisal Framework

Will the plan, policy or proposal…	What will the SA look for in the Core Strategy DPD and other LDDs?	SEA Topic
Long-term Objective 1: Health improvement		
…lead to reduced health inequalities, and in particular improve the health of those living in communities characterised by relatively poor health? (1.1)	[This should be achieved through positive assessments against criteria 2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 4.1 to 4.6, 4.8, 4.9, 5.1, 6.1 to 6.4, and 6.6.] • In particular, the SA will look for proposals that will improve opportunities for non-car access to jobs, education, formal sport facilities, informal recreation especially green space and play areas, community facilities for young people, health and cultural facilities, and that lead to improvements in the built and natural environment of those communities most characterised by poor health (e.g. Hatfield Central, Peartree wards)*.	• Human health • Population
…lead to improved health for all? (1.2)	• As above, but also taking into account the needs of particular sectors of the community, such as the increasing elderly population, people with disabilities, ethnic minority groups, and young people including the growing number of students*[1].	• Human health • Population
Long-term objective 2: Safer communities		
…reduce opportunities for crime and anti-social behaviour, and reduce fear of crime? (2.1)	• Policies and development proposals that design out crime. • Policies and proposals that provide for an appropriate mix of uses. • Policies and proposals that increase community, leisure and recreational facilities, particularly for young people, and especially in more deprived parts of the Borough*.	• Population • Human health
…ensure there is no increase in flood risk to people or property, taking into account climate change? (2.2)	[Flooding is not a major issue in the Borough, but could increase with climate change and pressure on surface water drainage systems.] • Avoidance of inappropriate development in flood risk areas. • Avoidance of development that will increase flood risk elsewhere. • Promotion of sustainable drainage systems including where necessary strategic flood storage areas. • That the capacity of the surface water drainage systems is capable of accommodating more development.	• Population • Human health
Long-term Objective 3: Good citizenship		
…encourage involvement of the public in the planning process? (3.1)	• Encouragement for local people to engage effectively in development plan preparation (e.g. in Area Action Plans), especially underrepresented or 'hard to reach' groups, identified in the Statement of Community Involvement as young people, ethnic minorities, and sections of the community living in the rural areas or more deprived areas of the borough *. • Encouragement for developers to consult at an early stage local people who may be affected	• Population

[1] * To be brought together in a statement on equalities and diversity as part of the main SA Report (see also remainder of table).

Will the plan, policy or proposal…	What will the SA look for in the Core Strategy DPD and other LDDs?	SEA Topic
	(beneficially or otherwise) by development to ensure community concerns are taken into account during the planning and design stages*.	
Long term objective 4: Improving the environment		
…significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions from built development? (4.1)	• Promotion of energy efficiency in housing development, where possible in excess of building standards, and consistent with achieving high Code for Sustainable Homes targets. • Promotion of energy efficiency in non-housing development, energy efficiency to be achieved through a combination of use of materials and design, orientation, etc. • Clear guidelines and support for renewable energy sources, such as wind, micro-generation, ground sourcing, biomass, combined heat and power, district heating.	• Climatic factors
…significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions from transport? (4.2)	• Delivery of housing close to existing and proposed employment and vice versa, based on a good understanding of travel to work patterns. • Promotion of car free development, home zones, car clubs, more energy efficient choices of transport, and restraints on unnecessary car use (demand management). • Distance to, and ease of non-car access to schools, colleges, health facilities, shops, sports, places of worship, pubs, cultural and other community services and facilities (including integrated facilities), plus concentration of facilities on public transport corridors, and integrated with walking and cycling networks, and provision of home services, therefore reducing the need to travel. • Promotion of tele-working, travel plans, and reduced parking at business premises. • The right type of retail and community facilities in the right locations according to identified need and settlement role and function. • Promotion of significantly improved east/west sustainable modes of transport.	• Climatic factors
…avoid and reduce air pollution? (4.3)	[Air quality is not a major issue in Welwyn Hatfield, but could become so if traffic continues to increase, – therefore look for the same sort of issues as for criterion 4.2. It is also a topic in the SEA Directive and for the regional as a whole has been identified as a potential issue with respect to biodiversity, especially Natura 2000 sites] • Policies that encourage tree planting (as natural cleanser of air).	• Air
…protect and enhance open space and landscape character, retaining local distinctiveness? (4.4)	• Positive design policies for built development that respect village character (including use of local materials/vernacular). • Avoidance of 'sub-urbanisation'. • Support for employment linked to land management. • Meeting Natural England's Accessible Natural Greenspace (ANGSt) standards, including provision of a	• Landscape • Cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological

Will the plan, policy or proposal…	What will the SA look for in the Core Strategy DPD and other LDDs?	SEA Topic
	network of greenspace in settlements in close proximity to where people live, with green corridors and woodland, and links to surrounding countryside (green infrastructure). • Minimisation of noise and light pollution from development.	heritage
…protect and enhance the Borough's character, sense of place and local distinctiveness, historic and cultural assets? (4.5)	• Development and policies that safeguard archaeological sites (including scheduled ancient monuments), conservation areas, historic settlement cores, listed buildings, parks and gardens, etc., including their setting, improving access and interpretation, and promotion of heritage-led regeneration. • Positive design policies for built development that respect town character (including use of local materials/vernacular), for example where relevant to the 'garden city'. • Reassurance that development will be adapted to deal with extreme weather events. • Improvements to the public realm including green infrastructure, greenspace, tree planting/shading, safe walking and informal recreational areas, especially in more deprived neighbourhoods*.	• Landscape • Cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage
…protect and enhance biodiversity, taking into account the impacts of climate change? (4.6)	• Protection for internationally, nationally, regionally and locally designated sites and species. • Positive proposals for achieving biodiversity action plan targets, taking into account the need to link habitats to allow species to migrate (e.g. wildlife corridors, etc.). • Ensure in particular that the integrity of the Special Protection Area at Rye Meads is not compromised by development proposals affecting the treatment works.	• Biodiversity • Flora • Fauna
…reduce water consumption, and provide for reliable sources of water supply even in drought conditions? (4.7)	• Promotion of water efficiency (e.g. through Code for Sustainable Homes), including re-use and recycling.	• Water
…avoid water pollution? (4.8)	• Ensuring there is sufficient capacity in the sewage treatment works and general water infrastructure to cope with additional development without adverse effects on the environment. • Use of natural treatment systems (e.g. reed beds).	• Water

Will the plan, policy or proposal…	What will the SA look for in the Core Strategy DPD and other LDDs?	SEA Topic
	• Avoidance of development that could adversely affect groundwater sources.	
…minimise the amount of waste generated and maximise the re-use, recycling or composting of waste that cannot be reduced? (4.9)	• Maximum re-use of construction and demolition materials in construction, refurbishment rather than new build where in accordance with wider sustainability objectives (e.g. energy conservation, quality of built environment, etc.). • Provision for composting, re-use and recycling in new development, including easily accessible community facilities.	• Material assets[2]
…promote the conservation and sustainable use of productive agricultural land and maximise the sustainable use of previously developed land? (4.10)	• Development of brownfield sites where these can support wider sustainability objectives (e.g. reduce travel by car, improve public realm, avoid loss of biodiversity interest, gardens, etc.). • Ensure necessary development of greenfield land fully takes into account existing or potential contribution for biodiversity, flood storage and management, aquifer recharge, sustainable food/biomass production, recreation and health, and mitigate, compensate, enhance as appropriate. • Avoidance of development on best and most versatile agricultural land (grades 1, 2 and 3a).	• Soil • Material assets
Long-term Objective 5: Decent housing		
…provide the right amount, type and tenure of housing to meet identified local needs? (5.1)	• Delivery of regional housing allocation. • Appropriate provision for affordable, social, intermediate and key worker housing, plus policies to ensure certainty of delivery. • Appropriate provision for students*. • Provision for lifetime homes to meet needs of an ageing population*. • Appropriate provision for Gypsies and Travellers*.	• Population
Long-term objective 6: A thriving economy		
…ensure the supply, location and quality of business and employment sites reflects the needs of local businesses and encourages a mixed and greener economy? (6.1)	• Support in particular for knowledge-based sector (including high-tech and business services). • Also support for key public services (e.g. health, administration, education). • Encouragement for micro businesses, SMEs etc. • Support for local trading schemes. • Encouragement for greener business practices, such as reduced travel, reduced waste, environmental technologies, etc. • Economic activity that capitalises on links to London and King's Cross/St Pancras. • Allowing business expansion without compromising objectives of the Green Belt.	• Population • Material assets • Biodiversity • Landscape • Climatic factors • Air • Water

---

[2] 'Material assets' are not defined in the SEA Directive, but we understand this term to mean the value of past human investment in the built environment including major infrastructure – this would include, for example, housing, industry, transport infrastructure etc. So the SEA would need to consider whether the plan would affect such past investment (e.g. would it result in a loss of a major industrial site, or the demolition of a lot of housing, etc.).

Will the plan, policy or proposal…	What will the SA look for in the Core Strategy DPD and other LDDs?	SEA Topic
…encourage economic investment in those areas most in need of regeneration, in a way that will benefit those most in need of rewarding employment? (6.2)	• Targeted regeneration and improvements to public realm and sustainable transport networks of particularly affected wards in Hatfield and Welwyn Garden City centres.	• Population • Material assets
…enhance the vitality and attraction of Welwyn Garden City and Hatfield town retail centres? (6.3)	• Provision for retail outlets as identified by technical research. • Improvements to the public realm of the town centres, including improved access by foot, cycle and public transport. • Policies and proposals that encourage living within the town centres.	• Population • Material assets
…sustain rural communities and their economies, small businesses and other rural diversification, while protecting rural character? (6.4)	• Support for economic development that is appropriate for rural locations, including small-scale or home-based. • Particular support for economic activity linked to land management, village services, etc. • Avoidance of economic activity that will generate large numbers of car trips, or that cannot be supported by alternative modes of transport. • Initiatives that add value to rural products, development of farmers' markets and small-scale rural craft businesses, re-use of redundant farm buildings.	• Population • Material assets
…avoid the sterilisation of mineral resources? (6.5)	• Avoidance of development on mineral reserves (e.g. sand and gravel) that may be needed for future use.	• Population • Material assets
…provide access to training, skills development and life long learning to meet identified needs? (6.6)	• Close proximity of, and ease of access to, schools, colleges, libraries, etc, centres of excellence, particularly in relation to young people in parts of Welwyn Garden City and Hatfield, where skills levels are lowest*.	• Population • Material assets