



Dover District Land Allocations Local Plan

Adopted January 2015

1 Introduction	3
2 Sustainable Development	7
3 Development Sites	17
3.1 Dover	22
3.1.1 Areas of Change	48
3.2 Deal	57
3.3 Sandwich	68
3.4 Rural Area	78
3.5 Local Centres	82
3.5.1 Ash	82
3.5.2 Capel-le-Ferne	89
3.5.3 Eastry	95
3.5.4 Shepherdswell	104
3.5.5 Wingham	106
3.6 Villages	108
3.6.1 East Langdon	108
3.6.2 East Studdal	110
3.6.3 Elvington & Eythorne	112
3.6.4 Great Mongeham	115
3.6.5 Kingsdown and Ringwould	116
3.6.6 Lydden	121
3.6.7 Nonington	124
3.6.8 Preston	126
3.6.9 St Margaret's at Cliffe	127
3.6.10 Staple	130
3.6.11 Woodnesborough	132
4 Phasing, Delivery and Monitoring	137

Annex

1 Development Management Guidance and Policy	139
Glossary	156



1 Introduction

What is the Land Allocations Local Plan?

1.1 The Land Allocations Local Plan is a planning policy document that forms part of the statutory Development Plan for Dover District. Its primary purpose is to allocate land for development and to set out any issues or criteria that subsequent planning applications will need to address. It should be read in conjunction with the other parts of the Development Plan which, at the time of preparation, consists of the Dover District Core Strategy 2010 and some policies from the Dover District Local Plan 2002 that have been saved (see Annex 1).

1.2 The Core Strategy is the overarching planning policy document for the District. It sets out the strategy for the future of the District as a place to live, work, relax and visit over the period to 2026. The Core Strategy identifies the overall economic, social and environmental objectives for the District and the amount, type and broad location of development that is needed to fulfil those objectives. The Land Allocations Local Plan (the Plan) identifies and allocates specific sites that are suitable for development in order to meet the Core Strategy's requirements and in so doing makes a major contribution to delivering the Strategy. It covers the same plan period as the Core Strategy.

1.3 In setting out what type of development is promoted where, the Plan will provide local communities, landowners, developers and infrastructure providers a large degree of certainty about the future pattern of development in the District. Specific development proposals for the sites identified in the Plan will, however, need to gain planning permission before development can take place.

1.4 This Plan has also been prepared against a background of increasing concern to ensure that its proposals are economically, socially and environmentally sustainable and that it is responsive to the likely impacts of climate change. Together with the Sustainability Appraisal (SA), the Council has drawn on the process of Habitat Regulations Assessment to help ensure that the Strategy is robust in these respects.

National Planning Policy

1.5 National planning policy is set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (the Framework or NPPF) and the Planning Practice Guidance (PPG). Local Plans must be prepared within the context set by the Framework. The Framework embodies a 'presumption in favour of sustainable development' (defined as 'meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs')⁽¹⁾. There are three dimensions to sustainable development that give rise for the need of the planning system to perform a number of roles: an economic role, a social role and an environmental role.

1.6 The Framework states that all plans should be based upon and reflect the presumption in favour of sustainable development, with clear policies that will guide how the presumption should be applied locally. The Core Strategy sets out the Council's overall approach towards the local application of sustainable development through its objectives and core policies. Further guidance is contained in Chapter 2.

1 Resolution 24/187 of the United Nations General Assembly

1.7 When considering development proposals the Council will take a positive approach that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development. It will work pro-actively with applicants to find solutions that, wherever possible, enable proposals to be approved, and to secure development that improves the economic, social and environmental conditions in the area.

1.8 In accordance with the Framework, planning applications that accord with the policies in the Development Plan will be approved without delay, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

1.9 Where there are no policies relevant to the application or relevant policies are out of date at the time of making the decision then the Council will grant permission unless material considerations indicate otherwise – taking into account whether:

- Any adverse impacts of granting permission would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in the Framework taken as a whole; or
- Specific policies in that Framework indicate that development should be restricted.

Neighbourhood Plans

1.10 Neighbourhood Planning is a new element of the planning system introduced in 2012. A fundamental principle of neighbourhood planning is that it is community-led, with the community establishing local (non-strategic) planning policies for development and use of land within its neighbourhood. Neighbourhood Development Plans enable local people to play a leading role in responding to the needs and priorities of the local community.

1.11 In Dover District the appropriate bodies for producing Neighbourhood Plans are the Town and Parish Councils. Production of a Plan is at the discretion of those Councils. A Neighbourhood Plan must generally conform with the District Local Plan and can promote more but not less development than the Local Plan or undermine its strategic policies. Once a Neighbourhood Development Plan is adopted it will become part of the Development Plan for the District.

1.12 The first Neighbourhood Plan in the District covers part of the Parish of Worth. Under the national front runners scheme this has enabled the work to be undertaken in parallel with the Land Allocations Local Plan. In order to allow the local community the widest opportunity to determine local policies for their area the District Council is not proposing any land allocations or new local planning policies in the Worth Neighbourhood Plan area. ⁽²⁾

Structure of the Local Plan

1.13 The sustainable development context for preparing the Plan is set out in Chapter 2. This is based upon the Core Strategy and subsequent monitoring and evidence base studies that have been undertaken since the adoption of the Core Strategy.

1.14 Chapter 3 is the main body of the Plan. It identifies the site allocations for development on a settlement basis starting with Dover, as the major focus for development, followed by Deal and then Sandwich, as the main focus for development in the rural areas (the strategic

² In addition to Worth other Parish Councils have come forward proposing neighbourhood plans, details of which can be found on the Council's website

expansion of Aylesham remains promoted through saved Local Plan policies) before considering Local Centres and Villages. Each settlement contains a summary of its characteristics, with particular reference to housing, employment and retail and how development in that location will meet the aims and objectives set out in the Core Strategy. For each settlement where allocations have been made there is a description of the settlement. A policy setting out criteria that subsequent planning applications need to address is provided and where necessary, a policy to summarise residential allocations identifies amendments to settlement confines which are likely to result in developments too small (under 5 dwellings) to warrant a site allocation.

1.15 Table 1.1 below identifies a list of settlements in the District with changes to the urban boundary and settlement confines:

Town/Village	Total Number of Dwellings ⁽¹⁾	Page Number
Dover	1,010	22
Deal	800	57
Sandwich	180	68
Local Centres		
Ash	200	82
Capel-le-Ferne	90	89
Eastry	155	95
Shepherdswell	10	104
Wingham	0 ⁽²⁾	106
Villages		
East Langdon	10	108
East Studdal	30	110
Elvington and Eythorne	75	112
Great Mongeham	10	115
Kingsdown and Ringwould	7	116
Lydden	40	121
Nonington	35	124
St. Margaret's at Cliffe	7	127
Staple	0 ⁽¹⁾	130
Woodnesborough	43	132

Town/Village	Total Number of Dwellings ⁽¹⁾	Page Number
Total	2,702	

Table 1.1 List of settlements in the District with changes to the urban boundary and settlement confines

1. Excludes changes to the settlement confines which may result in additional dwellings
2. Assumed to be less than 5 dwellings in total arising from change to the settlement confines

1.16 The remainder of the Plan consists of delivery and monitoring arrangements (Chapter 4), and an Annex containing development management policies and guidance that adds to the Annex in the Core Strategy.

Delivery and Monitoring

1.17 It is important to ensure there is a reasonable prospect that the Plan's proposals can be implemented over the Plan period and that a sufficient amount of land is readily available to meet short term needs. The Council has contacted the owners of allocated sites in order to obtain an indication of the time frame within which sites could be made available for development. The Council has also, as part of its site assessment process, investigated whether there are any likely barriers to the development of sites to establish realistic assumptions about the likely timing of development. The cost of requirements likely to be applied to development proposals, such as contributions towards additional infrastructure and meeting Code for Sustainable Homes requirements, have been taken into account through the Council's work on the Community Infrastructure Levy in order to ensure that overall the Plan's proposals are economically viable.

2 Sustainable Development

2.1 The context for preparing the Plan is set by the District Core Strategy. The Strategy is based upon a sustainability analysis of the District's social, economic and environmental characteristics and performance which underpins the Aim, Objectives and Key Features.

2.2 Since the adoption of the Core Strategy, monitoring (through the Council's Annual Monitoring Report) has shown that considerable progress has been made in providing the infrastructure to support the Strategy. Owing to national economic conditions and local changes in economic activity the employment base has, however, fallen, unemployment risen and housebuilding levels declined. In addition, the level of social disadvantage has risen, although skills levels have improved.

2.3 In order to ensure that the Plan contributes towards the achievement of sustainable development, the Council has undertaken further work at a local level in the economic and environmental areas of sustainable development. This work has directly informed the preparation of the Plan by providing additional context for development land allocations and, in the case of the economic work, identified the need to adjust the Strategy's provision for new employment and retail floorspace.

2.4 Overall, the Strategy's Aim, Objectives and proposals remain firmly relevant but implementation is slowing suggesting that it will take longer to realise the Strategy. In line with the Strategy's programme management mechanism, the Council will maintain and increase (as resources permit) its proactive role in promoting development opportunities.

Employment Development

2.5 The Core Strategy's provision for additional employment and retail development was based upon research carried out prior to the national economic recession that took hold around 2009. In order to ensure that the Plan is based on up-to-date information the Council has undertaken further research (Dover District Employment Update 2012).

2.6 In relation to employment development (defined in the Core Strategy as Use Classes B1, B2 and B8) the study has found that the Strategy's employment growth outlook of 6,500 jobs growth is no longer likely to be achievable over the period to 2026, although this remains a longer term objective. The Core Strategy proposed that this Plan makes provision for around 64.7 hectares of land for employment uses (to accommodate around 200,000 square metres of floorspace) through reviewing and carrying forward suitable existing allocations and commitments. As a consequence of the Employment Update this now needs to be reconsidered.

2.7 There are two main factors which lead to these findings. Economic recession has meant that the projected trend based growth in the public sector, finance/business services and distribution/hotels/catering is unlikely to materialise and there will be delay in realising the planned employment growth proposals in the Strategy. The second factor is the major contraction of the pharmaceuticals research and development facility at Sandwich which is estimated, along with decommissioning a nuclear power station at Dungeness (in Shepway District) to lead to between 4,000 and 5,000 job losses in the District by 2018. In addition, the contraction of the pharmaceutical business at Sandwich has resulted in the vacancy of some 280,000 square metres (2.8 million square feet) of largely modern research and development and related business floorspace. The impact of the contraction of the pharmaceuticals business on the District's unemployment level has not, however, been as

severe as may have been feared. Only around 40% of those previously employed in pharmaceuticals lived in the District, many of those moved elsewhere to alternative employment and some retired. The site itself was designated as an Enterprise Zone in 2011 to help stimulate re-use of the site.

2.8 The implication of these changes is that the jobs base has fallen from the 2006 level and may only recover by the end of the Plan period, as illustrated by the following graph.

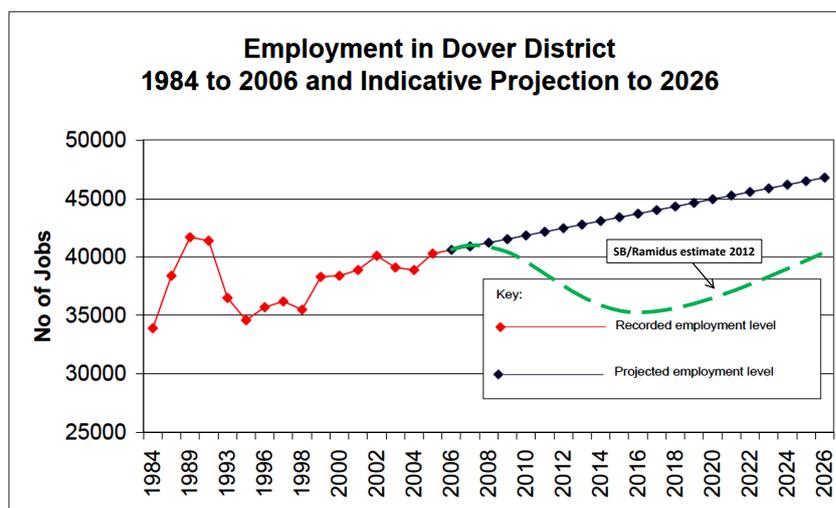


Figure 2.1 Employment in Dover District (Source: Employment Update, 2012)

2.9 As a result, there is not now likely to be a quantitative need to allocate more than 5 hectares of land for employment uses. This, however, needs to be tempered by other factors such as ensuring a broad geographic distribution of employment sites that reflects and supports Core Strategy objectives, and choice of quality of site to appeal to different business sectors. In addition, the best sites for employment development should be retained for the long-term (beyond 2026) as it would be particularly difficult to replace them should they be lost to other forms of development. Within these considerations the Plan has drawn on the assessment of all the employment land options in the Employment Update in order to determine which sites should be carried forward as allocations in the Plan (see Chapter 3, Table 3.3), what type of job creating uses would be appropriate and, for those sites no longer assessed as required for employment purposes, whether they would be suitable for alternative forms of development.

Retail Development

2.10 The Core Strategy's provision for additional retail development was also based upon research carried out prior to the national economic recession that took hold around 2009. In order to ensure that the Plan is based on up-to-date information the Council has undertaken further research (Dover District Retail Update 2012).

2.11 The Update found that the District has improved its overall retention of both convenience and comparison shopping expenditure compared with the position in 2007. There is particularly high retention rate of convenience expenditure in Dover and Deal (95%) and a lower rate of 65% in Sandwich. A lower rate in Sandwich is not unexpected as it is a smaller centre and competes with Dover, Deal, Canterbury and Westwood Cross.

2.12 The Update examined the prospect for additional retail floorspace over and beyond the Plan period taking account of permissions yet to be implemented and the substantial Core Strategy allocations at Dover. The result is summarised in the following Table.

Period	Dover Trade Area		Deal/Sandwich Trade Area	
	Convenience	Comparison	Convenience	Comparison
2012	-8,700	-41,200	800	370
2017	-7,100	-34,900	1,500	2,500
2022	-5,300	-25,600	2,200	5,800
2026	-4,500	-19,700	2,400	7,700

Table 2.1 Retail Floorspace Capacity (by trade area, in cumulative square metres of gross floorspace rounded and net of pipeline development)

Source: Dover District Retail Update (2012)⁽³⁾ ⁽⁴⁾ ⁽⁵⁾

2.13 This illustrates that, for the Dover trade area, the Core Strategy's substantial allocations are more than adequate to accommodate the likely amount of demand for additional floorspace identified in the Retail Update (2012). The Update is, however, based on retaining a constant market share whereas the Strategy's objective is to increase the retention of retail expenditure, and hence market share, at Dover. The amount of allocated land is therefore considered to be appropriate.

2.14 In the Deal/Sandwich trade area most of the potential for additional convenience floorspace can be ascribed to Sandwich where it would help to increase the quantity and quality of convenience floorspace provision in Sandwich to help broaden the range and choice to the benefit of local catchment population. The issue is taken forward in the Sandwich section of this Plan - see Policy LA19.

3 Retail commitments, for convenience goods, includes: 3,205 sq m net (or circa 5,450 sq m gross) at St. James Area which is estimated to turnover £35.5m in 2012; 3,500 sq m net (or 5,000 sq m gross) at Dover Waterfront which is estimated to turnover £42.0m in 2012; and 668 sq m net (or 1,335 sq m gross) in the Whitfield Urban Expansion which is estimated to turnover £4.7m in 2012.

4 Retail commitments, for comparison goods, includes: 3,901 sq m net (or 5,574 sq m gross) at White Cliffs Business Park which is estimated to turnover £15.6m in 2012; 7,477 sq m net (or 12,712 sq m gross) at St. James which is estimated to turnover £30.0m in 2012; 6,672 sq m net (or 11,342 sq m gross) at Dover Mid-Town which is expected to turn over £26.8m in 2012; 10,500 sq m net (or 15,000 sq m gross) at Dover Waterfront which is expected to turnover £42.1m in 2012; and 668 sq m net (or 1,335 sq m gross) in the Whitfield Urban Expansion which is estimated to turnover £2.7m in 2012.

5 This table excludes any retail provision associated with Terminal 2 as this would be covered by the Harbour Revision Order and is restricted to meeting the needs of people using the Terminal.

2.15 The potential for additional comparison shopping floorspace arises mainly in Deal where there is opportunity to improve the range and choice of the town's offer and help retain a higher level of expenditure. Opportunities for redevelopment in the town centre are, however, limited by the historic environment. The Council has been unable to identify a suitable site within the town centre or on the edge-of-centre to meet this need.

2.16 In the absence of the Council selecting a suitable site for comparison goods floorspace at Deal, a Development Management Policy is included in Annex 1 (Policy DM26) in order to guide any development proposals which may come forward.

2.17 Finally, to reflect the recommendations in the Retail Update (2012) changes have been made to the town centre boundaries in Dover and Deal, and a town centre boundary and Primary Shopping Area for Sandwich. Further details are provided in the section for the individual settlement in Chapter 3.

The Natural and Historic Environment

2.18 The importance of the natural environment is recognised in the National Planning Policy Framework. This states that Local Planning Authorities should set out the Local Plan policies against which proposals affecting protected wildlife or geodiversity sites or landscape areas will be judged (Paragraph 113) and that great weight should be given to conserving landscape and scenic beauty. (Paragraph 115). When determining planning applications the Local Planning Authority will aim to conserve and enhance biodiversity by applying the principles in paragraph 118 of the NPPF. Dover District has a high proportion of land in the Kent Downs Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, which has the highest status of protection in relation to landscape and scenic beauty (Paragraph 115 and 116).

2.19 The disposition of, and access to wildlife sites across the district is such that it is those of national and international significance that are likely to be subject to cumulative recreational pressure, rather than the Local Wildlife Sites (LWS). However, it is important that in managing pressure on the former, the LWS do not become substitute areas for increased recreational activity without either quantitative or qualitative enhancements for biodiversity. During the site selection for the LALP no LWS were identified that would have a significant likelihood of cumulative recreational impact from any sources. Nonetheless, the Council is actively promoting non-designated sites for recreation, such as improvements for Kearsney Abbey and Russell Gardens, as well as a strategic-scale park for Sandwich, as set out in the Green Infrastructure Strategy 2014, to increase the recognised recreational resource of the district. Should planning applications come forward that would trigger concerns of cumulative recreational impacts with LALP sites on LWS, the onus will be on the applicants to fully mitigate any such measures.

2.20 In consideration of European designated wildlife sites, the particular attractiveness of the coast is recognised and, in particular, the sensitivity of birds to disturbance within the Thanet Coast and Sandwich Bay SPA and Ramsar sites. For these sites, it has been considered that development above a certain size anywhere in the district could act cumulatively and a district-wide mitigation strategy should be taken forward in the LALP. With respect to potential recreational pressure on Special Areas of Conservation (SAC), planning applications are expected to avoid such by the adequate provision of on-site green infrastructure, especially, but not exclusively, in areas identified in the Core Strategy and Green Infrastructure Strategy 2014 for proposed improvements in the green infrastructure network.

2.21 The conservation and enhancement of landscape character remains an important policy objective as set out in the Core Strategy, Policies DM15 and 16 and supporting text.

2.22 Progress has been made in landscape management with the National Trust's purchase of land within the Heritage Coast at Langdon Cliffs and a Heritage Lottery Fund award towards improved landscape management of the Kent Downs between Dover and Folkestone.

2.23 The importance of the historic environment is recognised in the National Planning Policy Framework. This states that Local Planning Authorities should set out in their Local Plan a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment and in doing so should recognise that heritage assets are an irreplaceable resource and conserve them in a manner appropriate to their significance. Heritage assets is a collective term used to describe anything of historic interest whether or not formally designated.

2.24 The Core Strategy, which was adopted well before the introduction of the NPPF, recognised the value and under use of the District's historic environment and consequently has the aim to 'Make better use of historic assets at Dover' and an objective to 'Ensure the intrinsic quality of the historic environment is protected and enhanced and that these assets are used positively to support regeneration, especially at Dover'.

2.25 In furtherance of the Core Strategy, the Council has worked in collaboration with English Heritage and the County Council to develop a comprehensive Dover District Heritage Strategy (2012). The primary purpose of the Heritage Strategy is to identify, group and understand the value of the District's heritage assets. It has been prepared in parallel with the NPPF and therefore takes full account of its policies.

2.26 The District has a highly unusual breadth and richness of heritage assets. To ensure that these are used positively to support regeneration and to conserve them in a manner appropriate to their significance, it is first necessary to understand their value. To help this understanding the Heritage Strategy has identified thirteen broad themes into which the numerous individual and groups of assets can be categorised and their significance assessed. Eight of these themes are considered to be of 'outstanding significance' and are of international/national importance – see Annex 1.

2.27 The Strategy enables a far deeper understanding and appreciation of the District's heritage assets. It also reveals the desirability of taking a much more pro-active approach towards heritage issues in order to:

- Improve promotion, understanding and appreciation of the District's huge diversity and richness of historic assets;
- Better inform development and regeneration proposals;
- Help identify assets that are underused and where initiatives may be desirable to realise visitor potential and economic benefits;
- Establish ways of working with Town and Parish Council's, civic societies and other groups to further the identification, evaluation, appreciation and promotion of historic assets; and
- Identify projects that would be suitable for funding bids – using the Strategy as an evidence base.

2.28 The Strategy has been used to inform the Plan's proposals. The development sites that have been allocated in this Plan have been assessed against each of the thirteen Themes and scored against a five point scale. Further details are available on the Council's website. The scoring and colour coding provides a quick overview of which sites have the most impact on the District's heritage assets. This sets a starting point for any heritage considerations for the sites.

2.29 The Council expects the Heritage Strategy to be used similarly by those making development proposals, to produce an informed and consistent evaluation of the merits of the development proposals from the historic environment perspective. This is set out in more detail in Annex 1 which provides details of:

- Guidance to help make planning decisions; and
- Promoting a better understanding of heritage assets in the District.

Coastal Change Management Areas

2.30 The Coastal Change Management Area Mapping Study was carried out in September 2010 and identified areas likely to be affected by physical changes to the coast. These areas are referred to as Coastal Change Management Areas (CCMAs).

2.31 The study was based on the work that has already been undertaken for the two Shoreline Management Plans for the district (the South Foreland to Beachy Head SMP and the Isle of Grain to South Foreland SMP). Seven CCMAs were identified along the District's southern coastline from Kingsdown to Capel-le-Ferne.

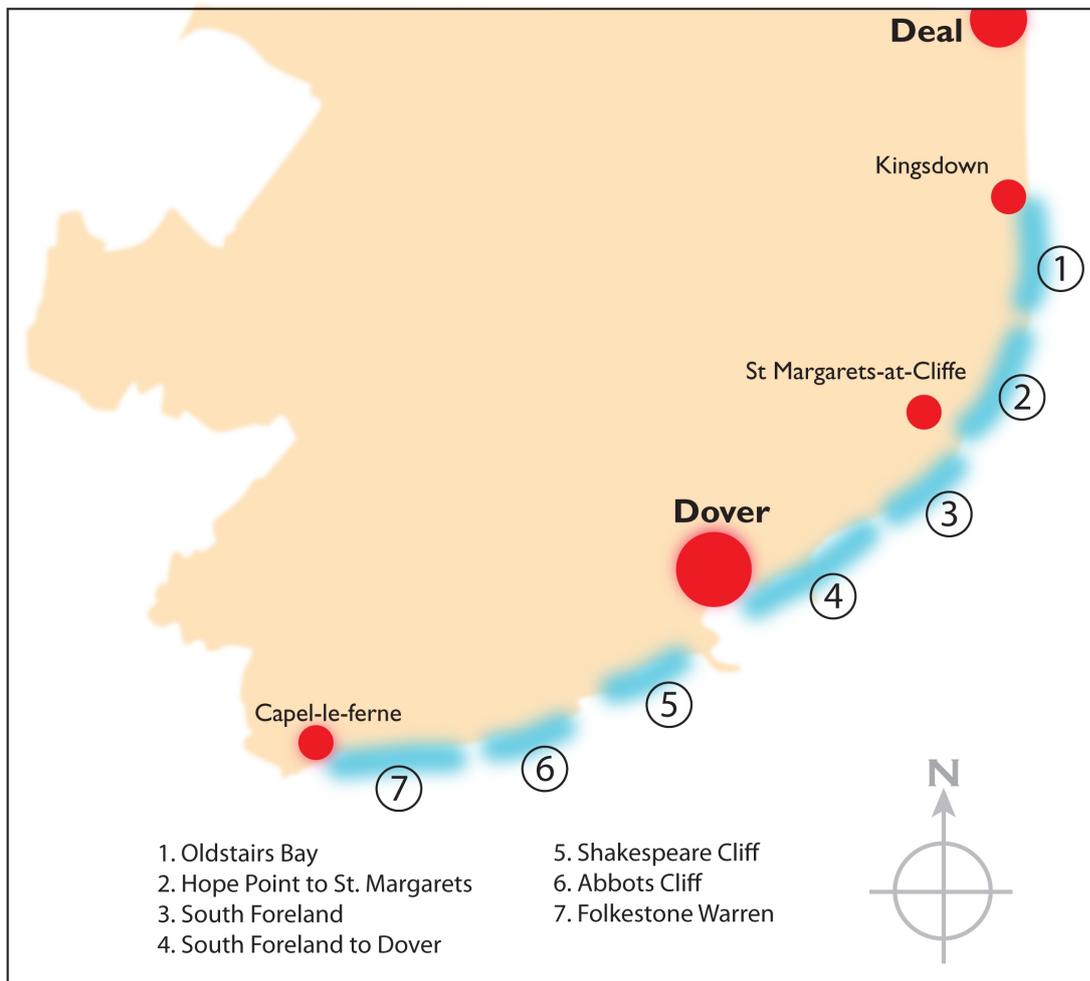


Figure 2.2 Diagram illustrating the broad location of the Coastal Change Management Areas

2.32 The CCMAs are not intended to be used to define areas that are at risk of coastal erosion. The role is to identify areas in which the vulnerability of development proposals can be tested to ensure that only appropriate development that requires a coastal location and provides substantial economic and social benefits is permitted in those areas.

2.33 The development sites that have been allocated in this Plan have been assessed against the CCMAs as part of the Council's site selection process. The seven CCMAs illustrated on Figure 2.2 above and defined on the Dover District Policies Map help guide future development. Guidance for planning applications affecting CCMAs is provided in Annex 1.

Green Infrastructure, Open Space and Play Standards

2.34 Green spaces and natural elements within and between the built environment provide a wealth of benefits, from promoting active recreation to managing flood risk. Dover District is generally well resourced with accessible semi-natural land and open space facilities; however there are gaps in provision and in some cases the quality falls below expected

standards. In addition, demand arising from planned growth will increase pressure on existing resources and facilities. Maintenance and enhancement of this green infrastructure network is a central component in the promotion of sustainable development.

2.35 The definition, function and importance of green infrastructure are set out in the Core Strategy and the District's network of green infrastructure is protected by Policy CP7. In addition, Policy DM25 in the Core Strategy protects open space. Since the adoption of the Core Strategy the Council has developed a Green Infrastructure Strategy and supporting sub-strategies. These have been used to inform the preparation of this Plan and also, through the development of green space standards, will ensure that new development incorporates appropriate provision for green infrastructure.

2.36 It is apparent from an ongoing visitor disturbance study at Pegwell Bay (Thanet District) and Sandwich Bay (Dover District) that recreational impacts are having an adverse impact on the species for which the Special Protection Area (SPA) has been designated. The major concern is that of disturbance to over-wintering birds, particularly their ability to feed and, consequently, adverse effects on their breeding performance. The issue of potential impacts from new housing across Dover District on the SPA was first identified in the Dover District Core Strategy Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA). Since that time Dover District Council has been working with developers to devise a strategic mitigation strategy for the recreational pressure of new housing on the SPA. This will be the principal tool through which impacts on the SPA are controlled and avoided. Further details of this strategy together with guidance for planning applications for smaller sites are contained in Annex 1.

2.37 For developments requiring an Environmental Impact Assessment, project-level HRA will be required in order to confirm any site specific details that may trigger a requirement for additional measures, notwithstanding the requirement to contribute to the Strategic Mitigation Strategy. Where an allocated site within this Plan needs to undertake this further level of investigation a criterion is included within the site specific Policy.

2.38 The NPPF requires positive planning for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure should be sought. Improvements in accessibility to, or quality of existing natural and semi natural open space will usually be appropriate, except where European and Ramsar site mitigation requires the creation of additional accessible open space to deflect recreational pressure. Locally determined standards for provision of accessible (amenity) green space, outdoor sports facilities, children's equipped play space and allotments are set out in Annex 1 together with a related policy - DM27. These standards will allow the Council to calculate the requirements for open space arising from new developments. New facilities may be provided, but where possible additional demand should be satisfied by increasing the capacity of existing facilities. Actions will be guided by priorities identified in the supporting strategies.

2.39 Internationally and nationally important sites for biodiversity and geodiversity are protected from harmful development by law, while policies CP7 and DM25 in the Dover District Core Strategy protect non-statutory sites and the wider green infrastructure network. To aid the application of these policies, statutory nature conservation sites and publicly accessible open spaces are identified on the Local Plan Policies Map. Non-accessible open space with current or potential amenity value is also recognised on the map, the most common type being school playing fields. The designation is sometimes applied to undeveloped land in private ownership if it is the only remaining open space in an urban environment. A further component of Green Infrastructure in the District is statutory open access downland, mapped by the Countryside Agency in 2004.

2.40 Protected open space designations were last updated in 2002, when the Local Plan was adopted. Changes in open space provision have occurred since that time, for example Fowlmead Country Park opened in 2007. The Policies Map has been amended to reflect these changes.

Footpaths, bridleways and cycle provision

2.41 There are a number of policies in the plan that seek to protect and integrate footpaths, bridleways and cycle routes into various sites that have been allocated for development. In accordance with the Kent Design Guide, planning applications will need to undertake a 'Movement Appraisal' in order to demonstrate that these connections are considered as part of the design and layout process.

Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development

2.42 The Council's work on employment, retail, coastal change, historic environment and green infrastructure combine to provide greater definition to the application of the presumption in the favour of sustainable development at the local level. The work has helped to shape proposals in this Plan and also to develop policies and guidance that will be used to judge whether development proposed through individual applications are sustainable and can be approved.

Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

2.43 The Council is required to allocate sites to meet the objectively assessed accommodation needs of gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople in the same way as all other sectors of the community.

2.44 The Council's Adopted Core Strategy includes Policy DM7 on the provision for gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople which should be read in conjunction with the following explanatory text as it provides a basis for dealing with planning applications.

2.45 Since the adoption of the Core Strategy, the Regional Spatial Strategy has been abolished which was intended to identify the needs of gypsies, travellers and travelling showpeople across the region and identify the number of pitches required for each planning authority.

2.46 In accordance with national policy, the four East Kent authorities (Dover, Shepway, Canterbury and Thanet) commissioned a Gypsy, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople Assessment (GTAA) of accommodation needs which was completed in April 2014. This GTAA, which is available on the Council's website, has identified the need for an additional 17 pitches⁽⁶⁾ in Dover District for the period 2013 – 2027.

2.47 The Council will commence work on the Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Land Allocations Local Plan within 6 months of the adoption of the LALP and will aim to ensure that the Plan is completed within 2 years. The Plan will allocate site(s) to meet the identified need for an additional 17 pitches.

2.48 Owing to the transit nature of gypsies and travellers the neighbouring local planning authorities will be fully involved in the preparation of the Plan in order to ensure that the Council fully meets the requirements of the Duty-to-cooperate.

⁶ this figure will need to take into account any planning permissions/appeals that have been granted for Gypsy, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople since the East Kent GTAA was published

Policy LA 1

Provision for Gypsies, Travellers and Travelling Showpeople

The Council will produce a Gypsy, Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Land Allocations Local Plan that will:

- i. allocate site(s) to meet the additional need for an additional 17 pitches:
- ii. be commenced within 6 months of the adoption of the LALP and aim to ensure the Plan is completed within 2 years; and
- iii. fully involve neighbouring local planning authorities

3 Development Sites

Amount and General Location of Development

3.1 The amount and general location of employment and retail development to be accommodated by the Plan have been set out in Chapter 2. With regard to housing development the Core Strategy has identified that land should be allocated for 14,000 new homes with a target to complete a minimum of 10,100 by 2026. This Plan identifies the sites that are allocated to help fulfil the Core Strategy's requirements (see Core Strategy Policy CP3).

	Dover	Deal	Sandwich	Rural Area ⁽¹⁾
Total Housing Requirement Identified in Core Strategy	9,700	1,600	500	1,200
Less sites identified through Strategic Allocations	-6,650			
Less sites identified through Planning Applications (includes completions and unimplemented full consents)	-1,460	-930	-270	-370 ⁽²⁾
Housing requirement needed to fulfil the Strategy	1,590	- 670	230	830
Number of dwellings allocated in the Land Allocations Local Plan	1,010	570 ⁽³⁾	180	705
Unidentified requirement	580 ⁽⁴⁾	100	50	130
Predicted windfall ⁽⁵⁾ allowance over the Plan period (2014-26) ⁽⁶⁾	914	337	10	135

Table 3.1 Housing Land Requirements for the District (as at 1 April 2012)

- In addition, land is allocated at Aylesham for 1,000 dwellings through Saved Local Plan policies
- Planning permission for the Aylesham Development Area (DOV/07/00181) for 191 units has been deducted to prevent double counting with the saved Local Plan allocation
- Policy LA10 land to the north west of Sholden is counted within planning applications as full planning permission has been granted and it is under construction
- Site at Western Heights & Farthingloe, Dover for 560 residential units, has a resolution to grant planning permission (May 2013). This has not been included within the calculations
- Windfall sites are those which have not been specifically identified in the Plan
- The Windfall rate for dwellings over the last five year period (2008-2013) is 703 in Dover town; 259 in Deal; 8 in Sandwich; and 104 for the Rural Area (including Aylesham). If the average yearly rate over this period is then taken for the remaining 13 years (up to 2026) this would equate to 1828 dwellings in Dover, 673 in Deal, 21 in Sandwich and 270 in the Rural Area
The District Council has, however, made the assumption that, as the Land Allocation Local Plan will allocate sites for development the scope for windfalls will be reduced. It is, therefore, considered realistic that only half of the number of windfalls (50%) will come forward during the Plan period.
The Windfall allowance would be sufficient to meet the unidentified requirement in Dover, Deal and the Rural Area. Sandwich is the exception but the District Council now has a resolution to grant a planning application at Discovery Park that could meet the unidentified requirement.

3.2 The above requirements need to be adjusted to take account of the strategic allocations made in the Core Strategy, housing completions since 2006 and the stock of unimplemented permissions. Table 3.1 sets out the residual amount to be allocated in this Plan in each part of the District after taking account of these factors.

3.3 The Core Strategy figure of 1,200 dwellings for the Rural area, is not distributed to particular settlements in the hierarchy, nor divided into rural north or rural south. Policy CP1 of the Core Strategy sets out a Settlement Hierarchy which details the general role of individual settlements. The second half of the hierarchy provides the general basis for the distribution of development across the rural area and is reproduced in Table 3.2.

Settlement Type	Function	Town/Village
Local Centre	Secondary focus for development in the rural area; suitable for a scale of development that would reinforce its role as a provider of services to its home and adjacent communities	Ash Capel-le-Ferne Eastry Shepherdswell Wingham
Village	Tertiary focus for development in the rural area; suitable for a scale of development that would reinforce its role as a provider of services to essentially its home community	Alkham, East Langdon, East Studdal, Elvington, Eythorne, Goodnestone, Kingsdown, Great Mongeham, Lydden, Nonington, Preston, Ringwould, Ripple, St. Margaret's, Staple, West Hougham, Woodnesborough, Worth
Hamlet	All other settlements in the rural area; not suitable for further development unless it functionally requires a rural location	All other settlements

Table 3.2 Extract of Settlement Hierarchy from the Adopted Core Strategy 2010

Site Selection Process

3.4 This Plan has been prepared following two public participation stages. After a 'call for sites' in 2005, public engagement on the Preferred Options took place in 2008. This Plan was then put on hold until the Core Strategy was adopted in 2010. As a significant time had lapsed, the District Council undertook another call for sites in 2010 and a further public engagement exercise for the new sites also in 2010 (this was called the 'Interim Consultation').

3.5 In 2008/9 the District Council produced a Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA). This assessment considered all the sites that had been submitted by landowners and developers to the Council for consideration for development as part of the Local Plan. As part of the initial assessment process the SHLAA screened the sites against a list of criteria based on national policies and size. These included designations

such as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), Heritage Coast, national and European nature conservation sites and areas within Flood Zone 3. All sites less than 0.17Ha were excluded from the SHLAA.

3.6 Building on the assessment for the SHLAA and with input from specialists in conservation and heritage, ecology and highways (KCC), a more in depth analysis of every site has been undertaken. Sustainability Appraisal (SA) has been used to help identify issues, test options and identify the preferred option that forms the basis of this Plan. Further details are contained within the SA Report.

Kent Downs Area of Outstanding National Beauty (AONB)

3.7 The Kent Downs AONB, covers substantial parts of the south of the District. The AONB is an area of high scenic quality with statutory protection in order to conserve and enhance the natural beauty of their landscapes (See NPPF, para 115). Consideration must be given not only to the impact development could have on the AONB, but also the impact on the setting of the AONB. The AONB is particularly a constraint to development in the settlements where the boundary is immediately adjacent to the existing built development. In Capel-le-Ferne, Kingsdown, Lydden, and St.Margaret's there are very limited development opportunities that would not damage the setting of the AONB or the character of the village itself. The villages of Alkham and West Hougham are located entirely within the AONB, and although this does not restrict development entirely, it is a key factor which must be taken into account as part of the assessment of sites. In general, the Plan has sought to avoid making allocations in the AONB, except where they are small-scale where they are well related to the existing settlement and there are no other viable options. Where allocated they need to be sensitively designed, appropriate to the location, and in accordance with the adopted Kent Downs Management Plan and its supporting guidance (e.g the Kent Downs Landscape Design Handbook).

Heritage Coast

3.8 Where the AONB meets the coast it has been designated a Heritage Coast. The national purposes of Heritage Coast designation includes to conserve, protect and enhance the natural beauty of the coasts, their marine flora and fauna, and their heritage features.

Flood Risk

3.9 To the north east of the District, from an area covering the northern part of Deal and Sandwich up to the boundary line with Thanet, there are large areas at risk from tidal flooding (Flood Zone 2 and 3). The Environment Agency are improving the sea defences at both Deal and Sandwich, which will reduce the likelihood of flooding. Flood Zone 3, which equates to those areas at greatest risk of flooding, is divided into Flood Zone 3a and Flood Zone 3b. The Council has applied the sequential test to site approach, as set out in paragraph 100 of the NPPF, to avoid where possible flood risk to people and property. Sites which are located within Flood Zone 3b, the functional floodplain, have been considered unsuitable given the risk to human life of flooding.

3.10 The areas at risk of flooding in Sandwich and Deal are tidal, in contrast to the areas in Dover which are fluvial from the River Dour. The Core Strategy recognised that the River Dour is a central, but underplayed, structural feature of the town. Core Strategy Policy DM18 reflects the need and desire to improve the prominence of the River for any development proposals which affect the setting of the River.

International and National Wildlife Designations

3.11 International and National sites of importance for wildlife include Ramsar and European sites (Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas) as well as Sites of Special Scientific Interest. These primarily occur on ancient woodland, chalk grassland and the coast. The last includes extensive sites on the coastal dunes, mudflats, marshes and fen to the northeast where there is also risk of flooding.

Employment Allocations

3.12 The Employment Update assessed each saved Local Plan employment allocation and examined the need for non-B class uses.

3.13 Taking into account the Sustainability Assessment which formed part of the Employment Update, and the Core Strategy's approach to the distribution of employment land, nine sites are identified as initial priority sites for employment uses, although some of these have the benefit of extant planning permission⁽⁷⁾. Details of the employment allocations are set out in each section of this Plan. A summary is included in the table below:

Site	Location	Use	Amount of floorspace (sq m)	Policy reference
St. James's Area	Dover	Retail	10,500	Saved Local Plan Policy AS9
White Cliffs Business Park	Dover	Focus on B1/B2/B8	53,000 in addition to unimplemented planning consents of 71,800	Dover - Policy LA2
Albert Road	Deal	B1/B2	4,550	Saved Local Plan Policy LE5
Aylesham Development Area (employment allocation)	Aylesham	B1/B2	8,000	Saved Local Plan Policy AY4
Betteshanger Colliery Pithead	Deal	B1/B2/B8	22,000	Saved Local Plan Policy AS1
Eastry Hospital	Eastry	B1 and employment generating uses	2,000	Rural - Policy LA29

7 Table 3.3 excludes Old Park Barracks and Ramsgate Road both of which have an extant planning permission, and Discovery Park Enterprise Zone (See paragraph 3.14)

Site	Location	Use	Amount of floorspace (sq m)	Policy reference
Tilmanstone Spoil Tip (North)	Deal	B2	1,350	Saved Local Plan Policy LE10

Table 3.3 Distribution and type of employment allocations across the District.

Discovery Park Enterprise Zone

3.14 Discovery Park Enterprise Zone, formerly Pfizer's Research and Development facility, at Sandwich has an established employment function. It is the largest employment site in the District and comprises around 280,000 m² of high quality research and development buildings, offices and ancillary facilities set within a landscaped campus. Having achieved Enterprise Zone status in 2011, the site offers business rate discounts, has the potential for improved superfast broadband and future capital allowances to investors and occupiers on site. The planning mechanism for implementing an Enterprise Zone at Discovery Park is a Local Development Order (LDO). A LDO is intended to encourage new start-up businesses and other investors with simplified planning rules.

3.15 The LDO removes the need to make planning applications for some types of development on the site. It provides a clear framework for business development making it easier to achieve economic growth.

3.16 Discovery Park Enterprise Zone is being marketed towards life sciences, Research and Development (R&D) and business start ups. The Employment Update (2012) has recommended that the White Cliffs Business Park (WCBP) continues to be restricted to B1/B2/B8 uses and other employment generating uses. Discovery Park should remain the focus for high tech research companies making the best use of the existing high quality buildings and facilities and marketed towards businesses that are not going to locate in the WCBP. The Council's employment strategy is, therefore, based on the premise of retaining the sites in Table 3.3 that have been identified as initial priority for employment uses as they each create and offer different employment opportunities.

Types of Site Allocation

3.17 For each settlement where allocations are made a description of the settlement is given, followed by site allocations. These are colour coded according to the type of allocation on the diagrammatic figures at the beginning of each section:

Blue	A policy that allocates a site for development or a change in settlement confines which includes site specific criteria to be addressed by planning applications in addition to general Development Plan policies and all other material considerations
Orange	Allocation of a site for development without specific criteria where the acceptability of any planning application proposals will be judged against general Development Plan policies and all other material considerations. General design guidelines are, though, provided together with a note of issues that need to be addressed in the preparation of planning applications.

Green	Allocation of a site by a 'saved' Local Plan policy from the Dover District Local Plan (2002)
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Table 3.4

Each policy that allocates a site for residential development includes an estimate of capacity. The estimate of capacity is needed to calculate whether the Plan's proposals meet the Core Strategy's overall requirements for housing land allocations. The estimate is derived by applying a gross density of 30 dwellings per hectare, unless otherwise stated. This reflects the minimum set by Core Strategy policy CP4 and is designed to provide a generally conservative estimate of overall capacity of the Plan's housing allocations. When specific schemes are developed for planning permission the Council, in accordance with policy CP4, would be seeking for the design process to demonstrate that the resultant density makes the most efficient use of land consistent with the principles of good design. This may result in increased capacity.

3.18 Whilst policies seek to identify principal issues, it is strongly recommended that early engagement is made with the Local Planning Authority. The Council offers pre-application advice; further details are available at:

http://www.dover.gov.uk/planning/fees_and_charges/charging_for_pre-application_a.aspx

3.19 There are a number of planning applications with the benefit of full planning permission or which have a resolution to grant. This Plan provides guidance in case these permissions lapse without development occurring.

3.1 Dover

3.20 The Dover area consists of urban wards and the built up parts of the parishes of River, Temple Ewell and Whitfield, which form a continuous built up area. This urban area has 18,972 dwellings⁽⁸⁾ and a population of 42,397⁽⁹⁾. Dover town centre contains the principal convenience and comparison shopping offer with some residential and office space. A medieval street pattern is mostly visible in the town centre until Townwall Street which divides the town centre from the seafront. The architecture of the town centre is predominantly Victorian and Edwardian. Although there has been post war infill and some more recent development such as Dover Discovery Centre and the new Dover Sea Sports Centre. The docks have their own industrial maritime character with large areas of hard standing enclosing significant water bodies.

Dover Character Areas

3.21 In order to establish design objectives for the town of Dover and to provide additional guidance on interpreting and implementing Core Strategy Policy CP4 (Housing Quality, Mix, Density and Design), twenty two character areas have been identified (see Table 3.6). These have been developed using the following criteria:

- Degree of expected change identified in the Core Strategy;

8 2011 Census - Table QS418EW

9 2011 Census - Table QS103EW

- Major land uses and function of the town;
- Historic development and architectural period;
- Landmarks (historic or otherwise);
- Significant areas of open green space and landscape character; and
- Strategic movement and connectivity routes.

3.22 The urban character areas identify the function of each area. They should be used be used as the starting point for any development proposals. Developers, through the accompanying design statement, will need to set out how the character area has been used to influence the design of the proposed development. Many of the character areas have similar objectives but it is possible to identify five broad categories in which the areas fall. The categories are:

Red	<p>Urban Areas where new development has a key role in creating or restoring the character of Dover in the future and, in some areas, subject to specific design guidance;</p> <p>In some parts of Dover where there are designated heritage assets (such as conservation areas), the focus of new development is to restore and reinforce the existing character;</p> <p>In other cases there is the opportunity to create new forms and styles of architecture that would rejuvenate and regenerate the urban area.</p>
Yellow	Urban areas where only limited change is envisaged. In these areas, proposals should be particularly informed by their context.
Hatch	The River Dour runs through several character areas but should be considered in its own right. Whenever possible, opportunities should be taken to improve, public access and the setting of the river.
Light Green	Western Heights Scheduled Monument and Conservation Area, where co-ordinated action is needed to fully realise visitor potential whilst ensuring that its heritage and wildlife value is protected and better appreciated.
Green	Landscape Areas surrounding the town providing the setting for Dover .

Table 3.5

3.23 Each area has a relationship with neighbouring character areas. Where development abuts another character area the proposed development should demonstrate how it addresses the overall objectives of each.

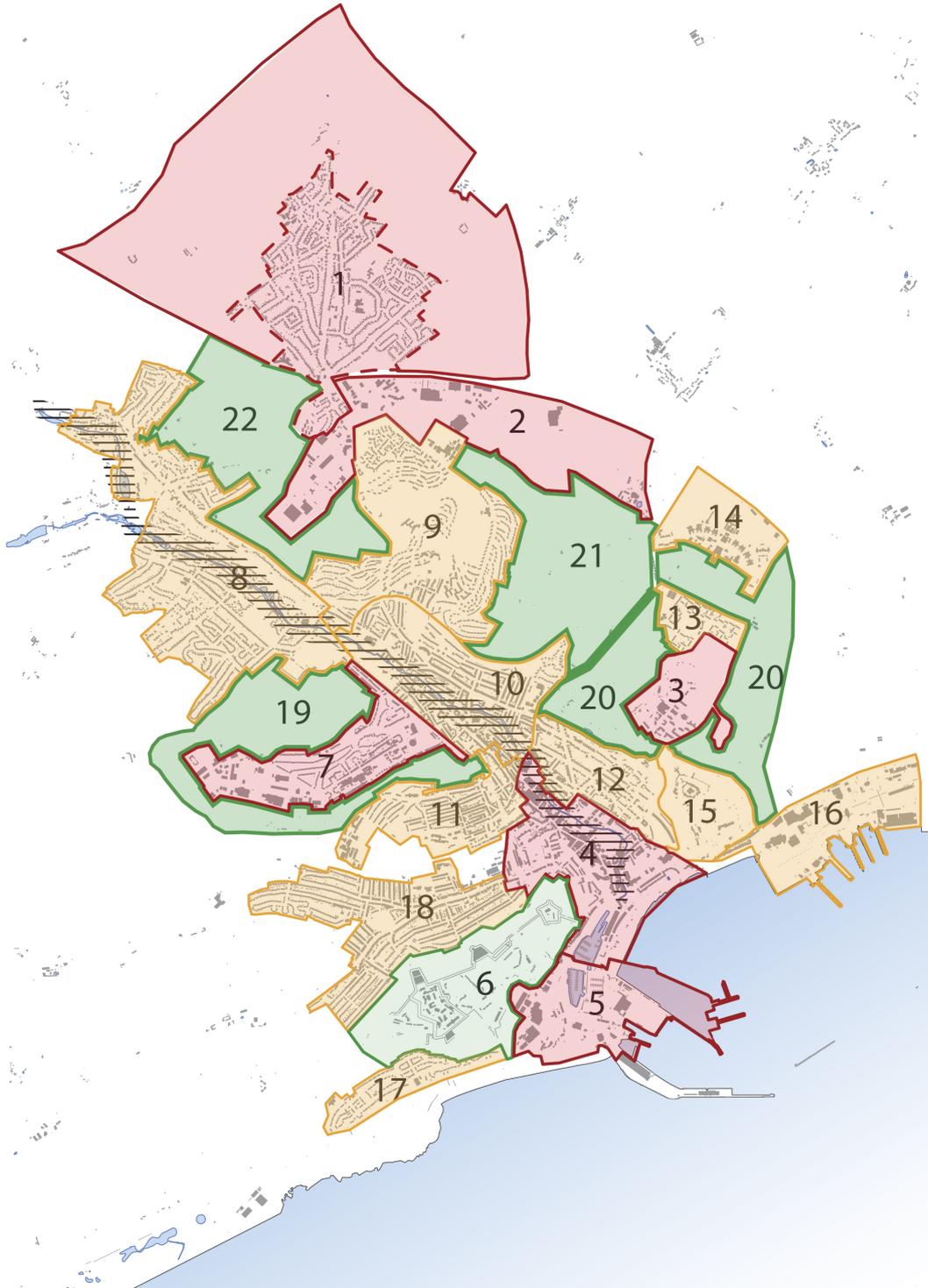


Figure 3.1 Dover Character Areas

Urban Areas	12 Connaught Park
1 Whitfield	13 Burgoyne Heights
2 White Cliffs Business Park	14 Duke of Yorks School
3 Connaught Barracks	15 Dover Castle
4 Town Centre and Waterfront	16 Eastern Docks
5 Western Docks	17 Aycliff
6 Western Heights	18 Folkestone Road
7 Coombe Valley	Landscape Areas
8 River/Crabble	19 Coombe Valley
9 Buckland Valley	20 Edinburgh Hill
10 Buckland	21 Long Hill & Guston Farmland
11 Tower Hamlets	22 Old Park & Temple Ewell

Table 3.6 Character Areas

Urban Grain and Structure

3.24 Dover is located in an exceptional and defining setting and has an extremely clear urban structure and grain. It has a dominant north-south spine following the River Dour and east-west valleys branching off the spine. A significant proportion of the countryside which surrounds existing development, particularly to the west, is protected as AONB. Key heritage assets are in the town centre and on the flanking cliff tops. The Western Height fortifications and Dover Castle are the main landmarks, they play an important role in legibility and wayfinding and are key to Dover's urban identity. See Core Strategy Figure 3.3 Dover Spatial Issues.

Core Strategy

3.25 The Core Strategy identified that there needs to be a significant amount of change to Dover town centre. This is focused on the need to reinforce and restore the function and character of the town centre alongside the planned housing development at Whitfield and Connaught Barracks.

3.26 Whilst Dover has been identified in the Core Strategy as the main focus for action, it is also where there is most potential for transformation. The Core Strategy set a number of key objectives for the regeneration of the town:

- attract working age families to support growth in the economy;
- increase the attractiveness, making Dover a place to live, work, visit, shop and spend leisure time;
- improve the housing market perception and housing offer;
- improve the ease of, and reduce the need to, travel; and
- protect and enhance the historic environment whilst supporting regeneration.

3.27 In order to increase the attractiveness and address the under-performance of the town, there are a number of proposals identified in the Core Strategy that would directly assist with the regeneration of Dover:

- Redevelopment of the St James's area just north of Townwall Street for new retail development and a hotel that will enhance the retail offer and appeal in the town centre. Since the Core Strategy was adopted 10,600 square metres of A1 has been granted planning permission at the St. James's area along with a new hotel on the corner on Woolcomber Street and Townwall Street.
- The Mid Town area, which is a strategic allocation in the Core Strategy (Policy CP9), has been identified as being suitable for a mixed use development that will assist with improving the educational provision in Dover.
- Dover Waterfront, which is a strategic allocation in the Core Strategy (Policy CP8), has been identified as being suitable for a mixed use waterfront scheme including retail, restaurants, cafés and drinking establishments, assembly and leisure, residential (at least 300 homes), office and hotel uses. The intention is that it becomes a major attraction and modern day symbol for Dover .
- Terminal 2 - a new ferry terminal and marina at the former Western Docks to cater for the forecast increase in traffic and maintain the Port of Dover's leading role. A Harbour Revision Order (HRO) has been granted for Terminal 2.

3.28 The allocations that have been identified in this Plan will complement the above proposals and address the objectives that have been set out in the Core Strategy for Dover.

Town Centre Boundaries

3.29 The redevelopment of the St. James's Area will become an important anchor to the southern end of the town centre and help deliver significant improvements. This will be further enhanced by the development of the Dover Waterfront area.

3.30 The town centre boundary has been amended to include the majority of the allocation (excluding the marina in Wellington Dock and the area of land covered by the HRO). The boundary has also been amended to include units fronting Snargate Street, an opportunity area for town centre uses which would complement the uses at Dover Waterfront.

Provision of infrastructure

3.31 The Core Strategy recognised that any physical planned changes to the town must be accompanied by the necessary infrastructure. The introduction of the High Speed 1 (HS1) service to London from Dover Priory Railway Station has dramatically reduced journey times to London to just 67 minutes. The commencement of this train service has provided a step-change in the accessibility of Dover to London; for additional information on this area of change please see paragraph 3.120.

3.32 The need for a fast and reliable express public transport system to increase accessibility and reduce the number of trips made by private car was a key component of the Dover Transport Strategy and the Core Strategy. This is being delivered by proposals for a Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) which will provide a public transport connection from the planned urban extension at Whitfield, White Cliffs Business Park (WCBP) via Connaught Barracks/ Dover Castle to the town centre and Dover Priory railway station. The potential route alignment between the roundabout on the WCBP to Connaught Barracks has been developed with the assistance of Kent County Council (KCC).

3.33 The need to enhance opportunities for walking and cycling as viable and effective means of transport between key parts of Dover has been taken forward by KCC's River Dour Greenway project, which provides an important 'backbone' that will improve links across Dover town. Furthermore, the River Dour Greenway links in to local and national cycle networks (NCN) such as NCN Route 1 and NCN Route 2.

3.34 In order to strengthen the proposals for green infrastructure network in the AONB, especially in the chalk grassland around Dover, European funding has been secured, through the Heritage Lottery Fund, to develop a Landscape Conservation Action Plan. The focus of the Action Plan is to understand the landscape characteristics and heritage assets and create a positive action plan that can be taken forward to improve the landscape.

Purpose of housing provision

3.35 The Core Strategy identified that the 'dominant housing provision purpose' in Dover is to 'Create' and 'Restore' with the aim to:

- re-balance the stock away from traditional small scale terrace housing;
- improve quality of appearance and standards of sustainable construction;
- provide family housing but also cater for an ageing population;
- improve environment and housing standards of areas with low quality issues; and
- improve overall market appeal and image.

3.36 The design of the housing will have a leading role in shaping the new market that is to be created in a way that addresses the existing housing deficiencies identified in the Core Strategy. Proposals must raise quality to enhance the market perception and appeal of Dover.

3.37 Where the focus is to 'restore' and 're-balance' the housing stock, the main purpose of allocating sites is to improve the general quality and appearance of Dover. Elsewhere all other site allocations should ensure that the design aims to restore existing character and urban form.

Areas of change

3.38 In Dover there are parts of the town that are either in need of renewal, or that do not fulfil their potential but where proposals are not sufficiently advanced in order to justify a specific allocation in this Plan. These areas are identified as 'Areas of Change' - further detail are provided in Section 3.1.1.

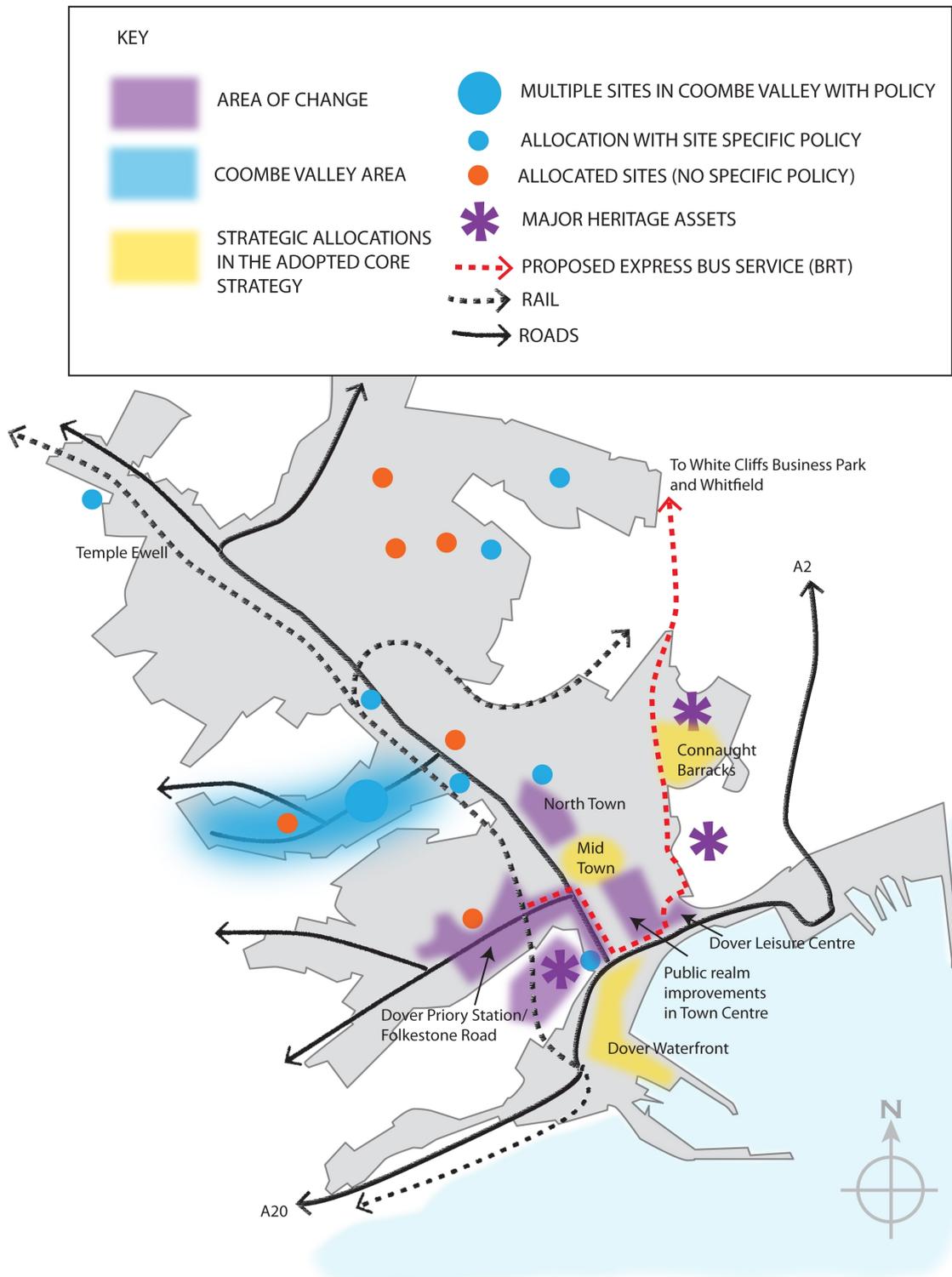


Figure 3.2 Diagram illustrating the Areas of Change and development sites in Dover

Employment

3.39 This section sets out the employment land allocation at Dover for White Cliffs Business Park (WCBP). WCBP and Discovery Park are the District's premier locations for future employment generation as they are both well served by main roads.

White Cliffs Business Park

Site Location and Characteristics

3.40 WCBP is located to the north of Dover Town, immediately to the south of the A2 and the managed neighbourhood expansion area. It is adjacent to the A2 and accessed from the dumbbell roundabout (A2/A256 interchange) and the Whitfield roundabout. A spine road, which runs through the WCBP, connects these two access points.

3.41 Phase I of the WCBP is now largely complete. An undeveloped strip at the entrance to Phase I has been reserved for the dualling of Honeywood Parkway. This strip has been landscaped, and designated as open space to reflect its amenity value. If proposals for dualling are forthcoming then this would take precedence over the open space designation.

3.42 Phase II has outline planning permission; this is connected to Phase I via the spine road. Phase III does not have the benefit of planning permission and comprises agricultural land.

Site Context

3.43 Phase II of the WCBP is open to long views from the north and west and is readily seen from the A2. Owing to the topography of Dover, development may be visible from a considerable distance. Phase III of the WCBP is also open to views, especially from the west. Phase III lies to the west of residential properties on Dover Road in Guston. Byway ER55A bisects the site and byway ER60 runs along the eastern boundary.

Proposed Development

3.44 Phase II and Phase III are suitable for Use Classes B1, B2 and B8. Based on the Employment Update other employment generating uses will be permitted subject to assessment in terms of their contribution to sustainable development. This is restricted to other employment generating uses that are not specified in the Use Class Order.

3.45 The existing spine road that links Phase I to Phase II is considered to be in principle, capable of accommodating the BRT (see paragraph 3.32). Any development that takes place in the WCBP will need to maximise the use of public transport through enabling and contributing to the BRT system proposed in the Core Strategy. Planning applications in Phase III will need to incorporate proposals to connect the BRT system to Dover Road. Traffic management measures will need to be put into place at the end of the WCBP to restrict access onto Dover Road to only BRT and emergency access. In order to encourage public transport patronage from employees it is important that proposed development is designed to ensure that pedestrian routes to each BRT stop are clearly defined, safe, well-lit and subject to natural surveillance. This key objective should form part of any design proposal in any subsequent proposals for the WCBP. A key component of ensuring new development promotes legibility, natural surveillance, and way finding is through the orientation of buildings which should front the main spine road.

3.46 The North Downs Way which is located within Phase II and separates it from Phase III, will need to be retained and enhanced except where the access road from Phase II to Phase III needs to cross the North Downs Way. Along the remainder of the North Downs Way the existing hedgerow must be retained and strengthened by structural planting. Any development must be set back from the new planting to preserve its setting and integrity. Development proposals should explore the option of creating a new 'green bridge' pedestrian connection across the A2 to improve the setting and directness of the North Downs Way.

3.47 A shelter belt consisting of dense native planting will be required along the southern boundary. Phase III of the site adjoins housing on Dover Road. The amenities of residents in this area will be protected by establishing a landscape buffer at least 25 metres wide consisting of earth bunding and dense native planting, and allowing only B1 development at low density in this location. The remaining land, without the benefit of planning permission, has the potential for some 53,000 square metres of floorspace.

Policy LA 2

White Cliffs Business Park

The site is allocated for employment development. Planning permission for Phases II and III will be permitted provided:

- i. development is for Use Classes B1/B2/B8, and employment generating uses that are not specified in the Use Classes Order;
- ii. proposals maximise the potential use of public transport and ensures development fronts the main spine road and includes clear and safe pedestrian routes for public transport stops;
- iii. the integrity and setting of the North Downs Way is preserved and enhanced by retaining the existing hedgerow, strengthening by additional planting of three metres either side of the North Downs Way, and setting back development 10 metres from the new planting, or a new 'green bridge' pedestrian connection is delivered across the A2 to improve the setting and directness of the North Downs Way;
- iv. Byway ER55A is retained and enhanced;
- v. structural landscaping is carried out at the sites' main boundaries.

Additionally, in the case of Phase II:

- vi. a treeshelter belt at least 20 metres wide along the southern boundary is provided;
- vii. no building is constructed within 15 metres of the shelter belt;
- viii. no building constructed within 50 metres of the shelter belt exceeds 10 metres in height; and
- ix. vehicular access and servicing extends up to the boundary with Phase III.

Additionally, in the case of Phase III:

- x. proposals incorporate measures to provide a direct and convenient BRT route to Dover Road;
- xi. traffic management measures are introduced that restrict access to Dover Road to BRT/emergency access;
- xii. a landscaped buffer zone at least 25 metres wide in the vicinity of Dover Road is provided; and
- xiii. development adjacent to the buffer zone is Use Class B1 only and does not exceed 10 metres in height.

Residential

3.48 The Core Strategy has identified an ambitious 9,700 dwellings to regenerate Dover town. Taking into account the planning permissions and completions Table 3.1 has identified that land is needed in Dover to accommodate 1,590 dwellings. The Plan has allocated twelve sites for approximately 1,010 dwellings.

3.49 Historically, over the period from 2006 to 2011, Dover town has had a total of around 500 dwellings which were completed that fall within the category of 'windfall'⁽¹⁰⁾. Through the Local Plan process it has been possible to identify approximately 94% of this requirement; these allocations are detailed within the Dover section of this Plan. The remaining requirement of 6% (580 dwellings) will not be allocated and is expected to be met through windfall sites. These sites will not be considered within the first five years of the Plan.

3.50 The next section of the Plan contains policies for residential development sites where there are specific issues. Subsequently, Policy LA10 allocates sites for residential development or changes to the settlement confines; this contains issues identified as part of the site analysis that require careful consideration.

Charlton Sorting Office, Charlton Green

Site Location and Characteristics

3.51 The 0.69 ha site occupies a prominent location at the signalised junction of Frith Road and Charlton Green on a busy one way system. The site is also on the secondary junction of Frith Road and Salisbury Road, which is to the north. The access to the site is from Charlton Green at the southern most corner of the site.

3.52 There is an existing two storey building on the site, a former Royal Mail sorting office, which fronts Frith Road and Charlton Green. There is hard standing to the rear of the building. The building is being used as a training centre, offices and gym.

3.53 The site is flat but sits within a topography that gently rises to the north. Vegetation on the site is limited to grass and ornamental trees along the frontage of Frith Road and Charlton Green. Southern Water has advised that a sewer crosses this site.

¹⁰ The term 'windfall' is used to refer to those sites which become available for development unexpectedly and are therefore not allocated for development within the Development Plan

Site Context

3.54 Charlton Green separates the site from an edge of centre retail development, which is located to the south west. There is on-street parking adjacent to the site on Charlton Green. The remaining area around the site is predominantly high density residential properties of two, three or four storeys. The properties to the rear, fronting Salisbury Road, are elevated and overlook the site. The properties located to the west, fronting Frith Road, are located within the Charlton Green Conservation Area. This Conservation Area is centred on St. Peter and St. Paul's Church, which is listed.

3.55 The River Dour is located to the south west on the opposite side of Charlton Green, flowing in a culvert between the road, land set aside for car parking and the Charlton Green retail development. The presence of the River means that Charlton Green has been identified as within an area at risk of flooding (Flood Zone 3). The area that is at risk of flooding abuts the site but does not include it.

3.56 The site lies within the Connaught Park and the River Dour Character Areas. The site also abuts Town Centre and Waterfront Character Area (see Figure 3.1).

Proposed Development

3.57 The site lies on the edge of a predominately residential area and is within walking distance to Dover town centre. Whilst this site could provide an opportunity for an edge of centre retail development or an employment use, the Dover District Retail and Employment Updates (2012) clearly indicate that the Core Strategy's requirements are more than adequately accommodated through existing provision or existing allocations. Suitable and available sites for residential development in the town are, however, limited. The site is, therefore, considered to be a suitable location for residential development as it can assist with improving the overall market appeal and the image of this part of Dover.

3.58 Integral to the development will be the need to create a design that reflects and takes into account the site's prominent position on the one way system which is at the interface of several character areas. The position of the site would lend itself to a frontage development and there is the opportunity to create a design that reinforces local distinctiveness and enhances the character areas. The design must be of sufficient quality and appearance to enhance this part of Dover through the creation of a landmark building. The selection of appropriate architectural style will be of great importance, given the adjacent Conservation Area.

3.59 The remaining part of the developable area, along the frontage of Frith Road and Charlton Green, should be at a scale that would takes into account the surrounding residential urban form. Development to the rear of the site is considered to be unsuitable due to issues of overlooking from existing properties on Salisbury Road but could be used for parking or amenity space.

3.60 Early discussions should take place with Southern Water regarding the sewer that crosses the site, which would need to be taken into account as part of any planning application.

3.61 The housing mix should be informed by the Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA) but the particular characteristics of the site lend it to a mixture of town houses and flats. Vehicular access onto the site should be from the existing access from Charlton Green. This is due to the site's relationship with the signalled junction and on street parking. Proposals will also be expected to be informed by a detailed Flood Risk Assessment.

Policy LA 3

Charlton Sorting Office, Charlton Green

The site is allocated for residential development with an estimated capacity of 65 dwellings. Planning permission will be permitted provided that:

- i. the design incorporates a landmark building having particular regard to the site's prominent location and its relationship with the Charlton Green Conservation Area, Charlton Green, and Frith Road;
- ii. the overall development should be at a scale complementary to neighbouring residential properties;
- iii. the development should provide a connection to the sewerage system at the nearest point of adequate capacity and ensure future access to the existing sewerage infrastructure for maintenance and upsizing proposals; and
- iv. vehicular access to the site is from Charlton Green.

Albany Place Car Park

Site Location and Characteristics

3.62 The 0.40ha site is located to the west of York Street, and is situated on rising ground lying immediately below Western Heights. It is located close to the town centre and has spectacular views of Dover Castle and the Port. The Western Heights Conservation Area covers the north and west portions of the site. The site falls within the Town Centre and Waterfront Character Area and abuts the Western Heights Character Area (see Figure 3.1).

3.63 The site is currently in operation as a public car park, which is split into three separate sections providing approximately 90 parking spaces overall. This car park serves the town centre and Western Heights. Albany Place connects to Adrian Street and divides the site. The largest section, to the east of the road, is located on a slope, which rises to the western boundary. All three sections are floodlit.

Site Context

3.64 The site lies at the bottom of the main pedestrian access (via steps) to the Drop Redoubt part of the Western Heights fortifications. Albany House, which borders the site to the north, is a three storey sheltered housing block. Beneath this building lies part of the Roman fort of the *Classis Britannica* which is a Scheduled Monument. The site is likely to contain nationally important archaeological remains connected with this fort, including associated settlement and burials. Dover Castle lies to the north east, in an elevated position

making it highly visible from this location, and similarly the site is visible from Dover Castle. The Western Heights is a Scheduled Monument; proposals should take particular care to avoid harm to the setting. Consequently, the area is very sensitive for archaeology.

3.65 Residential properties, including almshouses, are located to the south, east and north. The upper windows of adjacent terraced housing to the south overlook the largest section of the site at head height. The almshouses are located to the north, a flint wall provides demarcation with the site and these properties lie within the Conservation Area. A stone wall encloses the western boundary, and beyond lies Cowgate Cemetery. There is a raised footway which is located between the stone wall and the cemetery and overlooks the western portion of the car park.

3.66 While, the Dover Parking Strategy (2007) has identified that Albany Place Car Park could be closed without resultant capacity problems within the town centre car parking stock, there is a need to accommodate the temporarily displaced users from Russell Street Car Park during the construction of the St. James's scheme. Evidence to show that replacement car parking has become available in the town should be included as part of any proposals.

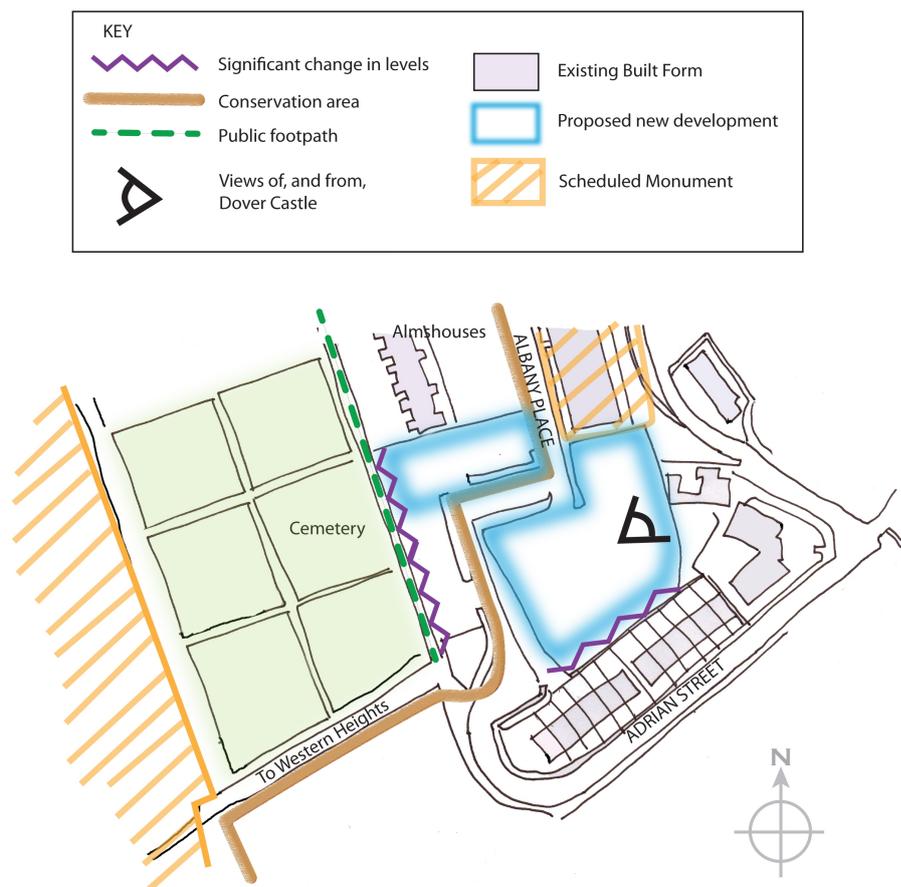


Figure 3.3 Opportunities and Constraints

Proposed Development

3.67 This site offers a unique opportunity for redevelopment that maximises the views of Dover Castle and the Port. Archaeological desk-based assessment and field evaluation works may be required to inform any future development proposal. Given the sensitive nature of the site and its setting, Figure 3.3 sets out the constraints and opportunities presented by the site. The diagram divides the site into two areas, which are split by Albany Place. Any redevelopment proposals would need to retain the connection between Albany Place and Adrian Street.

3.68 The smaller area, to the west of the road, is the more sensitive area, particularly given that the northern part is within the conservation area. The opportunity exists to continue the built form of the almshouses.

3.69 The larger area, to the east of the road, is constrained by changes in topography, long distance views, and the Scheduled Monument to the north. Development should front Albany Place following the curvature of the road, and offers an opportunity to create background buildings although development should reflect the site's setting amidst the Heritage Assets. Existing residential development to the south is lower lying, and new development would need to be designed to reduce overlooking to these properties on Adrian Street. In addition, the development should be designed to minimise the impact on long distance views from Dover Castle.

3.70 The location close to the town centre provides an opportunity for a reduced amount of car parking on site to reflect Core Strategy Policy DM13. There is an opportunity for a higher density scheme reflective of the location, and based on 40dph the number of dwellings would be approximately 15. The site would be suitable for a range of dwelling sizes, including both family housing and larger flatted development; the main purpose to create and restore the character of Dover through improving the townscape.

Policy LA 4

Albany Place Car Park

The site is allocated for residential development with an estimated capacity of 15 dwellings. Planning permission for residential development will be permitted provided that:

- i. an overall assessment (and resultant implications) of car parking provision in the town centre is submitted and considered satisfactory; and
- ii. it does not result in substantial harm to archaeological remains of the highest significance.

Land at Manor View Nursery, Lower Road, Temple Ewell

Site Location and Characteristics

3.71 The 1.13 ha site is located on the western edge of Dover on land that gently rises to the west. The site is currently occupied by a plant nursery which comprises of a residential property (fronting Lower Road), the main nursery building, a number of glasshouses and

cultivated land. The access to the site is adjacent to the residential property located on Lower Road. Other features on the site include a row of dense scrub and trees along the western boundary and hedgerows along the southern and eastern boundaries. Southern Water has advised that a sewer crosses this site.

Site Context

3.72 The Dover/Canterbury railway line runs just to the north of the site. This is elevated and is separated from the site by a steep bank with dense trees and scrub. Further north, beyond the railway line there is Temple Ewell Primary School and residential properties. The remaining uses adjacent to the site consist of residential properties along Lower Road and open agricultural fields to the south and west. The fields to the west are within the Kent Downs AONB.

3.73 Although the site rises it is reasonably well contained behind existing properties along Lower Road and is only visible from the sites access point. The site falls within the River/Crabble Character Area (see Figure 3.1).

Proposed Development

3.74 Development of this site would lend itself to an informal layout that takes into account the setting of the AONB and the gently rising topography. To ensure that the visual impact on the setting of the AONB is reduced a 'soft' edge to the development needs to be created. The existing line of trees and scrub along the western boundary will need to be retained, enhanced, and form part of a 20 metre wide landscape buffer. The density of development along the western and southern boundaries would also need to be reduced and care taken in relation to the height of the proposed development.

3.75 The existing vehicular access to the site would require improvements to the sight lines. These improvements may require land from the residential property, which is within the same ownership as the nursery. Proposals should also take into account the noise generated from the railway line and this may result in the need for acoustic screening along the northern boundary.

3.76 Early discussions should take place with Southern Water regarding the sewer that crosses the site, which would need to be taken into account as part of any planning application.

3.77 Overall the site offers the potential to improve the range of housing that is on offer in Dover. The location on the edge of the countryside, adjacent to the AONB, means that the proposed development should be of low density, high value, larger family homes.

Policy LA 5

Land at Manor View Nursery, Lower Road, Temple Ewell

The site is allocated for residential development with an estimated capacity of 25 dwellings. Planning permission will be permitted provided that:

- i. a landscape buffer, of approximately 20 metres, is provided with the western boundary to reduce impact on the AONB;
- ii. care is taken with the height of the proposed development to ensure the impact on the AONB and countryside are reduced;
- iii. the development should provide a connection to the sewerage system at the nearest point of adequate capacity and ensure future access to the existing sewerage infrastructure for maintenance and upsizing purposes; and
- iv. a vehicular access is located off Lower Road.

Land adjacent to the Former Melbourne County Primary School

Site Location and Characteristics

3.78 The 0.35 ha site is triangular in shape and is located to the immediate north of Kent County Council (KCC) offices, which occupy the former primary school buildings on the west side of Melbourne Avenue. There is no direct vehicular access to the site; however, subject to the necessary consents, access would be achievable through utilising the existing access to KCC offices. The entire site has extensive tree cover. The site falls within the Buckland Valley Character Area (see Figure 3.1).

Site Context

3.79 The site is within walking distance of the Dover Christ Church Academy and the White Cliffs Business Park. Existing residential properties lie to the east and front Melbourne Avenue; further undeveloped land is located to the west, again with significant tree coverage. The site abuts the Whitfield Down and Buckland Down Local Wildlife Site (LWS), designated for chalk grassland. The location of the site means that it acts as a wildlife area that supplements the nearby LWS.

Proposed Development

3.80 The site's location, which is within walking distance of Dover Christ Church Academy and White Cliffs Business Park and adjacent to the existing built up area, creates the opportunity to provide residential development in a sustainable location.

3.81 The site is considered suitable for residential development subject to ensuring that a sufficient mechanism is put in place to secure the improved management of the LWS. One method could be through securing a financial contribution, to be determined and agreed in discussion with the Council.

Policy LA 6

Land adjacent to the Former Melbourne County Primary School

The site is allocated for residential development with an estimated capacity of 10 dwellings. Planning permission for residential development will be permitted provided that the impact on the adjacent LWS can be appropriately mitigated.

Former TA Centre, London Road

Site Location and Characteristics

3.82 The 0.33 ha site is located in central Dover between two parallel roads, London Road (the A256) / Erith Place and George Street (effectively a narrow service road). There are three buildings on site; one large 'L' shaped building fronting London Road, which is of a modern appearance and two smaller outbuildings located to the side and within the site. The central part of the site comprises hard standing. Mature trees are located in the southern corner and along the south western and south eastern boundaries. There is a historic flint wall to the rear of the site (forming the south western boundary) along George Street. The site is currently in use as the Army Careers Information Office. It falls within the Buckland Character Area (see Figure 3.1).

Site Context

3.83 The site lies within a residential area and within walking distance of the town centre. The terraced properties to the north west and south east are listed. The London Road Conservation Area bounds the site to the east. George Street sits considerably higher than the site and the properties beyond the site to the south west overlook the site. The mature trees are an important part of the street scene and provide a valuable screening to a number of existing residential properties that directly overlook the site.

Proposed development

3.84 Within the plan period; the opportunity exists for the site to become available for housing redevelopment. Although this will result in the loss of employment land, there are other opportunities in the locality. The location of this site in close proximity to the Dover town centre offers the opportunity to create and restore the housing offer in the area (See Figure 3.2).

3.85 The approach towards the design of this site should take architectural influences from the surrounding built form, particularly from the Conservation Area. Development should front London Road, creating foreground building(s). Although there is a possible access from George Street the historic wall restricts the sight lines; therefore, vehicular access onto the site should be from London Road (a one-way section of Erith Place). The historic wall must be retained and incorporated into the proposed development.

3.86 There is also the need to retain a sufficient number of trees to avoid harming both the London Road street scene and the outlook from properties on George Street. Development proposals will need to be accompanied by a Tree Survey that has been agreed with the Council that assesses the importance and identifies which trees on the site need to be retained.

Policy LA 7

Former TA Centre, London Road

The site is allocated for residential development with an estimated capacity of 10 dwellings. Planning permission for residential development will be permitted provided that:

- i. any development fronts London Road; and
- ii. a tree survey is undertaken and agreed with the Council that assesses the importance and identifies which trees on the site need to be retained.

Land in Coombe Valley

Site Location and Characteristics

3.87 Coombe Valley is located to the north west of Dover town, within a valley floor which extends in a westerly direction. The area is characterised by a mixture of residential development and industrial uses set against the backdrop of the Kent Downs AONB.

3.88 The main access to the Coombe Valley area is restricted by a signal controlled single carriageway which runs beneath the railway line. A gas holder, which is in use, is located at the entrance to the valley along with a number of commercial businesses, vacant buildings and land, and a haulage business. The overall appearance of the entrance of Coombe Valley is an area that is in need of regeneration.

3.89 The existing Buckland Hospital, which incorporates the former Victorian workhouse, occupies a roughly central location in the valley. The hospital buildings and, in particular, the former workhouse occupy an extensive, and in some places dominating, frontage to Coombe Valley Road. The hospital is now dated and is no longer considered to be fit for modern day health care purposes. The existing Buckland Hospital is being replaced with a new Community Hospital with assessment, diagnostics and treatment rooms.

3.90 The western end of the valley, located within the AONB, consists of small to medium sized business units. These employment areas make a valuable contribution to the local economy, providing a range of employment premises at an affordable price.

3.91 Coombe Valley comprises a mix of housing in terms of size, period and tenure. Coombe Valley Road is characterised by back to back terraces dating from the Victorian period, whilst further up the valley are newer semi-detached and terraced properties with narrow streets. A large proportion of the properties are social rented. It is the District's most deprived ward and part of the ward falls within the country's top 10% of most deprived wards. The area has been identified as the Coombe Valley Character Area (see Figure 3.1) for the purpose of setting urban design principles.

3.92 The Core Strategy has identified the need for comprehensive regeneration to re-balance the commercial and housing uses, improve housing quality and choice and environmental quality (Core Strategy paragraph 3.57). A Stage 1 Coombe Valley Regeneration Initiative was completed in 2009. It has been identified in the 'Revision of Play Area Provision (2012-26)' as an area that is deficient in play provision.

Site Context

3.93 Figure 3.4 identifies key features, opportunities and constraints in the valley. Development sites are shaded orange; these are focused at the gateway to the valley, in a central location adjacent to the existing hospital which is being redeveloped, and, to the west on a previously used industrial site that borders the residential area. Together these sites offer the opportunity to improve and transform the perception and appearance of Coombe Valley through physical, economic, social and environmental changes to the area. Southern water has advised that sewers may cross some of these sites.

3.94 A combination of factors contribute to the underperformance of the area as a whole:

- Access to the area, via a signal controlled single carriageway under the railway bridge, acts as both a visual and physical barrier segregating the area from the rest of Dover. This has created a feeling of isolation
- Coombe Valley Road is poorly laid out, the predominance of on-street parking leads to issues with traffic management, safety and appearance
- Heavy goods traffic pass through the northern portion of Coombe Valley (via Hillside Road) in order to reach the established industrial area
- A lack of a focal point for community: Triangles Community Centre and Kidease nursery provide valuable community facilities but both are located within the business/industrial area to the west of the valley. It must be noted that there are no equipped play facilities.
- The landscape surrounding the built area is steep in places, and pedestrian connectivity to this greenspace is poor
- The gas holder is considered to be a negative landmark, and will restrict development in its vicinity
- Existing housing dominates the valley, with its distinctive layout and style

3.95 The area has a number of services and facilities including a Primary School, shops, a takeaway and a gymnasium. Beyond the railway line the area joins London Road where there are additional services including shops and takeaways. Frequent bus services provide connections to Dover town centre and beyond.

Proposed Development

3.96 There is an opportunity to improve and regenerate this generally poor quality urban environment. The Stage 1 Coombe Valley Regeneration Initiative identified nine objectives for regeneration:

- Improve links to neighbouring areas

- Implement comprehensive improvements to Coombe Valley
- Create a better environment through improving the character and appearance of the urban environment
- Enhance and expand the range of community facilities and services
- Protect, enhance and make the most of the landscape setting, through improving public accessibility
- Bring about new development to meet the needs of the community
- Create a new 'heart'
- Support healthy active lifestyles; and,
- Address issues relating to traffic, especially HGVs

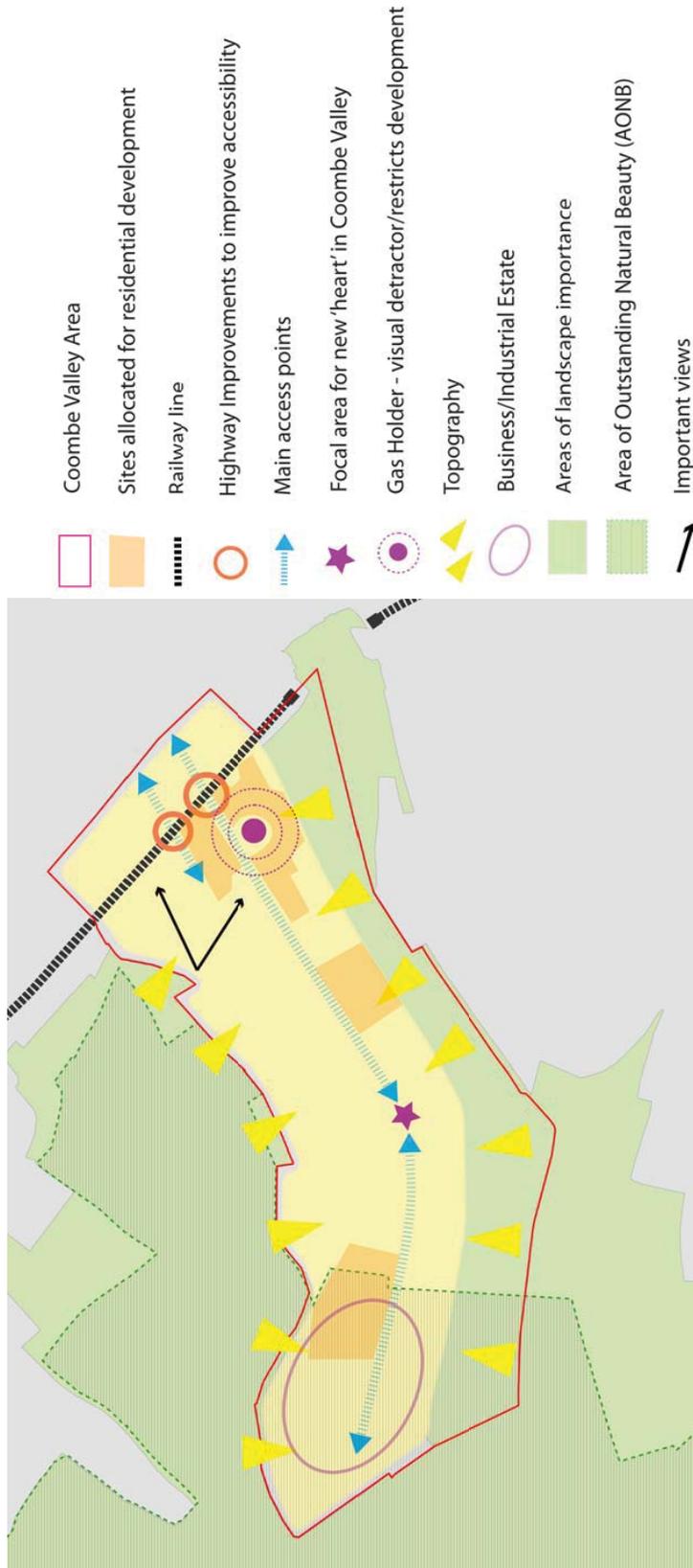


Figure 3.4 Plan to illustrate development sites in Coombe Valley

3.97 Figure 3.4 identifies sites for redevelopment in the area over the plan period. The majority of these sites are currently vacant. Published guidance by the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) sets out certain restrictions for development in close proximity to the Gas Holder. A diagrammatic plan showing these zones is available on the Council's website at www.dover.gov.uk/making-applications. Early engagement is recommended with the HSE to ascertain restrictions regarding safety. Here there is an opportunity to create a gateway feature, which may include some form of landmark (for further information see Character Areas, paragraphs 3.21 to 3.23).

3.98 The community hospital is located on the eastern half of the current hospital site; the remainder of the site will be released for redevelopment in the short term (over the next 5 year period). The redevelopment of the surplus land provides the opportunity to introduce new residential development to strengthen the residential character of the area. Other community, educational or health uses could also be considered although priority must be given to the regeneration of the area through redevelopment. Any development proposals should meet the objective of Stage 1 Regeneration Initiative by creating a 'heart' to the area with an opportunity for a new civic square which could incorporate playable space and links through to the countryside beyond. The redevelopment of the site for a Community Hospital and residential development should use the opportunity to create a softer appearance through the use of landscaping and sensitive elevational treatment to Coombe Valley Road. Should the redevelopment of the hospital site come forward in advance of the residential area then proposals must consider and take into account the relationship and the interface between the two sites.

3.99 Development further up the valley at Barwick Road, a vacant industrial site, adjoins the industrial area to the west of the valley. Development on this site will need to address the changes in the levels between the site and Barwick Road and provide an active street frontage to Barwick Road along with pedestrian connections to the Triangles Community Centre. The design of the proposed development proposals should seek to improve the setting of and impact on the AONB.

3.100 Early discussions should take place with Southern Water regarding connection to the wider sewerage and water distribution systems, which would need to be taken into account in the layout proposals of any planning application.

3.101 Residential development in Coombe Valley should enhance the current mix of housing in the area, and whilst seeking to reflect the housing mix in the SHMA to promote family housing. Overall, the site should create and restore the character of Dover (see Character Areas, paragraphs 3.21 to 3.23).

3.102 In line with Policy CP4 of the Core Strategy, development should seek to reflect a density of 40dph. In contrast to urban fringe sites, the development sites here are surrounded by existing built form. To ensure that best use is made of available land and taking account of the potential of the hospital site, approximately 450 residential dwellings could be developed, over eight sites.

Policy LA 8

Land in Coombe Valley

The sites identified on Figure 3.4 are allocated for residential development with a total estimated capacity of 450 dwellings. Planning permission will be permitted provided that:

- i. the mix of dwellings should include larger units, to reflect the SHMA, to promote family housing;
- ii. development seeks to maximise the use of available land, at a minimum of 40dph;
- iii. proposals comply with the Health and Safety Executive's (HSE) requirements for development in proximity to gas holders;
- iv. If street lighting is required this should be designed to minimise the impact of light pollution and conserve the dark night skies of the AONB; and
- v. the development should provide a connection to the sewerage system at the nearest point of adequate capacity and ensure future access to the existing sewerage infrastructure for maintenance and upsizing purposes.

Buckland Mill

Site Location and Characteristics

3.103 Buckland Mill is located some 1.5km north west of Dover town centre, and the site covers nearly four hectares. The Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) acquired the site and cleared many of the buildings. Those with historic merit were retained, and the River Dour, which flows through the site (north to south), was de-culverted. The clock tower, which is located on the side of the main mill building fronting Crabble Hill, is an important local landmark. This building wraps around the north and eastern boundary of the site which fronts Crabble Hill. To the west of this building is Buckland House, which is Grade II Listed. The main vehicular access to the site is located at the western end of the Crabble Hill frontage; this is ramped to accommodate the changes in the land levels between the site and Crabble Hill. The site falls within the Buckland Character Area (see Figure 3.1). Southern Water has advised that multiple sewers cross this site.

Site Context

3.104 Buckland Mill occupies an important and prominent location within a predominately residential area. The site is bounded to the north east by Crabble Hill. To the north is a heavily treed railway embankment; providing an attractive visual backdrop to the site. The southern/south-western boundary is Crabble Meadows, a narrow lane that can be accessed from Crabble Hill at the southeastern end of the site. Crabble Meadows provides pedestrian access to St. Andrew's Church, a Listed Building, the adjoining graveyard and Crabble Athletic Ground.

3.105 Supplementary Planning Guidance has been adopted by the Council in 2003 for the redevelopment of this site and this will be used as a material consideration when determining planning applications www.dover.gov.uk/spg/Buckland-Mill-Planning-Brief.pdf.

3.106 Approximately one third of the site has the benefit of full planning permission for a mixed use scheme, including up to 141 dwellings, A1 retail, a 'community hub' and B1 offices within the converted Buckland House. The scheme includes a series of public spaces and the formation of a new vehicle access to the north west of the mill building, from Crabble Hill. A landscaped 'wetland', located between the mill and river, provides ecological interest and flood storage. Development began in 2012 with the conversion of Buckland House and a new residential block to the east.

3.107 Early discussions should take place with Southern Water regarding the sewers that cross the site and these would need to be taken into account as part of any planning application.

Proposed Development

3.108 In terms of quality and design it is important that the development is laid out carefully to complement the landmark former mill building along Crabble Hill, and the Grade II Listed Buckland House and neighbouring St Andrew's Church. The site's prominent location makes it appropriate to incorporate foreground buildings that do not detract from the views of the Church and Dover Castle. Residential development should be designed to maximise and take full advantage of the site's riverside location. Development should be designed to face the river but be set back to allow for the creation of a riverside walk and landscaping with public access. Overall, the site should create and restore the character of Dover (see Character Areas, paragraphs 3.21 to 3.23).

3.109 The development will be open to views from Crabble Meadows and in order to increase overlooking it is important that development addresses and responds to this important public footway. The approach towards the public realm provision will be heavily shaped by the river and flood risk, as land raising and flood compensation and mitigation measures will be required. This needs consideration but should not compromise fundamental design issues. A Design Code should establish design parameters, and be submitted with any planning application, to guide the future phases of development. There is an opportunity to use tree planting to improve legibility and assist with the regeneration of the site.

3.110 The layout will need to be designed so that it is not used as a through route for drivers wishing to avoid the traffic signals at the junction of London Road/Crabble Hill. The main access into the site should be from Crabble Hill. Opportunity must be made by the developer to provide for access to and from the site by cycle, foot and public transport. In particular, the creation of segregated cycle lane along the existing pedestrian footway/road and the creation of a pedestrian route alongside the River Dour. This route will connect to the River Dour Greenway, which provides a pleasant and quiet pedestrian and cycle route through Dover, between Buckland Bridge and the seafront. The site has the potential to accommodate up to a further 265 dwellings.

Policy LA 9

Buckland Mill

The site is allocated for residential development with an estimated capacity of 265 dwellings. Planning permission will be permitted provided that a comprehensive scheme for the site is prepared where:-

- i. a satisfactory Design Code must be submitted as part of any outline planning application;
- ii. the development is designed to reflect the site's important location and preserves the setting of the Listed Buildings and the adjacent St. Andrew's Church;
- iii. environmental improvements, including a riverside walk and a cycleway that are accessible to the general public, are incorporated into the layout of the site;
- iv. buildings are designed so that they front the river and have been designed in a manner that includes mitigation measures to reduce the risk of flooding and allows public access along the river frontage;
- v. the development should provide a connection to the sewerage system at the nearest point of adequate capacity and ensure future access to the existing sewerage infrastructure for maintenance and upsizing purposes;
- vi. opportunities must be made by the developer to provide for access to and from the site by cycle, foot and public transport; and
- vii. vehicular access to the site is achieved from the existing access roads from Crabble Hill.

St James's Area

The redevelopment of the St. James's Area for a mixed use scheme including B1 employment, retail, residential, leisure and tourism uses is covered by Saved Local Plan Policy AS9.

Residential Allocations

3.111 The following sites are allocated for residential development or are for a change to settlement confines that may enable development but do not warrant a site specific policy. The acceptability of any planning application proposals will be judged against general Development Plan policies and all other material considerations.

Policy LA 10

Residential Allocations

Land Allocated for Residential Development at Dover

Site	Design Guidelines	Approx No. Of Dwellings	Issues
Land off Dunedin Drive	Urban location that lends itself to higher density development reflecting the neighbouring residential built form.	8	Landscaping Topography
Factory Building, Lorne Road	Urban location that lends itself to higher density development reflecting the neighbouring residential built form.	8	Flooding Adjacent listed building Exploration of provision of cycleway adjacent to the River Dour (see DM18)
Land off Wycherley Crescent	Suburban location that lends itself to frontage development reflecting the neighbouring residential built form.	10	Topography, frontage only Mitigate impact on LWS
Old Park, Old Park Hill	To create a mix of housing type and density to help improve the overall housing market offer. The site has full planning permission and was under construction in 2014.	41	Topography

Land Allocated for Residential Development at Dover			
Site	Design Guidelines	Approx No. Of Dwellings	Issues
Westmount College, Folkestone Road	Urban location that lends itself to higher density development reflecting the neighbouring residential built form.	100	Open Space Long distance views from Western Heights Retention of existing building

3.1.1 Areas of Change

3.112 In Dover there are parts of the town that are either in need of renewal or do not fulfil their potential but where proposals are not yet sufficiently advanced to justify a site specific allocation in this Plan ⁽¹¹⁾. It is nevertheless important that they are identified in order to focus attention on them and act as a catalyst for preparation of private development proposals and/or public sector initiatives. These have been identified in the Plan as 'Areas of Change':

- Public Realm improvements to key parts of Dover Town centre;
- Dover Priory Railway Station and the Folkestone Road area;
- Western Heights;
- North Town; and
- Dover Leisure Centre.

These Areas of Change are identified on Figure 3.2.

3.113 The Public Realm Strategy (October 2006) considered how connections can make the fabric of the Dover town centre "work" harder and how the quality of the public realm (spaces, routes, squares, gardens etc) can add value and assist with the regeneration of the town. The Public Realm Strategy identified a number of priority projects that are of direct relevance to the Areas of Change:

- York Street;
- Market Square;
- Station Approach; and

11 with the exception of Western Heights Policy LA11

- River Dour.

3.114 The Dover Masterplan (2006) developed the projects that were identified in the Public Realm Strategy into options and proposals under four development themes which focused on celebrating the:

- shopping centre as the heart of the town;
- River Dour;
- local topography and key views; and
- history of the town.

3.115 The opportunities and priorities that have been identified in both of these documents have been used as the context for the Areas of Change. The objectives will be used as a starting point should any re-development proposals come forward within the Areas of Change.

Public Realm improvements to key parts of Dover Town Centre

3.116 Market Square and Pencester Gardens are the two main formal open spaces in Dover town centre each surrounded by buildings of different periods and styles and mixed quality. Many of the buildings in and around Market Square are in good condition and are of appropriate grand scale although there is equally a number of buildings that are not of the same architectural merit for this important civic space. The Market Square is also important for the town centre as it offers a key pedestrian link to the St.James's area which will support and complement the retail appeal of the town centre. Market Square has been identified in the Public Realm Strategy as requiring public realm improvements that are of a suitable scale to reflect the space's important civic function and make the best of use of key views of a number of important historic assets. In order for Market Square to become a focal point and to reinforce its important civic function, an opportunity exists to create an art or lighting strategy that will help to strengthen and improve this existing public open space.

3.117 Pencester Gardens, is an important recreational asset located in the heart of the town centre. The Gardens include a bandstand, strategic play area and a skate park. They are enclosed by buildings, Pencester Road, Stembrook public car park and the River Dour. Pencester Road is a one-way street used by buses and general traffic and has bus stops located on the southern side of Pencester Road adjacent to the Gardens. The landscape quality and the edges around the Gardens are not very well defined and in need of improvement. The River Dour, which flows along the edge of the Gardens, is currently an underplayed structural feature of the town.

3.118 The overall quality and appearance of Pencester Gardens could be enhanced through the creation of a high profile formal garden in the centre of Dover integrating current uses, recreation and leisure and existing site features (bandstand). Any proposal should include high quality soft and hard landscaping, improved lighting, quality seating and possibly perimeter fencing/walling to define and secure the site. This could offer the opportunity to create high quality gardens that embrace the presence of the River, improve water quality, wildlife and a high quality pedestrian/cycle link to Dover Waterfront.

3.119 York Street, which is a dual carriageway, connects the sea front, Dover town centre, Dover Priory railway station to the Folkestone Road area and currently engages little with the town. There are railings along the central reservation and on either side of the pedestrian footway where York Street connects to Townwall Street and the Folkestone Road roundabout. The Public Realm Strategy has identified that there is the opportunity to remove the railings and the other pedestrian obstructions along York Street. Subject to a transport study being undertaken, in order to improve connectivity and physical attractiveness of York Street, the width of the carriageway could be reduced and a new bus interchange could be created on York Street as part of wider public realm improvements. A bus interchange on York Street would assist with the regeneration of the town centre, enabling Biggin Street to be fully pedestrianised, provide a focal point for public transport in the town and allow other public realm improvements to take place in Pencester Road.

Broad Objectives:

- Support environmental and public realm improvements to Market Square which could involve the creation of a major work of art, whether environmental, sculptural or lighting that could act as a main focus to connect Market Square with the St. James's site;
- Incorporate vistas, focal points, public spaces and measures to improve pedestrian legibility that makes the most out of Pencester Gardens, River Dour and views of the heritage assets;
- Explore opportunities to create a dramatic axis to the Castle which currently extends from Market Square along Castle Street, through the use of lighting to emphasise this axis and restore what was once a lively commercial centre;
- Support initiatives and take action that help to improve and restore the appearance of buildings, public open space and street furniture that make a positive visual contribution to the town centre;
- Support careful and integrated lighting and enhancements to the River Dour that help to create an active river frontage;
- Improve the public realm of York Street and connections by exploring the potential to remove the railings, other pedestrian obstructions, reducing the width of the carriageway, planting trees and undertaking other public realm improvements;
- Support proposals for the relocation of the existing bus interchange at Pencester Road to York Street to enable public realm improvements to Pencester Road and the removal of buses from Biggin Street providing a fully pedestrianised town centre and better interchange with other modes of transport.

Dover Priory Railway Station and the Folkestone Road Area

3.120 Figure 3.5 identifies the area covered in this section and identifies key opportunity areas. The role and importance of Dover Priory Railway Station as a gateway to the town has been enhanced through the introduction of the High Speed 1 (HS1) service to London. This has reduced journey times by 30 minutes bringing Dover into a viable commuter time to London. The HS1 is an important component of the Core Strategy in attracting people to live and work in the District.

3.121 The station has undergone improvements as part of European funding. Despite the recent and planned investment, the station currently has the perception of being physically separated and not well connected to the main retail centre and pedestrian links from the railway station along Folkestone Road to the town centre are not easy or convenient. Pedestrian links are currently not very legible as the railway station does not benefit from clear views from the station to the town centre or seafront. In order to address this there needs to be a clear focal point and public realm improvements as the current pedestrian route involves passing petrol pumps and crossing Priory Road which is a main vehicular route .

3.122 Car parking at the railway station is extremely restricted which means that the station is not fully capitalising on the benefits of the HS1 train service. People wishing to park and use the HS1 service are placing additional pressure on the nearby residential roads and some commuters are driving to railway stations that are served by HS1 which are outside of the District but have larger car parking facilities. In order to address this important issue, land immediately to the west of the railway station has been identified as a potential location for a car park to serve HS1 and the town centre. To promote natural surveillance at night time for people using the car park, there is the opportunity to incorporate ancillary retail development which would also benefit residents.

3.123 Folkestone Road has a number of larger Victorian properties that have been converted to flats and studio apartments. The external appearance of a number of properties and gardens in this general area are in a poor state and detract from the general appearance and undermines the gateway role of the town. To the west of the railway station, there is a disused warehouse, railway sidings and the H.M. Customs and Excise buildings which are enclosed by high security fences. An initial Feasibility Study (2007) has been undertaken of the area of land behind the ribbon development of Folkestone Road and land currently occupied by H.M. Customs and Excise. This Feasibility Study has indicated that there is potential for this area of land to be redeveloped for residential development which could include town houses, subject to this site becoming available.

3.124 Further along Folkestone Road is the former Westmount Adult Education College (see Policy LA10) that is boarded up following a fire and is suitable for residential development.

3.125 Overall there has been a general deterioration of the urban fabric and identity to this part of Dover and the whole area lacks a 'sense of arrival'. The focus of this Area of Change is to enhance and support the gateway role of the area, restore the appearance of the substantial Victorian properties and facilitate the re-conversion of them back to family houses and create more town houses. If property owners and landowners are not forthcoming with undertaking work, the District Council will consider using its planning powers to address the identified issues.

Broad Objectives:

- Support proposals to allow Dover Priory Railway Station to work as an integrated transport hub as a gateway to the town for the rail service, bus, BRT, taxi, cycle and car parking;
- Support improvements to Dover Priory Railway Station and the provision of additional car parking to serve the HS1 train service and Dover town centre with ancillary development;

- Support site assembly to enable a comprehensive area for residential redevelopment that takes full advantage and maximises views of important historic assets;
- Support fewer but larger flats/apartments as part of mixed use development proposals;
- Support the re-conversion of larger properties that have been formerly converted from houses to flats to re-balance the housing stock that is currently available in this area;
- Encourage owners of properties to improve/maintain and restore the external appearance of their properties; and
- Where property owners are not forthcoming with undertaking work the District Council will consider using its planning powers to address the identified issues.

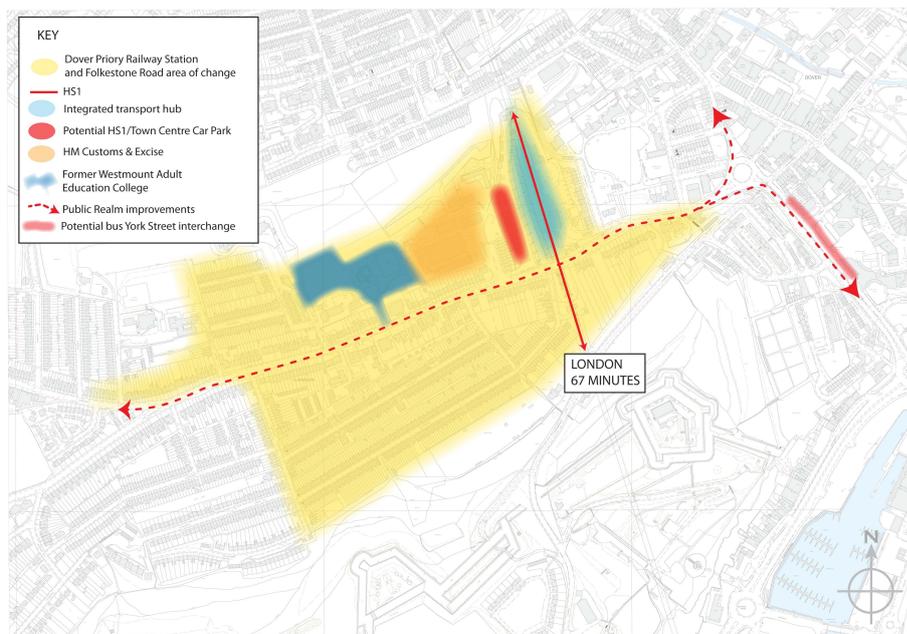


Figure 3.5 Dover Priory Station and Folkestone Road Area of Change

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Western Heights

3.126 Dover has a particularly rich military history and contains a number of historically significant fortifications. These include the spectacular and powerful fortifications at the Western Heights, which represent one of the largest and most elaborate surviving examples of nineteenth century fortifications in England. The whole of the fortification is a Scheduled Monument and is located within the Western Heights Conservation Area.

3.127 The Dover District Heritage Strategy (2012) and the Built Heritage Conservation Framework for Dover Western Heights (2012) have recorded the importance and significance of the Western Heights fortifications. The first recorded permanent fortifications to be established on the Western Heights date from 1770. The strategic importance of the Western Heights was recognised in the early nineteenth century and in 1804 a plan was put forward

to modernise the defences on the Western Heights. These new Napoleonic fortifications took the form of two major redoubts, the Citadel and Drop Redoubt, which were augmented by a series of defensive lines and bastions. In this form the defences could hold a large body of men to repel any invading army as well as commanding the town, harbour and western approaches.

3.128 The Drop Redoubt is linked to the Citadel by a series of dry moats. It is, arguably, the most impressive feature at the Western Heights. The Redoubt was designed to prevent a landward invasion of Dover. The construction of the Redoubt took place between 1804 – 1859. It was designed initially around a simple pentagon, formed by cutting trenches into the hillside and facing them with brickwork. This created a solid 'island' with barracks, magazine, and artillery, on top. Originally, it would have accommodated 200 troops but, by 1893, the numbers had been reduced to just 90.

3.129 A striking feature of the design of the Redoubt is the five bomb-proof casements which are covered in a thick layer of earth to withstand the effect of mortar-bombs. The windows to the rear of the casements open into a trench, to protect them. The casements and the accommodation were later remodelled as a result of a Report by the Royal Commission. Four caponiers were added at a later stage to all but one of its corners. The entrance to the Redoubt was via a bridge which has long since gone. On top of the Redoubt are the remains of a Lighthouse which complimented the one at Dover Castle which were both built to guide ships into the Port. Both date from the 2nd Century AD. The Redoubt has now largely fallen into disrepair and suffered from vandalism and is only open on certain days of the year to the general public.

3.130 The North Centre and Detached Bastions were built between the Drop Redoubt and the Citadel. Their purpose was to assist in defending the northern approaches to Dover, particularly from Folkestone Road, along which it was envisaged Napoleon and the French Grand Army would attack.

3.131 Work on the North Centre Bastion began in 1804 as part of the main Western Heights works, although it was incomplete in 1815 when Napoleon was defeated at the Battle of Waterloo. In 1859 the Royal Commission, which called for modification across the Western Heights, reviewed the unfinished North Centre Bastion. Work continued until it was completed and the construction of the Detached Bastion and its caponier. They were armed throughout the main phase of occupation at the Western Heights, but along with the rest of the fortress, its decline was rapid and at the turn of the century its guns were removed. The Bastions saw very little use after this time, with only local defence use during both World Wars.

3.132 The "Grand Shaft Bowl" is located south of the Drop Redoubt and has been sculptured and graded into a series of tiers to allow controlled fields of fire but it is now largely overgrown.

3.133 Further accommodation for troops was provided at the Grand Shaft Barracks and South Front Barracks comprising of three and four storey accommodation blocks which were constructed on a series of terraces. Soldiers' accommodation at the Western Heights was provided at the Citadel which is currently occupied by an Immigration Removal Centre, while some private housing occupies the central section of the site.

3.134 The need to move troops rapidly from the Western Heights to the town and harbour below led to the construction of the Grand Shaft. This takes the form of three independent staircases spiralling around a central shaft, completed in 1807, and is a particularly impressive feature. The Grand Shaft is only open to visitors on selected days every year but offers the

opportunity to provide an important connection between the Western Heights and Snargate Street, the town centre and Dover Waterfront. The Grand Shaft Barracks and South Front Barracks were decommissioned and subsequently demolished.

3.135 The ridges and upper slopes of the Heights are now overgrown which obscure the fortifications and sculptured ground concealing their original form and intended function. The fortifications at the Western Heights have, for a number of years, been on the English Heritage Building at Risk Register.

3.136 The Western Heights is a currently underused heritage asset in Dover with no long-term use, which means that it is vulnerable to neglect, decay and vandalism. Lack of maintenance, vegetation growth, weathering and the effects of heritage crime, continue to have a negative impact on this important heritage asset. The site's fragmented ownership brings with it additional challenges for securing a coherent strategy.

3.137 The focus for this Area of Change is to encourage greater public access to and the interpretation of the Monument. When considering how to accommodate new uses on the Western Heights, where possible, the existing structures should be carefully adapted and re-used taking into account the nature and level of significance as well as the appropriateness of the proposed new uses. Any development proposals need to ensure that they do not detract from, and are in keeping with, the setting of this important historic asset.

3.138 Visitor circulation between the components of the Western Heights fortifications and links to the town are currently impeded in many instances. In order to assist with this it would require the removal of vegetation from ditches and the main fortifications. This would enable visitors to the Western Heights to enjoy and walk along the bottoms of the defensive ditches. It would also facilitate legibility of the historic military circulation routes around the site and the defensive principles that informed the development of these important fortifications to be more fully understood and enhanced. The removal of vegetation from the Heights' southern slopes and returning them to chalk grassland as part of a co-ordinated land management strategy for nature conservation that would improve the legibility of fortifications. Care would, however, need to be taken to ensure that any measures to control grazing animals (e.g. temporary fences) do not damage significant remains or detract from the setting of the defences.

Broad Objectives:

- Produce a Master Plan and vision for the long-term future of the Western Heights;
- Promote awareness and understanding of the Fort in conjunction with the other heritage assets in Dover through public and voluntary partnerships to coordinate management and to devise a programme of improvements and seek funding;
- Promote the Fort as part of a package of defence themed visitor attractions;
- Use the historic character of the place to inform any future development and create a sense of place;
- Investigate development proposals, particularly those which support tourism and encourage additional visitors, that help to secure a long term sustainable future for the Fort;
- Ensure that any development proposals are informed by the significance of the Monument and its component parts;
- Wherever possible, new and sustainable uses should be found for the existing heritage assets in order to ensure their long-term future;

- Support proposals that increase the significance of this Scheduled Monument and the internal relationships between the component parts of the Monument and their setting;
- Encourage greater public access to and interpretation of the Monument;
- Retain the openness of the interior of the Scheduled Monument, particularly between the two Forts, which is an essential part of its character, and as such should be retained;
- Support a co-ordinated land management strategy for the slopes of the Heights in order to improve the interpretation of the fortifications;
- Investigate and identify sufficient and suitable access, parking and sustainable transport arrangements; and
- Investigate and propose means of improving the wildlife value of the open areas within the Fort, and improve their connectivity with the wider Green Infrastructure network.

Policy LA 11

Dover Western Heights

The Council will establish a comprehensive framework for the conservation management of the Dover Western Heights Fortifications Scheduled Monument and Conservation Area. The framework will take the form of a masterplan to be adopted as a Supplementary Planning document. The masterplan will:

- i. be produced in liaison with landowners, residents, organisations and individuals with an interest in the area, and the public;
- ii. establish a shared vision for the future of the fortification that preserves and enhances its significance as heritage asset and its landscape and ecological value, whilst securing a sustainable future;
- iii. identify management initiatives, including any opportunities for development or changes of use that would enhance the public's enjoyment and understanding, that would help realise the vision.
- iv. provide guidance for determining planning and related applications that affect the fortification; and
- v. provide a basis for future governance of the fortification, including consideration of funding opportunities.

North Town

3.139 The Dover Masterplan (2006) identified an area it called North Town, which is situated to the north of Park Street, as a key interface between High Street, Bridge Street and Salisbury Road. The Masterplan concluded that this area offered a number of regeneration opportunities as it also provides a link between St.Radigund's and the town centre.

3.140 North Town includes the Castleton Retail Park (which is occupied by a number of convenience stores), Charlton Shopping Centre and a multi-storey car park. There is a pedestrian link from the Castleton Retail Park to the town centre via the multi-storey car park and the Charlton Shopping Centre although it would benefit from being improved. The River Dour is largely hidden from view as it flows underneath the car parking area for the Castleton Retail Park and to the side of the multi-storey car park.

3.141 The focus of this Area of Change is to 'Create and Restore' through strengthening the existing character and the creation of an improved urban environment. Whilst it is unlikely that the Castleton Retail Park will be redeveloped within the Plan period, if any sites do come forward for redevelopment opportunities should be taken to create walking and cycling routes along the river, restore the river frontage and its setting. Any redevelopment of existing buildings offers the opportunity to improve the poor quality pedestrian route between the Castleton Retail Park and the Charlton Shopping Centre which is located on the High Street.

Broad Objectives:

- Improve the general quality and overall design of this part of Dover;
- Support proposals that make a positive contribution and restore the river frontage and its setting;
- Explore opportunities when sites become available for redevelopment to create public and cycle access to and along the River Dour; and
- Improve and upgrade the poor quality pedestrian links from North Town to the town centre.

Dover Leisure Centre

3.142 Dover Leisure Centre occupies a particularly prominent site located on the corner of Townwall Street (part of the A20 trunk road from the Port) and Woolcomber Street, near the base of the cliffs. Facilities on offer at the Leisure centre include a swimming pool, squash courts, fitness suite, dance studio and a multi-purpose sports hall. The building dates back to the 1970s and despite significant investment by the District Council the sports facilities do not meet current expectations. In addition, the Leisure Centre is not energy efficient and therefore is very expensive to run.

3.143 In order to deliver the growth aspirations set out in the Core Strategy Policy CP6 identifies a number of infrastructure requirements including replacement of Dover Leisure Centre. Recent assessments of the District's swimming pool and indoor sports hall provision using the Sport England Facilities Planning Model demonstrated that existing facilities are operating close to full capacity in the Dover urban area. Pressure on these types of facilities will increase during the Plan period due to increased demand, particularly with respect to swimming pool provision. Improved facilities could form part of the planned regeneration of the town and meet the predicted increase in demand.

3.144 The focus for this Area of Change is to 'Create and Restore'. Given that the existing building is near the end of its useful life, an opportunity exists to create a landmark building. Leisure facilities could be located at a different site, so long as it is equally accessible to residents. If upgraded leisure facilities are provided at a new location, a range of uses could be considered at this prominent site. The forthcoming Sports and Recreation Strategy will include a detailed discussion of possible options for meeting predicted demand.

Broad Objectives

- Investigate whether it will be possible to meet the need for modern, inclusive sport and recreation facilities by building new facilities on the existing site, or whether the Leisure Centre should be relocated and the site re-developed; and
- Ensure that any new development on the site fulfils the potential of this prominent location.

3.2 Deal

3.145 The Adopted Core Strategy identifies Deal as a District Centre, the 'Secondary focus for development in the District; suitable for urban scale development'. The Deal urban area comprises urban wards and the built-up parts of the parishes of Walmer, Sholden and Great Mongeham, which form a continuous built-up area.

3.146 The northern part of the town is low lying flat land which has been identified as being within high risk flood zones. There are also European nature conservation designations (Ramsar, Special Protection Area and Special Area of Conservation) to the north of Deal.

3.147 The town has 14,500 dwellings⁽¹²⁾ and a population of 30,085 (Deal and Walmer wards)⁽¹³⁾. The town has a wide selection of services including a range of shops, primary and secondary schools and a number of medical facilities including a local hospital. It is also served by a mainline railway and a high speed train service to London which operates at peak times.

Urban Grain and Structure

3.148 Deal originated as a series of villages, Walmer, Upper Deal (now on the boundary of Middle Deal/Sholden and Mill Hill Wards), Sholden and Great Mongeham, with Sholden, Great Mongeham and Upper Walmer positioned on higher ground. Deal started to expand when it became one of the great maritime towns in England in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries and then again when development of the nearby Kent Coalfield started in the early twentieth century.

3.149 The pattern of roads and tracks linking the settlements on the downs with the coastal settlements of Deal and Lower Walmer is determined by topography. They run parallel or at right angles to the slopes and ridges at about a 40 degree angle to the coast. The town itself is characterised by a generally tightly grained built form with narrow streets, which follow the direction of the coastline and are aligned in parallel or right angles to the sea. The railway line was constructed in the area where the two urban grids intersected. Connection between the grids across the tracks are limited. As a consequence, development in North Deal today feels isolated from the wider town.

3.150 Development in Deal today is continuous, although Great Mongeham and Sholden still retain their 'village feel'. Latter day expansion of Deal has predominantly taken place on the high grounds to the south of the old town. Historically development in North Deal has taken place incrementally over the years and has been limited due to flood and access constraints.

12 2011 Census - Table QS418EW

13 2011 Census - Table QS103EW)

Core Strategy

3.151 The Core Strategy has identified Deal as the secondary focus for development in the District. The issues raised in the Strategy include:

- The need for improved community facilities in North and Middle Deal;
- Limited supply of previously developed land; and
- The identification of three broad areas for urban extension.

3.152 The Strategy aims to retain and develop the town's popular appeal as a place to live while improving local employment opportunities and to reduce the need to travel.

Provision of Infrastructure

3.153 An integral part of the Core Strategy is to ensure that development proposals are supported by the timely provision of an appropriate level of infrastructure (such as affordable housing, open spaces or highways). This is reflected in Policy CP6. The infrastructure identified in the Core Strategy specifically for Deal included:

- A new secondary school to modernise and improve the standards;
- A nursery school to address a shortfall in North Deal;
- GP facility in North Deal;
- General community facility in North Deal;
- Multi-use community facility to serve Middle Deal;
- Indoor court tennis facilities at Deal; and
- Skate and BMX park.

3.154 Since the adoption of the Core Strategy many of the infrastructure requirements have been met. A new GP facility and community building in North Deal was completed in 2011 as part of the Golf Road/Cannon Street development. The new GP surgery meets the demand for such a facility in this area and the community centre is a valuable community asset providing space for a variety of activities for the general public. In addition to the new GP surgery in North Deal, another surgery was opened in St Richards Road, in the southern part of Deal, replacing the one in Deal town centre.

3.155 The requirement for a new nursery school in North Deal was met through the granting of a permanent planning permission at Western Road and full permission for one at Stanhope Road. A four court indoor tennis centre was opened on land adjacent to the Tides Leisure Centre which was jointly funded by Dover District Council and British Tennis. This new facility offers a complete programme of junior tennis coaching and playing opportunities. A skate and BMX park has also been built adjacent to the leisure centre.

3.156 A new flood defence scheme along the coast will provide a 1 in 300 standard of protection to 1,418 homes and 148 commercial properties in Deal.

3.157 Most of the identified infrastructure requirements have therefore been met and only two are still outstanding, a secondary school and multi-use community facility. It is unlikely that a new secondary school will be provided. Two schools have been merged in Deal and Walmer because a falling number of pupils would not sustain two schools. The multi-use community facility to serve Middle Deal could, if it is demonstrated to be financially viable and an operator is identified, come forward as part of the development proposals.

Housing Allocations

3.158 The Core Strategy housing allocation for Deal is 1,600 dwellings and this is geared around meeting local rather than strategic needs. The proposed housing numbers would ensure that the population remains at the same level to support 2006 levels in the face of a continuing trend of falling household size, but will not address the issues regarding the ageing of the population.

3.159 There are, however, limited opportunities for further development in the town. This is primarily due to the limited supply of previously developed land (the majority of this has already been developed); there are access difficulties; and a large area encompassing the northern part of the urban area has been identified within Flood Zones 2 and 3.

3.160 Within these limitations, the Core Strategy identified three broad areas for urban extension. These are located on the north side of Deal, in Sholden and to the south of Deal in Walmer. Both of the sites in Sholden have the benefit of planning permission in 2012. To meet the remaining requirement three smaller sites in Deal have also been allocated (see Policy LA15).

Allocations

3.161 Six sites have been identified for residential development and these will provide approximately 800⁽¹⁴⁾ dwellings. The allocated sites are identified on the diagrammatic plan below.

14 The discrepancy between this figure and the figure contained in Table 3.1 of 570 is attributable to land north west of Sholden which is currently under construction and is therefore counted within 'Sites identified through planning applications' in Table 3.1

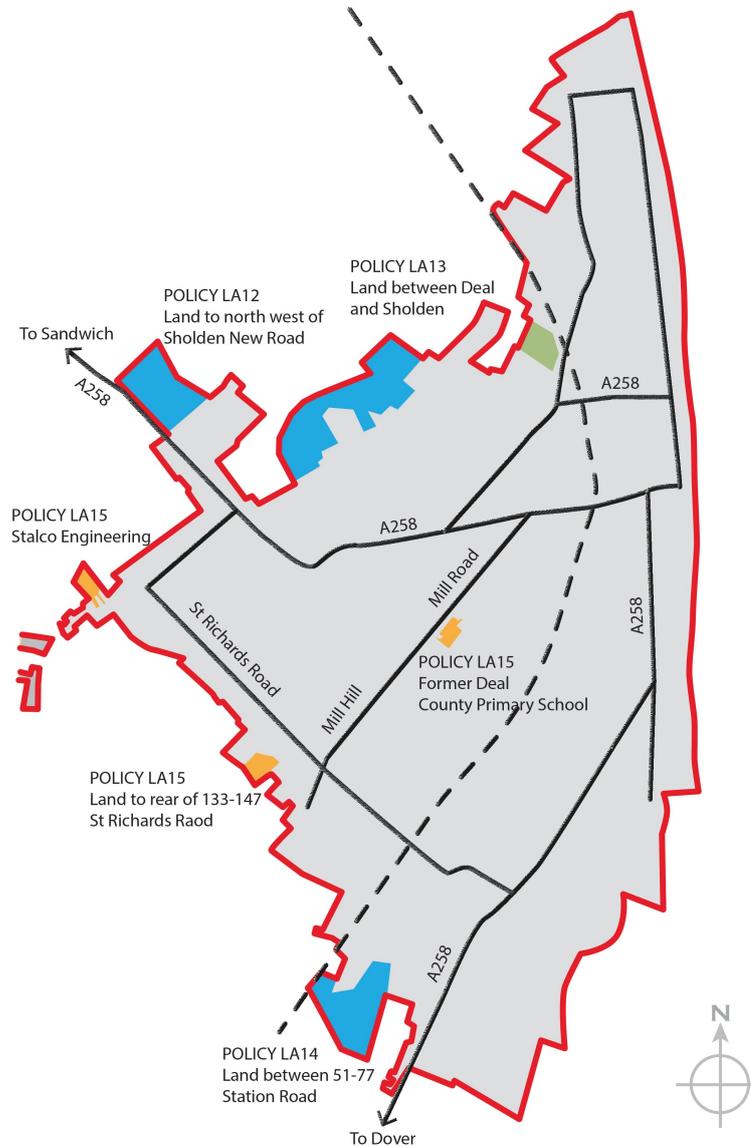


Figure 3.6 Diagram illustrating the allocated sites and changes in settlement confines in Deal

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3.162 The allocated sites, together with sites identified through completed and unimplemented planning permissions (see Table 3.1), leave a residual of approximately 100 dwellings to be identified to meet the Core Strategy requirement. To meet this residual the District Council would have to consider sites that have scored poorly in terms of flood risk, landscape impact or access. A 'windfall' allowance has been included for the later part of the Plan. Residential development in Deal has, over a five year period (2008 to 2013), had an average annual 'windfall' completion rate of 50 dwellings. These will not be considered in the phasing before 2018. The Core Strategy identifies, in Policy CP3, that the housing figure for Deal could be revised upwards subject to the investigation of the Middle/North Deal area.

Land to the North West of Sholden New Road

Site Location and Characteristics

3.163 The 6.67ha site is located on the north western edge of Sholden on the east side of the A258 Deal to Sandwich Road. It consists of agricultural land with an unmade access for agricultural vehicles at the western corner of the site. The site falls gently to the north and is framed on three sides by mature trees. The trees are protected by Tree Preservation Orders and consist of a mixture of evergreen trees to the north east, an avenue of mature Beech Trees along Sholden New Road to the south east, and a deciduous tree belt along the north western boundary, which adjoins a private unmade track serving Cottington Lakes Fishery. This provides screening between the site and open farmland. The site boundary with the A258 is partially screened by a hedge.

Site Context

3.164 The site has been identified as a broad area for urban extension in the Core Strategy and full planning permission has been granted (in 2012) for 230 dwellings. The overall character of the site is an area of rural transition from urban to open countryside and the surrounding uses reflect this with open countryside to the south west and north west and residential properties to the north east and south east. There are a number of listed properties at Hull Place, to the north east of the site. A tree belt along the north eastern boundary provides a strong visual screen between the site and the properties at Hull Place. European designated nature conservation sites (SAC, SPA & Ramsar) and an area at risk of flooding (Flood Zones 2 & 3) lie to the north.

3.165 A public footway runs parallel with the sites north eastern boundary and the site is in close proximity to public footways which provide good access to routes to the open countryside and the Fowlmead Country Park. A segregated cycle way is located to the west and this runs parallel with the A258, connecting the site with Fowlmead Country Park and Betteshanger employment site further to the north west.

Proposed Development

3.166 The site needs to be developed in a way that provides a transition from urban area of Sholden/Deal to the open countryside and retain a 'soft edge' to the development. The western corner of the site is in a prominent location on the A258 coming into Sholden/Deal and should consist of landscaping. This makes it appropriate and necessary to reduce density and create a looser grain to the development along the frontage from the western corner of the site and use landscaping to address the site's location on the edge of the existing built up area.

3.167 Proposals need to pay particular attention to the retention and safeguarding of the mature trees that frame the site. To safeguard the trees from any future pressure for removal, development should be set back by 20m. The approach towards the design and layout of the site should also consider the relationship of the development with local heritage assets, particularly the listed buildings located to the north of the site. The tree belt along the north eastern edge should be strengthened through additional planting to ensure that any detrimental impact on the listed buildings is reduced.

3.168 The vehicular access to the site should be from the A258 and measures provided to mitigate against impacts on the wider road network. Measures to encourage cycling, use of buses and walking should be an integral part of the proposals. The foul sewerage system may also need to be upgraded.

3.169 A combination of the scale of the development and the proximity of the site to European designated nature conservation sites means that any planning application will have to develop a strategy with a range of measures and initiatives such as the provision of informal open space or walking routes (leading to wider PROWs) within the development and improved access to Fowlmead Country Park.

3.170 Overall the size of the site and its location on the edge of the countryside lends itself to a range of dwellings that would improve the housing offer in Deal. The western corner of the site would be suitable for lower density, larger family housing whilst other parts of the site could provide higher density smaller dwellings. The capacity of the site, 230 dwellings, is informed by the permitted planning application.

Policy LA 12

Land to the north west of Sholden New Road

The site is allocated for residential development with an estimated capacity of 230 dwellings. Planning permission will be permitted provided that:

- i. the transition of the countryside is retained by ensuring that the western corner of the site consists of landscaping and development is of a low density and looser grain along the frontage with the A258;
- ii. existing trees are retained and enhanced through additional planting with a 20m safeguarding boundary provided, unless removal is essential for access;
- iii. a mitigation strategy to address any impact on the Thanet Coast and Sandwich Bay Ramsar and SPA sites and Sandwich Bay SAC site is developed. The strategy should consider a range of measures and initiatives;
- iv. the development should provide a connection to the sewerage system at the nearest point of adequate capacity; and
- v. vehicular access is achieved from the A258 and measures provided to mitigate against impacts on the wider road network.

Land between Deal and Sholden

Site Location and Characteristics

3.171 The 15 ha, irregular shaped site is located on open land separating Middle Deal and Sholden. The site consists predominantly of agricultural land, scrub, trees and hedgerows along field boundaries. The land falls gently from the south to the north. There are numerous pedestrian access points onto the site but the main vehicular access is from Hyton Drive. Southern Water has advised that multiple sewers cross this site.

Site Context

3.172 The site has been identified as a broad area for an urban extension in the Core Strategy and has been the subject of Masterplanning and stakeholder involvement in 2006. The site has also been subject to an outline planning application which, in 2011, the District Council resolved to grant. The surrounding uses reflect the site's location on the edge of the town and consists of agricultural fields to the north and west, business uses to the north east (Southwall Road area) and residential areas to the east and south. This site separates the existing built up area of Deal and Sholden. Access to London Road is via existing residential roads which are tightly constrained.

3.173 The eastern part of the site is within Flood Zones 2 and 3 and there are European nature conservation designations to the north east.

Proposed Development

3.174 Proposals for development need to be informed by the constraints on the site, most notably flood risk (Flood Zones 2 and 3 are on the eastern part of the site), landscape and access. The line of the site boundary reflects that of the planning application, which was identified through a flood risk sequential analysis within the site. Due to the low lying nature of this area, surface water management and flood attenuation will also be required.

3.175 The Heritage Strategy has identified five 'Themes' that should be considered as part of any proposal. The Themes are 'Coastal Processes and Landscape', 'Listed Buildings', 'Archaeology', 'Church', 'Settlement' and 'Farmsteads' and these should be considered as part of any application. The main issues are that the site provides short views of Sholden and St Nicholas's Church and long uninterrupted views of the coast.

3.176 Land to the west of the site, currently in agricultural use must also be retained to ensure that there is separation between the settlements of Sholden and Deal. An integral part of the design of any proposed development is that it creates a soft edge with the surrounding countryside.

3.177 The nature of the local road network indicates that measures will have to be investigated to mitigate the transport impacts of the new development. This should include supporting alternative modes of transport to the car, such as the provision of new bus routes and cycle ways. The Core Strategy identified the need for a multi-use community facility to serve the Middle Deal area. If it can be demonstrated to be financially viable and an operator could be identified this should form part of the development proposal⁽¹⁵⁾.

3.178 Early discussions should take place with Southern Water regarding the sewers that cross the site and these would need to be taken into account as part of any planning application.

3.179 A combination of the scale of the development and the proximity of the site to European designated nature conservation sites means that any planning application will have to develop a strategy with a range of measures and initiatives such as the provision of informal open space or walking routes (leading to wider PROWs) within the development.

3.180 The overall size of the site and its location on the edge of the countryside provides the opportunity to offer a range of dwellings that would improve the housing offer in Deal. These could range from lower density, larger family homes to higher density, smaller units. The starting point for any proposal would be the mix identified in the SHMA.

Policy LA 13

Land between Deal and Sholden

The site is allocated for residential development with an estimated capacity of 230 dwellings. Planning permission will be permitted provided that:

- i. the design of the site creates a soft edge between the proposed development and the surrounding countryside and St Nicholas's Church;
- ii. views of St Nicholas's Church and the wider landscape are incorporated into any design and retained;
- iii. community facilities are provided to benefit existing and new residents in the area;
- iv. a mitigation strategy to address any impact on the Thanet Coast and Sandwich Bay Ramsar and SPA sites and Sandwich Bay SAC site is developed. The strategy should consider a range of measures and initiatives;
- v. the development should provide a connection to the sewerage system at the nearest point of adequate capacity and ensure future access to the existing sewerage infrastructure for maintenance and upsizing purposes;
- vi. footways are preserved, and where necessary enhanced and integrated into the development; and
- vii. measures provided to mitigate against impacts on the wider road network including sustainable transport measures.

Land between 51 and 77 Station Road, Walmer, Deal

Site Location and Characteristics

3.181 The almost 9 ha site is located on the southern edge of Walmer. It consists primarily of agricultural land fronting Station Road and a small area of undeveloped land to the west of Mayers Road. The majority of the boundary consists of hedgerow although currently there is not a physical boundary to the south western edge of the site. The land falls gently to the north towards Station Road. Telephone lines and public rights of way cross the site (ED36 and ED58). There is currently no vehicular access onto the site. Southern Water has advised that two water mains cross this site.

Site Context

3.182 The site has been identified as a broad area for urban extension in the Core Strategy. The site lies on the edge of the built form and this is reflected in the surrounding uses, which consist of a mix and range of different styles, types and ages of residential properties to the north, east and north west. There are residential properties on either side of the site fronting Station Road. There is a caravan holiday park to the south east and open countryside to the south and south west.

3.183 Station Road fronts the site and this leads directly to Dover Road (A258). The junction of these two roads is busy at peak times of the day. The site is visible from the Dover Road (A258) but is set against the existing urban form and there are views from within the site to the south towards Ripple Windmill. The Sandwich/Dover railway line runs to the west of the site.

Proposed Development

3.184 The design of the proposed development should be guided by its location on the edge of the countryside and an integral part of the proposed development will be to create a soft edge to the urban form.

3.185 In order to avoid a detrimental impact on the wider landscape, development would have to be carried out in conjunction with structural and open space landscaping to create a new south western boundary line. This is to reduce the visual impact in the wider landscape and help to create a new rural-urban transition. This should be approximately 15m in width and comprise native species. There would also need to be a landscape buffer between the proposed development and the neighbouring caravan park located to the east. These areas can also be used for SUDs and informal recreation.

3.186 Development proposals should be arranged to include frontage development along Station Road based on an informal layout, taking into account long distance views to Ripple Windmill, and include a range and mix of housing styles with a variety of roof pitches. Care should be taken with the design of the dwellings so that they do not overpower neighbouring properties on Mayers Road or John Tapping Close and do not appear prominent when viewed from the A258.

3.187 The site falls outside of the catchment of existing play space as set out in the Review of Play Area Provision 2012-2026 (March 2012). The site is of sufficient size to provide a play space which needs to be incorporated into the overall design and the layout of the development. This should be in accordance with the Council's Play Area Standards set out in Annex 1.

3.188 With regard to vehicular access, this should be from Station Road. Development proposals will also have to undertake a traffic impact assessment to establish whether any off site road improvements will need to be undertaken, in particular at the Station Road and the A258 Junction. Development at this scale would require a secondary road/emergency access and this could be established, with a defined turning head, from the south western end of Mayers Road. Mayers Road would not be suitable for any other vehicular access points to the site. There are also a number of footways that cross the site, which should be retained, enhanced and incorporated in any proposed development.

3.189 Early discussions should take place with Southern Water regarding the two water mains that cross the site and these would need to be taken into account as part of any planning application.

3.190 A combination of the scale of the development and the proximity of the site to European designated nature conservation sites means that any planning application will have to develop a strategy with a range of measures and initiatives such as the provision of informal open space or walking routes (leading to wider PROWs) within the development.

3.191 The size of the site and its location on the edge of the countryside means that it has a particular role in providing a range of dwellings that would improve the housing offer in this part of Deal. These could range from lower density, larger family homes to higher density, smaller units.

Policy LA 14

Land between 51 and 77 Station Road, Walmer, Deal

The site is allocated for residential development with an estimated capacity of 220 dwellings. Planning permission will be permitted provided that:

- i. the south western and eastern edges of the development creates a landscaped boundary with the adjacent rural area, incorporating structural and open space landscaping features;
- ii. the design incorporates frontage development along Station Road where it is not required for the access road;
- iii. long views of Ripple Windmill and the wider countryside are retained and incorporated into the layout;
- iv. footways are preserved, enhanced and integrated into the development;
- v. play space is provided in accordance with the Council's Play Area Standards;
- vi. the landscaping throughout the site would improve biodiversity value;
- vii. a mitigation strategy to address any impact on the Thanet Coast and Sandwich Bay Ramsar and SPA sites and Sandwich Bay SAC site is developed. The strategy should consider a range of measures and initiatives;
- viii. the development should provide a connection to the sewerage system at the nearest point of adequate capacity and ensure future access to the existing sewerage infrastructure for maintenance and upsizing purposes;
- ix. the main vehicular access is onto Station Road with an emergency vehicular access from Mayers Road; and
- x. measures provided to mitigate against impacts on the wider road network.

Residential Allocations

3.192 The following sites are allocated for residential development or are a change to settlement confines that may enable development but do not warrant a site specific policy. The acceptability of any planning application proposals will be judged against general Development Plan policies and all other material considerations.

Policy LA 15

Residential Development

Land Allocated for Residential Development at Deal

Site	Design Guidelines	Approx No. Of Dwellings	Issues
Stalco Engineering Mongeham Road	Mix of housing type and density. Higher density adjacent to the existing built form, progressively reducing north westwards towards the boundary with the open countryside.	36	Comprehensive development; Flood Risk; Conservation Area; Close to European Nature Conservation Designation; Waste Water pumping station and connection to the sewerage system at nearest point of adequate capacity.
Land to the rear of 133-147, St Richards Road	Mix of housing type and density. Higher density adjacent to the existing built form, progressively reducing south westwards towards the boundary with the open countryside.	40	Creation of 15m wide planted landscape buffer to the south west to protect views from Ellens Road and to enhance biodiversity
Former Deal County Primary School	Urban location that lends itself to higher density development reflecting the neighbouring residential built form. The site has full planning permission and in 2014 was under construction.	44	Open Space provided; Bat survey undertaken; Access is from Mill Road; Frontage development along Mill Road and the footway to the cemetery; Sewers

Town Centre Boundary

3.193 The Retail Update (2012) shows that Sainsburys on West Street plays an important role in terms of retaining expenditure within the local area. The town centre boundary has therefore been amended to include this area as it functions as part of the town centre and to reflect the recommendations made within the Retail Update.

Albert Road, Deal

3.194 Paragraph 3.67 of the Council's Adopted Core Strategy highlighted that there may be the potential for further development in the Middle and North Deal area.

3.195 Further investigation, in the form of the Deal Study, has narrowed down the focus of the investigation on the area between Albert Road and Southwall Road. The Study indicates that there may be the opportunity to create a new road from Albert Road to Southwall Road, which would help to relieve traffic in Southwall Road. If it can be demonstrated that there is such potential, the mix of uses, including the suitability of retail and residential development, the new road, other associated traffic improvements and compatibility with flood risk policy can be advanced through a planning application.

The development of Albert Road, Deal for B1 and B2 employment uses is covered by Saved Local Plan Policy LE5.

Betteshanger Colliery Pithead

The development of Betteshanger Colliery Pithead for B1, B2 and B8 employment uses is covered by Saved Local Plan Policy AS1.

3.3 Sandwich

3.196 Sandwich is a historic Cinque Port and market town on the River Stour, located in the north eastern part of the District. Sandwich is renowned for its medieval street pattern and high concentration of Listed Buildings. It is, however, located in a low lying landscape which has been identified as being within high risk of flooding. There are also European nature conservation designations (Ramsar, Special Protection Areas and Special Areas of Conservation) to the north and east of Sandwich.

3.197 The parish of Sandwich has a population of 4,985 ⁽¹⁶⁾ and approximately 2,528 dwellings ⁽¹⁷⁾. To the north of the town there is a major business area leading up to and including Richborough.

3.198 Sandwich serves the daily needs of the town itself and neighbouring villages and has a wide selection of services including a range of shops, primary and secondary schools and medical facilities. The town is also served by a mainline railway with a high speed train

16 2011 Census Table QS103EW

17 2011 Census Table QS418EW

service to London operating at peak times. The principal A256 route from Dover to Thanet has recently been upgraded to a dual carriageway through the East Kent Access programme. To the north of the town is Discovery Park Enterprise Zone.

3.199 An international golf course, Royal St. George's Golf Club, which has hosted the British Open Championship, lies to the immediate east of the town. A second golf course, Princes Golf Course, lies to the north east. Both are important contributors to the local economy and profile of the area. The Core Strategy has identified Sandwich as a 'Rural Service Centre' the main focus for development in the rural area, suitable for a scale of development that would reinforce its role as a provider of services to a wide rural area.

Urban Grain and Structure

3.200 The medieval origins are clearly seen in the tightly knit street pattern and built form within the remains of the town wall; a Scheduled Monument. Outside of the town wall, to the south and west, the street pattern becomes looser, reflecting latter day developments. The River Stour has, historically, limited development to the north and it is only since the 1980s that residential development has taken place in that area. Further north is the Discovery Park Enterprise Zone which was occupied by a large pharmaceutical complex (see paragraph 3.14). The site was developed gradually since the 1950s and is particularly visible from A256 and the north of Sandwich. Beyond the Enterprise Zone is a business area which has developed along the A256 (Ramsgate Road).

Employment

3.201 The Core Strategy identified that the area north of Sandwich should be promoted for a wide range of uses to support jobs. The Discovery Park Enterprise Zone comprises of high quality Research and Development buildings. The Richborough area, which is north of the Enterprise Zone, comprises smaller-scale industry and brownfield land suitable for commercial redevelopment. This area, which is close to the boundary of Thanet District, has become a focus for waste treatment, renewable and low carbon energy industries.

3.202 Richborough Power Station and the former landfill site (which consists of raised land) and adjoining low grade agricultural land to the west between the River Stour and the railway line, provides a potential location for such facilities, as well as a connection to the National Grid. The Council has approved applications for a Solar Farm, Peaking Plant Facility, and site-wide infrastructure to facilitate the creation of a green energy park. The Council, in liaison with Thanet District Council and Kent County Council (as the Minerals and Waste Authority) will continue to explore, with the promoters of any schemes, whether this potential can be realised. Particular regard would need to be had to environmental, transport and wildlife impacts together with visual impact on landscape and on the gateway location to and from Thanet.

3.203 The Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan (which includes the Waste Sites Plan and Minerals Sites Plan published in May 2012) identifies this area as a location for energy from waste, green waste treatment and material recycling facilities. Development proposals in this area should also refer to these Plans and the relevant National Planning Statements.

Core Strategy

3.204 The Settlement Hierarchy set out in the Core Strategy identified that the town is the main focus for development in the rural area. The main issues raised in the Core Strategy are that:

- there is evidence that the centre is losing vibrancy;
- there is a need for improved coach parking facilities;
- some affordable housing will have to be met at Dover or Deal, where there is more opportunity for development;
- the Richborough business area should be promoted for a wide range of uses that would support jobs growth and the research and development functions across the business and education sectors.

3.205 The Core Strategy states that development should reflect the existing character whilst taking opportunities to improve design standards. The potential for previously developed sites in the town and undeveloped sites on the edge of the town are limited. The town is subject to a number of constraints to development including the narrow road network of the medieval core, the high concentration of historic assets and flood risk. The areas at risk from flooding will be improved with a planned new flood defence scheme, which is anticipated to be completed in 2015. Overall, there are few locations where development could take place without any of these constraints. The Core Strategy has identified a broad location for urban extension on land on the south western edge of the town.

Provision of Infrastructure

3.206 An integral part of the Strategy is to ensure that development proposals are supported by the timely provision of an appropriate level of infrastructure (such as affordable housing, open spaces, highways). This is reflected in Policy CP6. The Core Strategy identifies two specific requirements:

- a new flood defence system from Sandwich Bay to Pegwell Bay; and
- A GP based facility (subject to further investigation).

3.207 The Sandwich town tidal defence scheme will be completed in 2015 and will reduce the risk of tidal flooding to Sandwich and Stonar Loop.

Housing Allocations

3.208 The local housing market is strong at Sandwich with high demand and average house prices remaining relatively high across the area since 2001.

3.209 The Core Strategy housing allocation for Sandwich is 500 dwellings. After taking account of sites identified through completed and unimplemented planning permissions (see Table 3.1), there is a residual of 230 dwellings to allocate. The housing provision for Sandwich is geared around meeting local rather than strategic need and will ensure that the population remains static. This will remedy the continuing trend of falling household size, but will not address the issues regarding the ageing of the population. Any development should reinforce but not change the area's housing offer and should reflect the existing character while taking opportunities to improve design standards.

3.210 Although Sandwich is constrained by Flood Zones 2 and 3, revised Environment Agency mapping shows reduced risk, particularly to the south. Two sites have been identified for future development that are within the sequentially preferable Flood Zone 1. The allocated sites are identified on the diagrammatic plan below.

Housing Sites



Figure 3.7 Diagram illustrating allocated sites in Sandwich

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Land to the west of St Bart's Road, Sandwich

Site Location and Characteristics

3.211 The 5.2 ha site is located on the western edge of Sandwich and consists primarily of flat open agricultural land but also includes a dwelling that fronts Woodnesborough Road. The dwelling is enclosed behind an established hedgerow. Existing vehicular access on to the site is from Woodnesborough Road to the north west and St Bart's Road to the north east. A byway (ES10) crosses the site from the east to the west. A bridleway (ES8) runs along the south western boundary. Southern Water has advised that a water main crosses this site and that there is insufficient sewerage capacity directly available to serve this site.

Site Context

3.212 The site lies on the edge of the town's built area. There is residential development to the north and open farmland to the south. Allotments lie between the residential properties to the north and the site. Sandwich Junior School lies further to the south east.

3.213 As the site is close to European designated nature conservation sites, it is within 2 km, there could be in combination recreational impacts with other development sites in the District (please see Mitigation Strategy in Annex 1).

Proposed Development

3.214 Any planning application should be sympathetic to the transitional context of the location on the rural fringe. It is considered that development in this area would not have an unduly detrimental impact on the wider landscape but the transition from the town to the countryside is an important consideration in any design. In order to provide this, any application should include landscaping along the south western and south eastern boundaries and retain any existing hedgerows and vegetation. The landscaping should be an intermittent mixture of trees and hedging, providing glimpses of development, and provide a suitable transition to the countryside.

3.215 Whilst the size of the site would be capable of accommodating a greater number of dwellings the scale of development has been limited to 120 dwellings due to highway limitations. Vehicular access to the site should be from a single access onto Woodnesborough Road to the north of the site with an emergency access from St Bart's Road.

3.216 Black Lane, a byway (ES10) which crosses the site, should be retained and enhanced as part of any development except where access to the eastern part of the site is required to cross it. The bridleway (ES8) to the south east will also have to be retained and enhanced as part of any development.

3.217 The design and layout of the proposed development will need to address the relationship of Black Lane and the allotments.

3.218 The statutory allotments, which are protected under Policy DM25, have been excluded from the area of land that has been allocated for housing development because they provide a valuable community use.

3.219 A combination of the scale of the development and the proximity of the site to European designated nature conservation sites means that any planning application will have to develop a strategy with a range of measures and initiatives such as the provision of informal open space or walking routes (leading to wider PROWs) within the development.

3.220 Early discussions should take place with Southern Water regarding connection to the wider sewerage system and the water main that crosses the site, which would need to be taken into account in the layout proposals of any planning application.

3.221 As the site is in multiple ownership it should be planned comprehensively. If it is implemented incrementally, each stage must demonstrate that it will not prejudice the implementation of the remainder.

3.222 The overall size of the site and its location on the edge of the countryside provide the opportunity to offer a range of dwellings that would improve the housing offer in Sandwich. These could range from lower density, larger family homes to higher density, smaller units. The starting point for any proposal would be the mix identified in the SHMA.

Policy LA 16

Land to the west of St Bart's Road, Sandwich

The site is allocated for residential development with an estimated capacity of 120 dwellings. Planning permission will be permitted provided that:

- i. development proposals are sensitive to the adjacent rural landscape and reflect the spatial and rural characteristics of adjacent landforms and development;
- ii. there is a comprehensive approach to development of the whole site;
- iii. a mitigation strategy to address any impact on the Thanet Coast and Sandwich Bay Ramsar and SPA sites and Sandwich Bay SAC site is developed. The strategy should consider a range of measures and initiatives;
- iv. the Byway (ES10) , which crosses the site, should be retained and enhanced as part of any development except where access to the eastern part of the site is required to cross it. The bridleway (ES8) is retained and enhanced.
- v. development should provide a connection to the sewerage system at the nearest point of adequate capacity and ensure future access to the existing water supply infrastructure for maintenance and upsizing purposes;
- vi. intermittent landscaping, providing glimpses of development behind, is provided along the south western and south eastern boundaries in order to provide a suitable transition to the countryside;
- vii. existing boundary hedgerows and vegetation are retained;
- viii. the design and layout of the proposed development addresses the relationship of Black Lane and the allotments; and
- ix. vehicular access to the site is from Woodnesborough Road with an emergency access from St Bart's Road.

Land adjacent to the Sandwich Technology School, Deal Road

Site Location and Characteristics

3.223 This 3.47 ha, irregular shaped site is located on the southern edge of the town. It consists of a flat agricultural field and associated farm buildings, with an established hedgerow around the boundary. An irrigation main runs across the site from Dover Road to Deal Road. The existing vehicular access is from Dover Road. Southern Water has advised there is insufficient sewerage (underground) capacity directly available to serve this site.

Site Context

3.224 The site is located on Deal Road, which is one of the main routes into Sandwich. The site is on the edge of the town and the surrounding uses reflect this rural/urban transition. Sandwich Technology School is to the west of the site and there are residential dwellings, fronting Dover Road, along the northern boundary and to the north east. Sandwich Sports and Leisure Centre is located within the school grounds, adjacent to the boundary to the site. There is a farm shop to the east and open countryside to the south east. There are three listed buildings located on Dover Road and the boundary of these properties abut the site. Kent County Council Highways has indicated that Dover Road is not suitable to serve any further large scale development due to the number of accidents at the junction of Dover Road and Deal Road.

3.225 Although the site does not abut European designated nature conservation sites, it is within 2 km and there could be in combination recreational impacts with other development sites in this part of the District.

3.226 The Sandwich Sports and Leisure Centre which opened in 1991, is operated by a not for profit organisation managed by Trustees. The Centre has been continually updated since it opened and now includes a range of leisure facilities including badminton and squash courts, multi-activity room, fitness and weight training suite, artificial turf pitch and the refurbishment of the schools multi-sport surface (netball & tennis courts). The Centre is opened to the general public and is also used by pupils from the Sandwich Technology School.

3.227 The future plans for the Centre include a new car park, playing field and/or artificial turf pitch for hockey or for the local football team and possibly, allied to this, an athletics facility. The intention is to implement their plan in stages, as and when funding is available.

Proposed Development

3.228 The allocation is for residential development and the expansion of the Sports and Leisure Centre so that the two uses can be planned comprehensively. This approach allows flexibility to secure the most appropriate disposition of land uses across the site, including residential and sport related uses.

3.229 To ensure that the development is comprehensive, the District Council will require a development brief for the whole site to accompany any planning application (whether it is for part of the site or whole site) which has been agreed by the Council. The development brief will, amongst other things, determine the extent of the residential development, the number of dwellings, the type and nature of sports facilities required and the following issues:

Access

- Vehicular access for the residential element should be off Deal Road, which would require removal of part of the existing hedge to provide suitable sight lines. Access to the Sports and Leisure Centre could either be from the existing access to the centre or via the new development. Measures should also be incorporated to improve cycling and pedestrian connectivity between Deal Road and Dover Road.

Infrastructure

- It should demonstrate how the overall development meets the requirements for water and drainage and any contributions to off-site infrastructure that may be necessary. Early discussions should take place with Southern Water regarding a connection to the sewerage system at the nearest point of adequate capacity.

Layout

- Any proposals for development will need to address and demonstrate how the residential and the expansion of the Sports and Leisure Centre can be accommodated on the site in terms of noise, lighting, scale and form, siting of buildings and street scene.

Design and Appearance

- The site is located on the edge of the historic town so any development will have to take into account and address the transition from the rural open character to the town. Any development should create a 'soft' edge by reducing the density of development and create a looser grain along Deal Road frontage. Buildings for Sports and Leisure use should be located next to the existing built form of the existing facilities, unless it can be demonstrated that there is a particular need for an alternative location.

Landscaping

- In order to reduce the visual impact of the proposed development, additional landscaping along Deal Road within the boundary of the site should be created to soften the impact of the built form.

Residential Development

3.230 The overall size of the site and its location on the edge of the countryside provide the opportunity to offer a range of dwellings that would improve the housing offer in Sandwich. These could range from lower density, larger family homes to higher density, smaller units. The starting point for any proposal would be the mix identified in the SHMA. The estimated capacity for the site (based on 30 dwellings per hectare) is 60 dwellings but this may vary depending upon the outcome of the development brief.

3.231 A combination of the scale of the development and the proximity of the site to European designated nature conservation sites means that any planning application will have to develop a strategy with a range of measures and initiatives such as the provision of informal open space or walking routes (leading to wider PROWs) within the development (please see Mitigation Strategy in Annex 1). The Development Brief should also demonstrate how the residential development meets the requirements for Green Infrastructure and open space

Expansion of the Sandwich Sports and Leisure Centre

3.232 Early discussions will need to take place with the landowner, Dover District Council, the Leisure Centre and Sandwich Town Council regarding the expansion of the Centre. Any planning application for new facilities will need to take into account the NPPF/PPG in relation to 'town centre' uses and undertake a sequential analysis of alternative sites as appropriate. Proposals should also take full account of the provisions set out in the District Council's

Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy or any other relevant open space strategies. There are, for example, no secure public access artificial pitches suitable for hockey in the District.

Policy LA 17

Land adjacent to the Sandwich Technology School, Deal Road, Sandwich

The site is allocated for residential development with an estimated capacity of 60 dwellings and the expansion of the Sandwich Sports and Leisure Centre. Planning permission will be permitted provided that:

- i. any application for development is preceded by, and is consistent with a development brief for the whole of the site which has been agreed by the Council;
- ii. there is a comprehensive approach to development of the whole site but if the site is developed in phases, each phase must demonstrate through reference to the agreed development brief that it will not prejudice the implementation of the whole development;
- iii. the transition from countryside to urban is retained by ensuring that development is of a lower density and looser grain along the frontage on Deal Road;
- iv. existing hedgerows are retained unless removal is shown to be necessary to provide sight lines for access;
- v. the existing irrigation main is incorporated into the development;
- vi. a mitigation strategy to address any impact from the residential development on the Thanet Coast and Sandwich Bay Ramsar and SPA sites and Sandwich Bay SAC site is developed. The strategy should consider a range of measures and initiatives;
- vii. the development should provide a connection to the sewerage system at the nearest point of adequate capacity; and
- viii. vehicular access to the site is from Deal Road with an emergency access onto Dover Road.

Sandwich Town Centre

3.233 The 2002 Local Plan did not designate a town centre boundary or primary shopping frontages for Sandwich. It was considered inappropriate at that time due to the relatively dispersed nature of the centre and the wide variety of uses. A 'Secondary Shopping Frontage' in the town was, however, designated through Policy DM22 in the Core Strategy to allow for a greater flexibility in the mix of uses encouraged in the area.

3.234 In recent years, however, this situation has led to ambiguity in respect of whether proposed development sites are defined as "in", "edge" or "out" of centre for the purposes of the sequential assessment. Following recommendations in the Retail Update (2012), the

District Council has designated a town centre area and Primary Shopping Area in Sandwich to protect the vitality and viability of the town centre and to provide clarity for any sequential assessments.

3.235 The area designated as the town centre and the Primary Shopping Area includes the length of King Street, turning into Delf Street and branching out into Market Street, to the north, The Butchery, Potter Street and Cattle Market, to the south. The designation also includes St Peter's Church off Market Street, the Guild Hall in Cattle Market, and the supermarket off Moat Sole.

3.236 The Council will require applications for retail, office and leisure development which are located outside of the Town Centre and Primary Shopping Area that have a gross floor area that exceeds 500 sq m to be accompanied by an Impact Assessment.

Policy LA 18

Sandwich Town Centre

Planning permission will only be given for A1, A2, A3, A4 and A5 uses within the ground floor premises in the designated Sandwich Secondary Shopping Frontage.

Elsewhere in the Sandwich Town Centre and the designated Primary Shopping Area planning permission will only be given for the conversion of ground floor premises from Main Town Centre and A2 uses if it has been adequately demonstrated that the use is no longer commercially viable and genuine and adequate attempts to market the premises for retail purposes, main town centre and A2 uses have failed.

New Convenience Retail Provision in Sandwich

3.237 The Dover District Retail Update (2012) has indicated that there is a quantitative need over the Plan period for around 2,400m² gross of additional convenience goods retail floorspace in the Deal/Sandwich trade area. The Council considers that there is potential to increase the quantity and quality of convenience floorspace provision in Sandwich to help broaden the range and choice to the benefit of its local catchment population, whilst also helping to strengthen the role of Sandwich in the settlement hierarchy. New floorspace of an appropriate scale in a location that is well connected to the town centre would help to increase the 'claw back' and retention of shoppers and expenditure from the 2012 position.

3.238 The NPPF recognises that town centres are at the heart of communities and that Plans should allocate suitable sites for main town centre uses to meet the scale and type of retail development that is needed. If sufficient town centre or edge of centre sites cannot be identified or viable town centre sites are not available, the Council should set policies for meeting the identified need in other accessible locations that are well connected to the town centre.

3.239 The tight historic grain of Sandwich town centre does not readily provide opportunities for larger retail provision. An assessment has been carried out to identify whether there are any suitable and viable sites within the town centre and edge of centre locations for the provision of a small to medium sized supermarket. No such sites have been identified. The Plan, therefore, sets out a criteria based policy against which any planning applications will be judged.

3.240 Any planning application will need to take fully into account a detailed assessment of the constraints and opportunities covering the whole of the site and its context. It will need to be demonstrated that the design, orientation and positioning of the retail unit and any landscaping do not detract from the appearance, character and setting of any heritage assets and the existing built form. In order to reinforce local distinctiveness, consideration should be given to the use of local materials and details. The new development should also include measures that promote legibility, natural surveillance and way finding to the town centre.

3.241 Detailed consideration will need to be given in any planning application to access for delivery vehicles and the location of the service yard in terms of the residential amenity of any nearby properties.

3.242 Given the archaeological importance of Sandwich, any site is likely to contain nationally important archaeological remains. Archaeological desk-based assessment and field evaluation works may be required to inform any future development proposal.

Policy LA 19

New Convenience Retail Provision in Sandwich

Planning permission for new convenience provision in Sandwich will be permitted provided that proposals:

- i. follow the sequential approach for main town centre uses as set out in the National Planning Policy Framework and National Planning Practice Guidance;
- ii. include an assessment of the impact of the proposed development on Sandwich town centre and any other relevant town centres, relating to the scale and the type of development proposed in compliance with the National Planning Policy Framework and National Planning Practice Guidance;
- iii. demonstrate that the site is in an accessible location and well connected to the town centre that would encourage people to walk, cycle and use public transport, in order to maximise the benefits of linked trips;
- iv. respond to the local character, identity, the historic assets and setting of Sandwich;
- v. the visual impact of any car parking is reduced by a combination of its location and appropriate landscaping; and
- vi. demonstrate the access arrangements and the service yard are located in a position that protects the residential amenity.

3.4 Rural Area

3.243 The Core Strategy has identified the need for 1,200 homes in the rural area. Table 3.1 sets out the residual requirement (830 dwellings) after taking into account unimplemented commitments and completions since 2006. Whilst the Core Strategy identified a Settlement Hierarchy the distribution of housing in the rural area is a matter for this Plan.

3.244 This Plan has identified a range of sites in the rural area for future development that reflect the environmental constraints and the ability of a settlement to accommodate additional development. Sites that have been identified for development will allow the organic growth of settlements to take place in a managed and sustainable way whilst meeting the housing requirements for the rural area.

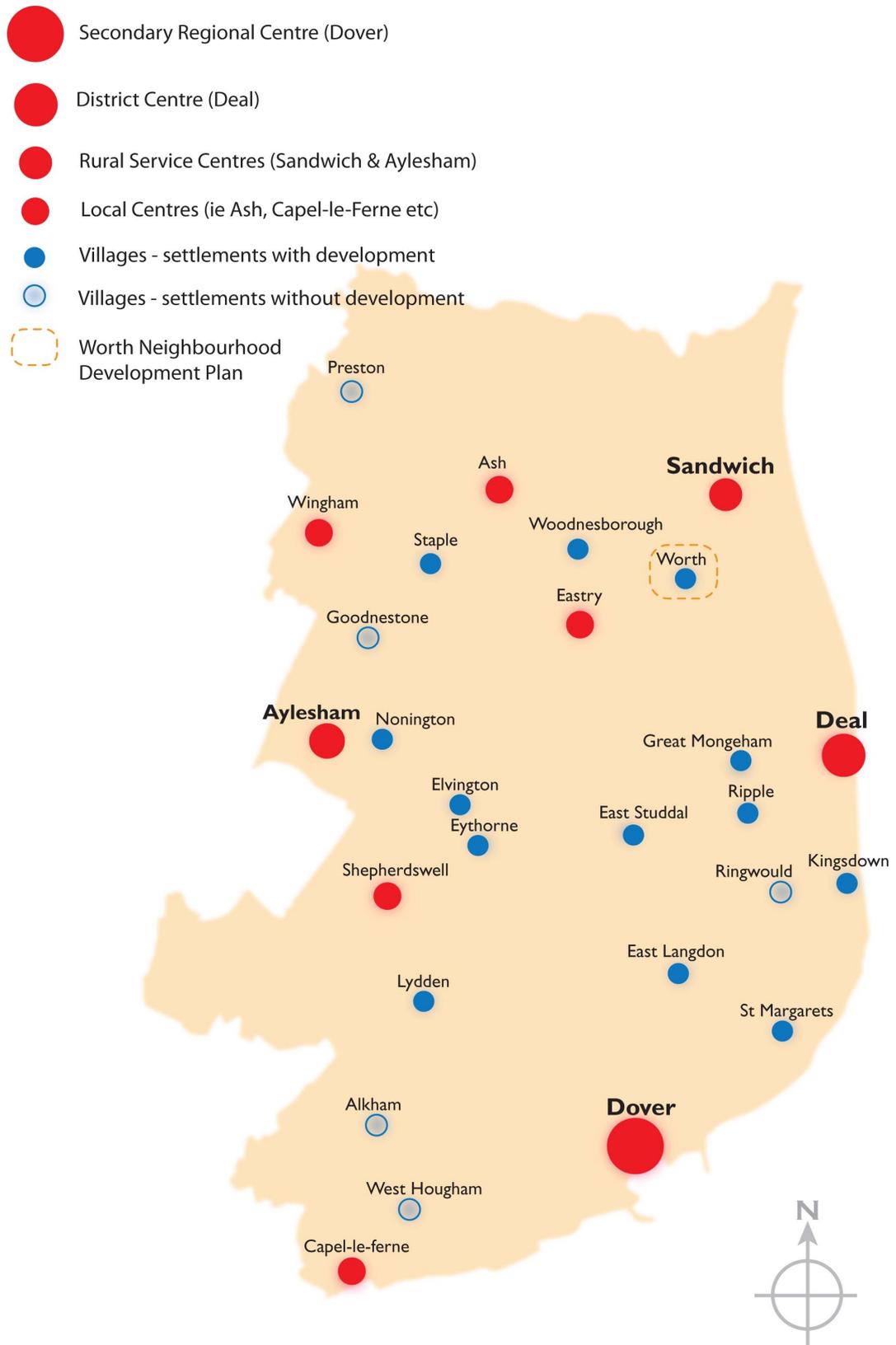


Figure 3.8 Diagram illustrating the distribution of residential development in the rural area

Housing Quality

3.245 In the rural area, the purpose is to reinforce; the aim is to reflect the existing character of the area, while taking any opportunities to improve design standards. In contrast to the local housing market of Dover, the local housing market of much of the rural area (with the exception of Aylesham) is performing well. In line with Policy CP5 - Sustainable Construction Standards, both design and construction standards should be high to deliver a high quality environment. Further guidance on the purpose of the housing provision is given in paragraphs 3.35 to 3.41 of the Core Strategy, and must be taken into account when drawing up detailed proposals for housing sites to ensure appropriate design and mix of housing types.

3.246 The majority of site allocations and change of confines in the rural area will enable small to medium scale developments to come forward. On these sites, local characteristics should be reflected to offer not only family housing, but also to provide for the ageing population. Where larger scale development is proposed, in the range of 30 to 100 dwellings, there is an opportunity for foreground buildings to be incorporated, whilst creating vistas and focal points and if appropriate create landmark features. Where this opportunity exists reference is made within the policy.

Worth

3.247 This Plan has not examined the need for future development in the settlement of Worth as a Neighbourhood Plan is being developed by the local community (see paragraphs 1.10 to 1.12). In line with the NPPF, the Council should not duplicate this process, which is being led by the community. Details are available on the Council's website (www.dover.gov.uk/neighbourhoodplans).

Aylesham

3.248 The village was identified as a strategic development opportunity site in Dover District Local Plan (2002) for up to 1,000 new homes, primary school extension, employment uses, food retail and associated mix of uses.

The Core Strategy (para 3.31) has identified that the Local Plan policies (AY1 to AY11) will remain 'saved' and will not be reviewed as part of this Plan.

Rural settlements that have not been identified for additional development

3.249 There are a number of settlements in the District where sites have been assessed and have not been identified for development:

- Alkham
- Goodnestone
- Preston
- Ripple
- West Hougham

3.5 Local Centres

3.5.1 Ash

3.250 Ash is located in the northern part of the District approximately 2.5km to the west of Sandwich and a similar distance from Wingham to the east. It is one of the largest villages in the District, within a parish consisting of a population of 3,365 people ⁽¹⁸⁾ and 1,392 dwellings. ⁽¹⁹⁾

3.251 The village has a wide range of commercial and community facilities including a Doctor's surgery, primary school, two churches, village hall (with library) and a range of shops including a post office. Ash is located approximately 3.5km from the Discovery Park Enterprise Zone, which is just north of Sandwich.

3.252 To help sustain and strengthen Ash's role in the Settlement Hierarchy, it is considered that additional housing will be required over the lifespan of this Plan. The constraints on development relate to the impact on the wider landscape as the village is highly visible from the south, and heritage, as there are three conservation areas and numerous listed buildings in the village.

3.253 Three sites have been identified for residential development and these will provide approximately 200 dwellings and three are also three changes to the Ash Settlement Confines. Any new development arising from the changes to the settlement confines would be determined against Development Management policies in the Core Strategy. The allocated sites and the changes to the confines are identified on the diagrammatic plan below.

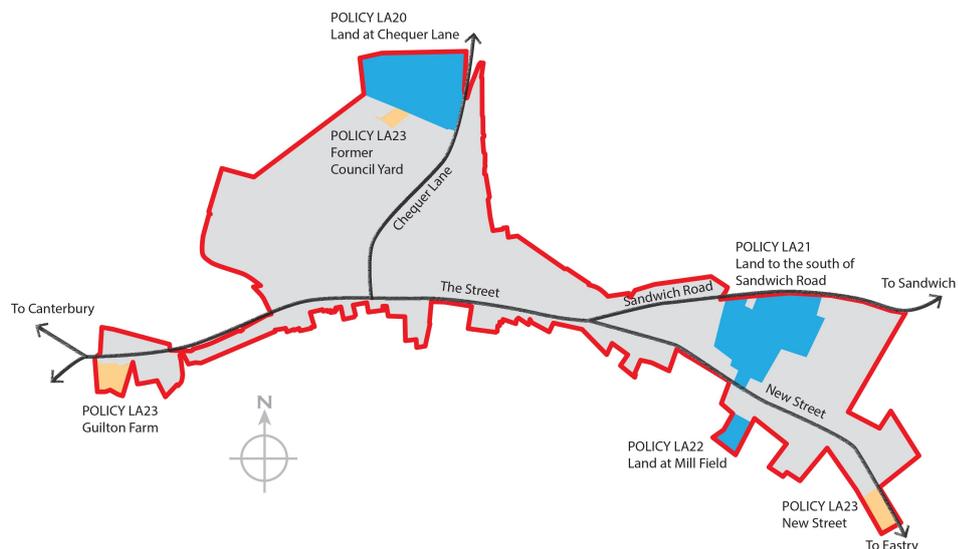


Figure 3.9 Diagram to illustrate Allocated Sites and Changes to Settlement Confines in Ash

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Land at Chequer Lane, Ash

Site Location and Characteristics

3.254 The 3ha site is located on the northern side of Ash, south of the A257 (Ash Bypass) and the west of Chequer Lane, which it fronts. There is a change in levels between the site and Chequer Lane, which increases to the north. The site is flat and consists of agricultural land with two Public Rights of Way crossing the site. One Public Right of Way (EE113) runs north to south across the site, whilst the other (EE112) runs along the southern boundary. There is currently no vehicular access to this site from Chequer Lane and no landscaping delineating the western boundary. Southern Water has advised that a water main crosses this site and that there is insufficient sewerage (underground) capacity directly available to serve this site.

Site Context

3.255 The surrounding uses reflect the edge of village location. There is a mature landscaping buffer constructed for the A257 (Ash Bypass), which consists of trees, vegetation and a bund to the north of the site. There are residential properties to the south and east and open agricultural land to the west. There is a former Council yard, consisting of garages and scout hut, also to the south of the site which is allocated separately in Policy LA23.

Proposed Development

3.256 Chequer Lane is one of the main routes into the village. Development on the site provides an opportunity to create a design that defines and creates an entrance to the village.

3.257 Development proposals will have to demonstrate the ability to accommodate a satisfactory vehicular access from Chequer Lane. This could either be through the design of the access or alternatively through the provision of an emergency access from either Chequer Lane or through the former Council yard off Molland Lea.

3.258 In order to provide the opportunity for a greater degree of connectivity by foot and cycling, between the proposed development, the centre of Ash, and the local primary school, it will be important that the two Public Rights of Way are enhanced and incorporated into the design and layout.

3.259 Development proposals should create a new western boundary to the site through additional landscaping to extend the established wildlife corridor along the northern edge of the site formed by the A257 bund. In order to provide a sufficient substantial boundary this landscaping should be no less than 15m in width to accommodate native species of trees and SUDs. The area could also be used for informal recreation. In order to reduce the landscape impact the development should create a 'soft' edge by reducing the density of development and creating a looser grain along the western boundary.

3.260 Early discussions should take place with Southern Water regarding the water mains that crosses the site, which would need to be taken into account in the layout proposals of any planning application. They have also indicated that there is insufficient sewerage (underground) capacity available to serve this site and that any new development should connect to the nearest point of adequate capacity available.

3.261 A combination of the scale of the development and the proximity of the site to European designated nature conservation sites means that any planning application will have to develop a strategy with a range of measures and initiatives such as the provision of informal open space or walking routes (leading to wider PROWs) within the development.

3.262 The size of the site and its location on the edge of the village provides an opportunity to offer a range of dwellings that would improve the housing offer in Ash. The starting point for any proposal would be the mix identified in the SHMA but there is an opportunity to provide larger, lower density, family dwellings towards the western edge of the site, reflecting the looser grain of the rural edge. Higher density development could be created along the southern and eastern boundaries, reflecting the spatial character of the existing built development. Development should front Chequer Lane to help define the edge of the proposed development and to reinforce the residential character of this road.

Policy LA 20

Land to the West of Chequer Lane, Ash

The site is allocated for residential development with an estimated capacity of 90 dwellings. Planning permission will be permitted provided that:

- i. the existing boundary hedgerows and vegetation are retained and landscaping, of no less than 15m in width, is established along the western boundary;
- ii. the density of development along the western boundary is reduced to mitigate any landscape impact;
- iii. the Public Rights of Way (EE112 and EE113) are enhanced and incorporated in the design and layout to improve cycle and pedestrian connections from Chequer Lane and Molland Lea;
- iv. the main vehicular access will be from Chequer Lane with an emergency access off either Chequer Lane or Molland Lea;
- v. development should provide a connection to the sewerage system at the nearest point of adequate capacity and ensure future access to the existing water supply infrastructure for maintenance and upsizing purposes; and
- vi. a mitigation strategy to address any impact on the Thanet Coast and Sandwich Bay Ramsar and SPA sites and Sandwich Bay SAC site is developed. The strategy should consider a range of measures and initiatives.

Land to the South of Sandwich Road, Ash

Site Location and Characteristics

3.263 The 3.23ha site is located on the eastern side of Ash, south of Sandwich Road. The site is in multiple ownership and the existing uses reflect this, consisting of garden land, paddocks, agricultural land (an old orchard), residential properties, and a business use. The residential properties front Sandwich Road and have been included within the site boundary to enable access to the site.

3.264 There are hedgerows along the western frontage with Sandwich Road, Cherry Garden Lane and within the site delineating land ownership. Southern Water has advised that a sewer crosses this site and that there is insufficient sewerage (underground) capacity directly available to serve this site.

3.265 There are a number of existing access points from Sandwich Road and New Street. The site also includes Cherry Garden, a residential property, which has direct access from Cherry Garden Lane.

Site Context

3.266 The site is located on the edge of the built form of the village with residential development to the east, west and south of the site. There are open agricultural fields to the north, beyond Sandwich Road.

3.267 Early discussions should take place with Southern Water regarding the sewer that crosses the site, which would need to be taken into account in the layout proposals of any planning application. They have also indicated that there is insufficient sewerage (underground) capacity available to serve this site and that any new development should connect to the nearest point of adequate capacity.

3.268 A combination of the scale of the development and the proximity of the site to European designated nature conservation sites means that any planning application will have to develop a strategy with a range of measures and initiatives such as the provision of informal open space or walking routes (leading to wider PROWs) within the development.

Proposed Development

3.269 As the site is within multiple ownership it is important that any development should be considered comprehensively, rather than piecemeal, with one spine road through the whole site. If the site was developed incrementally, each phase must demonstrate that it will not prejudice the implementation of the whole development. This is particularly important for the western most parcel of land which would not otherwise have a suitable access.

3.270 To ensure that the site is developed comprehensively the District Council will require a development brief for the whole site to accompany any planning application (whether it is for part of the site or whole site). The development brief should identify 'constraints and opportunities' and include sections on density, design (including heights, scale and massing) and access. It should also demonstrate how the overall development meets the requirements for Thanet Coast and Sandwich Bay SPA mitigation, open space, Green Infrastructure, water drainage and any contributions to off-site infrastructure that may be necessary. The

development brief should be agreed by all landowners within the allocation and drawn up in consultation with the Parish Council (it also could form part of the Ash Neighbourhood Development Plan).

3.271 There are a number of potential access options to the area of land to the rear of 71 Sandwich Road. The outcome of the public consultation, indicated that the preferred access arrangements would be for the main access/accesses to be from Sandwich Road with the emergency access from New Street. This is the Council's preferred option. Vehicular access should not be from Cherry Garden Lane as this would have a detrimental impact on the character of this road and the setting of the village.

3.272 An integral part of the proposed development will be to create a soft edge to Ash. The design and height of buildings is an important consideration to avoid any detrimental impact on the setting of the village or the wider landscape. The retention of many of the existing hedgerows as well as other vegetation on the boundary line will be important to reduce this impact.

3.273 The size of the site and its location on the edge of the village provides the opportunity to offer a range of dwellings that would improve the housing offer in Ash. The starting point for any proposal would be the mix identified in the SHMA but there is an opportunity to provide larger, lower density, family dwellings along the frontage of Sandwich Road to ensure the development reflects the loose rural character of this road. The opportunity exists to create higher density smaller units within the central area of the site, similar to neighbouring residential development.

Policy LA 21

Land to the South of Sandwich Road, Ash.

The site is allocated for residential development with an estimated capacity of 95 dwellings. Planning permission will be permitted provided that:

- i. any application for development is preceded by, and is consistent with a development brief for the whole of the site which has been agreed by the Council;
- ii. there is a comprehensive approach to development of the whole site but if the site is developed incrementally, each phase must demonstrate that it will not prejudice the implementation of the whole development;
- iii. the impact of development on the setting of the village and wider landscape is minimised through the siting, massing and scale of new buildings;
- iv. the existing boundary hedgerows and vegetation are retained and enhanced as part of the development;
- v. vehicular access is located from Sandwich Road with an emergency access from New Street;
- vi. there is no vehicular access from the development on Cherry Garden Lane;
- vii. development should provide a connection to the sewerage system at the nearest point of adequate capacity and ensure future access to the existing water supply infrastructure for maintenance and upsizing purposes; and
- viii. a mitigation strategy to address any impact on the Thanet Coast and Sandwich Bay Ramsar and SPA sites and Sandwich Bay SAC site is developed. The strategy should consider a range of measures and initiatives.

Land at Mill Field, Ash

Site Location and Characteristics

3.274 The 0.33ha site is located on the south eastern side of Ash at the end of an existing cul-de-sac, Mill Field, which is outside of the village confines as it is a rural exceptions site. The site slopes gently in a north facing direction. The grass field continues to the south west of the site where it starts to fall away from the brow of the hill. There is no existing boundary line between the site and the remainder of the field. There are hedgerows along the eastern and northern boundaries of the site and a fence along the western boundary. The existing access to the site is from Mill Field.

Site Context

3.275 The surrounding uses reflect the edge of village location. To the north and west of the site there are higher density residential properties. To the south west is the remaining part of the grassed field, which the site is currently part of. To the south there are three

residential properties set in larger plots of land and beyond these there is open countryside. To the east of the site there is an equestrian related use, which consists of a small group of sheds and grazing paddocks.

3.276 To the west, behind the existing properties on Mill Field, there are two PROW (EE111 and EE111A). Coombe Lane lies to the south beyond the remaining part of the grassed field. There is a mature hedgerow between this road and the field.

3.277 The local conditions would suggest that there may be a possibility of great crested newts within the local area.

Proposed Development

3.278 The site provides an opportunity for the development of family homes adjacent to the existing residential properties in Mill Field. Access to the site would be from Mill Field.

3.279 Although the site is set against existing development, it is on the brow of the hill and care would be needed in design terms to avoid creating a harsh urban skyline in the wider rural landscape. The massing, materials and heights of buildings should be considered as part of any planning application.

3.280 A new southern boundary would have to be created through the use of some mixed landscaping (such as through the use of trees and hedgerows). This could also assist with reducing any impact of the development on the wider landscape. Existing boundary hedgerows should also be retained and, where possible, enhanced.

3.281 Development should provide a connection to the sewerage system at the nearest point of adequate capacity, as advised by Southern Water.

3.282 The possible existence of great crested newts within the local area would mean that this issue would have to be investigated at the time of the planning application.

Policy LA 22

Land at Mill Field, Ash

The site is allocated for residential development with an estimated capacity of 10 dwellings. Planning permission will be permitted provided that:

- i. development proposals are sensitive to the wider rural landscape and reflect the spatial and rural characteristics of the adjacent Mill Field development;
- ii. an intermittent landscape buffer, consisting of a mixture of trees and hedgerow is created along the southern boundary of the allocation and existing boundary hedgerows and vegetation are retained and, where possible, enhanced; and
- iii. the development should provide a connection to the sewerage system at the nearest point of adequate capacity.

Residential Allocations

3.283 The following sites are allocated for residential development or are a change to settlement confines that may enable development but do not warrant a site specific policy. The acceptability of any planning application proposals will be judged against general Development Plan policies and all other material considerations.

Policy LA 23

Residential Development

Land Allocated for Residential Development at Ash

Site	Design Guidelines	Approx No. Of Dwellings	Issues
Former Council Yard, Molland Lea	Opportunity to provide higher density development.	5	Incorporate or relocate the Scout Hut Pedestrian/cycle connections to local services and P R O W connections
67-99 Sandwich Road	The change has been introduced to include existing dwellings.	Change to Settlement Confines	
Land at the Vineries & 111 and 115 New Street	Limited frontage development	Change to Settlement Confines	
Gilton Farm, Gilton	Sympathetic conversion of farm buildings	Change to Settlement Confines	

3.5.2 Capel-le-Ferne

3.284 Capel-le-Ferne's designation as a Local Centre reflects its role in serving other nearby settlements (i.e. Alkham and West Hougham). The Parish has a population of 1,884 people ⁽²⁰⁾ and 1,080 dwellings ⁽²¹⁾.

20 2011 Census Table QS103EW

21 2011 Census Table QS418EW

3.285 Capel-le-Ferne is located in a prominent cliff-top position, with properties on the Old Dover Road having extensive views across the English Channel. The AONB is adjacent to the built form in a number of places at the edge of the village. The undeveloped land located between the sea and the Old Dover Road is also protected as Heritage Coast. As a consequence there are very limited development opportunities that would not damage the setting of the AONB or the character of the village itself.

3.286 Perhaps as a consequence of its countryside and coastal position, the settlement is a popular tourist destination. The settlement has three static caravan parks each with their own on-site facilities. In addition, a large number of visitors are attracted to Capel-le-Ferne to visit the Battle of Britain Memorial.

3.287 The settlement has a village hall, a primary school and two churches. A farmers' market operates each week from the village hall. Capel-le-Ferne's location, on the western fringe of the District, means that the town of Folkestone is used for many services and facilities. At the time the settlement hierarchy was established the Parish Council welcomed additional housing accompanied with improved infrastructure, including a doctor's surgery.

3.288 Two sites have been identified for residential development, which will provide approximately 90 dwellings. There is also one change to the Capel-le-Ferne Settlement Confines (see Policy LA25). The allocated sites and the change to the confines are identified on the diagrammatic plan below.

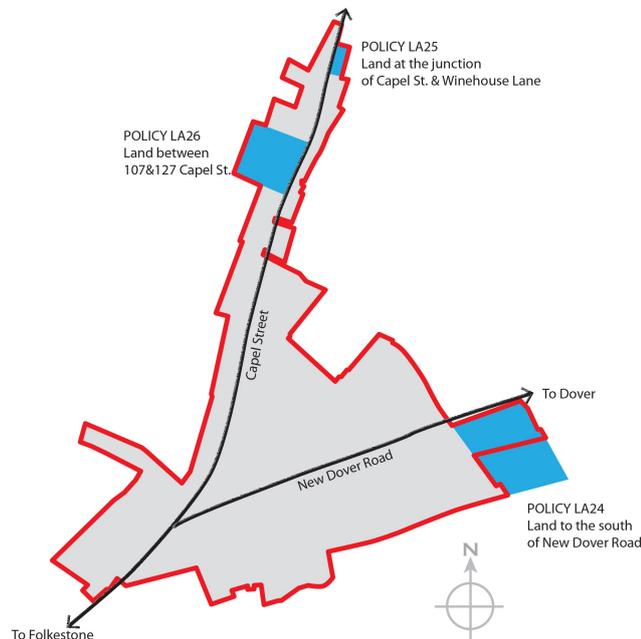


Figure 3.10 Diagram illustrating allocated sites and change in settlement confines in Capel le Ferne

Land to the south of New Dover Road, between Capel Court Caravan Park and Helena Road, Capel le Ferne

Site Location and Characteristics

3.289 The developable portion of the site amounts to 1.42 ha and is located on the eastern edge of Capel-le-Ferne, and currently consists of mature trees and vegetation along the New Dover Road boundary. There is extensive tree cover over the majority of the site. Southern Water has advised that a sewer crosses this site.

3.290 The Kent Wildlife Habitat survey classifies the whole of the site as chalk grassland which is of national importance for biodiversity. The biodiversity interest, is however, restricted to the southern part of the site located nearest to the cliffs but the lack of management has led to it becoming scrubbed over.

Site Context

3.291 The cliffs and the coastline, located to the south, are designated as Heritage Coast, AONB and SSSI. In addition, the land is protected open space. The land to the north of the site is located in the AONB and is undeveloped countryside and as there is no visual screening between the AONB and New Dover Road this results in extensive views over the AONB. Existing residential development is located to the west, and a caravan park to the east. A public bridleway ER252 runs along the western boundary.

Proposed Development

3.292 Owing to the biodiversity value of the site development is only acceptable provided that it includes the improvement and long-term management arrangement of the chalk grassland to the south of the site. This southern part has been designated as protected open space for visual amenity and informal recreation. To ensure the long term protection of the chalk grassland, the area will remain outside of Capel's settlement confines.

3.293 Vehicular access to the site would be created from New Dover Road. This would require the creation of a right hand turning lane, provided that it can be demonstrated that adequate sight lines can be achieved and turning movements safely accommodated. The access should be designed to minimise the loss of existing trees and vegetation along New Dover Road as this screens the site from the adjacent AONB to the north of the site.

3.294 In order to reduce the impact on the AONB to the south, a landscape buffer within the site boundary should be incorporated into any development proposals to provide visual screening. The informal public use of land to the south should be encouraged by incorporating the existing public bridleway into the design and layout. Due to access considerations the number of dwellings is restricted to a maximum of 50 dwellings.

3.295 Early discussions should take place with Southern Water regarding the sewer that crosses the site, which would need to be taken into account as part of any planning application.

3.296 The area of land to south comprises semi-natural open space which is in decline. Residential development of the northern portion of land is only acceptable provided that the biodiversity interest of the land to the south is enhanced and maintained through long-term

management arrangements secured through the planning application process. The precise boundary between the developed and undeveloped parts of the site will be established on the basis of ecological evidence.

3.297 In line with guidance contained in Annex 1 of this Plan (paragraphs 1.20 - to 1.23) a financial contribution is sought to address the cumulative 'in combination' impact of developments of greater than 15 dwellings on European designated nature conservation sites.

Policy LA 24

Land to the south of New Dover Road, between Capel Court Caravan Park and Helena Road, Capel le Ferne

Land adjacent to New Dover Road is allocated for residential development with a maximum estimated capacity of 50 dwellings. Planning permission will be permitted provided that:

- i. long term management arrangements of the chalk grassland on the southern part of the site are delivered to improve the biodiversity quality. The precise boundary between the developed and undeveloped parts of the site will be established on the basis of ecological evidence;
- ii. Development proposals are sensitively designed in terms of height and massing in order to ensure the development does not have an adverse impact on the AONB and countryside;
- iii. a landscape buffer of planting is created along the southern boundary;
- iv. If street lighting is required this should be designed to minimise the impact of light pollution and conserve the dark night skies of the AONB;
- v. Bridleway ER252 is retained and enhanced;
- vi. development should ensure future access to the existing sewerage infrastructure for maintenance and upsizing purposes;
- vii. a financial contribution is secured to mitigate the impact on the Thanet Coast and Sandwich Bay SPA; and
- viii. vehicular access is achieved from New Dover Road which is designed to minimise the loss of existing trees and vegetation, in order to screen the site from the adjacent AONB located to the north of the site.

Land to the north of the junction of Capel Street and Winehouse Lane, Capel le Ferne

Site Location and Characteristics

3.298 The 0.16 ha site is located on the northern side of Capel-le-Ferne. It is located within the AONB and currently consists of rough grassland and unmanaged scrub.

Site Context

3.299 A hedgerow/bank provides the boundary the east and beyond this is open countryside located within the AONB. A short length of hedgerow provides the south eastern boundary. Existing residential properties lie to the south and west, and Hollingbury Farm, which lies outside of the settlement confines, to the north. The Capel Street frontage in this location is defined by low density 1930s housing.

Proposed Development

3.300 The site is suitable for limited development, related to the existing built form along Capel Street, and, therefore, should be of similar density. The impact of development on the AONB and setting of the village must be minimised through careful design, consideration of scale and massing, and the retention of the existing hedgerow to the east.

3.301 The narrow width of the site would not foster a layout to include an internal access road. In order to reflect the urban form only frontage development would be permissible. It is anticipated that the gardens would be predominately located to the side of each plot, given the narrowness of the site.

Policy LA 25

Land to the north of the junction of Capel Street and Winehouse Lane, Capel le Ferne

The site is allocated for residential development. Planning permission will be permitted provided that:

- i. development proposals are sensitively designed in terms of height and massing in order to ensure the development does not have an adverse impact on the AONB and countryside; and
- ii. the existing boundary hedgerows and vegetation, to the east and south, are retained.

Land between 107 & 127 Capel Street

Site Location and Characteristics

3.302 The 1.6 ha site is located on the northern edge of Capel-le-Ferne, and currently consists of a grass paddock used for the keeping of horses. The site is visually enclosed from Capel Street by a tall hedgerow which is located within the site and which runs along the entire road frontage. Southern Water have advised that a sewer crosses this site.

Site Context

3.303 A hedgerow provides the boundary to the west and beyond this is open countryside located within the AONB. Capel Street is located to the east, separated from the site by the tall hedgerow. Due to the tall hedgerow it is perceived that Capel Street narrows along the site.

3.304 The site is located between existing residential development. Typically these properties front Capel Street, have off-road parking areas and are low density. Due to the presence of the tall hedgerow there is no footway along Capel Street. Although the Primary School is a short walk to the south of the site pedestrian connectivity is currently poor.

Proposed Development

3.305 The site is suitable for residential development, which should reflect the existing spatial character, and incorporate frontage development. To reduce on-street parking the layout should incorporate adequate parking arrangements, ideally accessed directly from Capel Street to serve the frontage dwellings.

3.306 Development of this site would lend itself to an informal layout that takes into account the setting of the AONB. To ensure that the visual impact on the setting of the AONB is reduced a 'soft' edge to the development needs to be created. The existing hedgerow along the western boundary will need to be retained and form part of a landscape buffer. The density of development along the western boundary would also need to be reduced and care taken in relation to the height of the proposed development.

3.307 Providing a vehicular access to the site would require a large proportion of the frontage hedgerow to be removed. To ensure safe pedestrian connectivity to the existing footway, development proposals should provide a footway connection within the site layout that would connect to Capel Street at the south eastern corner. A crossing point should be provided and the developer should facilitate the provision of a new footway, located on KCC highway land on the eastern side of Capel Street, to enable pedestrian access to the Primary School and beyond.

3.308 Early discussions should take place with Southern Water regarding the sewer that crosses the site, which would need to be taken into account in the layout proposal of any planning application. In line with guidance contained in Annex 1 of this Plan (paragraphs 1.20 - to 1.23) a financial contribution is sought to address the cumulative 'in combination' impact of developments of greater than 15 dwellings on European designated nature conservation sites.

3.309 The size of the site and its location on the edge of the village provides the opportunity to offer a range of dwellings that would improve the housing offer in Capel. The starting point for any proposal would be the mix identified in the SHMA but there is an opportunity to provide larger, lower density, family dwellings.

Policy LA 26

Land between 107 & 127 Capel Street

The site is allocated for residential development, with an estimated capacity of 40 dwellings. Planning permission will be permitted provided that:

- i. the design and layout should incorporate frontage development with adequate parking arrangements;
- ii. the existing boundary hedgerows and vegetation to the west are retained;
- iii. a landscape buffer is provided along the western boundary to reduce impact on the AONB;
- iv. development proposals are sensitively designed in terms of height and massing in order to ensure the development does not have an adverse impact on the AONB and countryside;
- v. footway connections are provided within the site and new footway provision is facilitated on KCC highway land on the eastern side of Capel Street to provide pedestrian connectivity to the Primary School and beyond;
- vi. a financial contribution is secured to mitigate the impact on the Thanet Coast and Sandwich Bay SPA;
- vii. development should provide a connection to the sewerage system at the nearest point of adequate capacity and ensure future access to the existing sewerage and water supply infrastructure for maintenance and upsizing purposes;
- viii. if street lighting is required this should be designed to minimise the impact of light pollution and conserve the dark night skies of the AONB; and
- ix. vehicular access is achieved onto Capel Street which is designed to minimise the loss of the existing hedgerow.

3.5.3 Eastry

3.310 Eastry is located in the northern part of the District in a rural location approximately 2.7km to the south west of Sandwich. The Parish has a population of 2,492 people ⁽²²⁾ and 1,053 dwellings ⁽²³⁾.

22 2011 Census table QS103EW

23 2011 Census table QS418EW

3.311 The village has a wide range of commercial and community facilities including a Doctor's surgery, primary school, church, village hall and a range of shops including a post office. Eastry is located just over 5km from the Discovery Park Enterprise Zone, which is located just north of Sandwich.

3.312 There are no nationally recognised constraints in the village, such as flood risk or AONB. The village has an extensive conservation area on the eastern side and it is in a highly visible location in the countryside.

3.313 To help sustain and strengthen Eastry's role in the Settlement Hierarchy, additional housing will be required. Three sites have been identified for residential allocations and there are two proposed changes to the confines. The allocations are in addition to the Eastry Hospital development, which reflects the application for 80 dwellings submitted in 2009.

3.314 The residential allocations will provide approximately 75 dwellings. The allocated sites and changes to the confines are identified on the diagrammatic plan below.

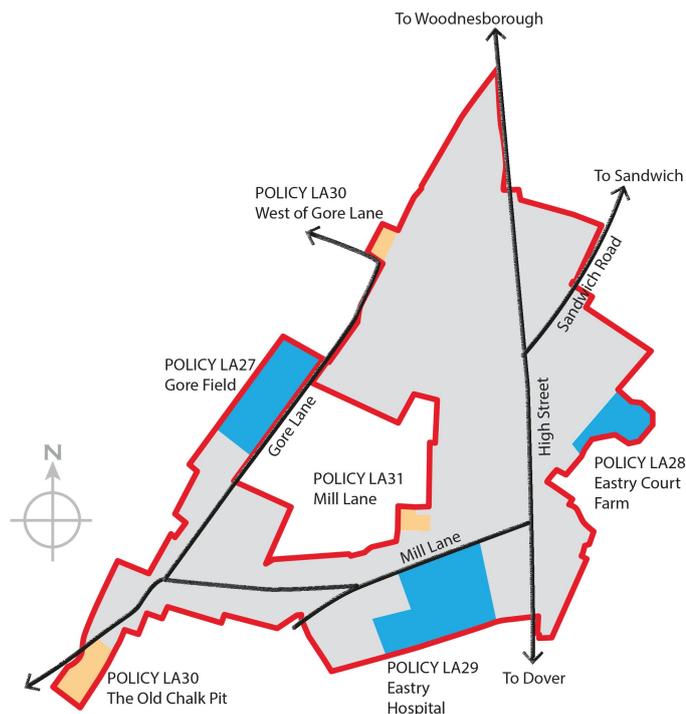


Figure 3.11 Diagram to illustrate allocated sites and changes to confines in Eastry

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Gore Field, Gore Lane

Site Location and Characteristics

3.315 The 1.90 ha site lies on the western side of Eastry, and comprises of agricultural land located between residential development at Albion Road to the south, and Gore Farm (a Grade 2 Listed Building) to the north. There is no current boundary line along the western

boundary of the site. Although the site fronts onto Gore Lane, there is no established vehicular access onto the site. Southern Water has indicated that there is insufficient water and sewerage capacity directly available to serve this site.

Site Context

3.316 The site lies on the edge of the built form of the village and the adjacent land uses reflect this with residential development to the south, east and north and open countryside to the west. The local primary school also lies to the east of the site on the opposite side of Gore Lane. Gore Farm, which lies to the north, consists of Listed Buildings that have been converted to residential.

Proposed Development

3.317 Development should reflect the existing spatial character while taking opportunities to improve design standards. Proposals should, therefore, include frontage development along Gore Lane in line with the existing properties to the south. Any development proposals will have to incorporate retain and enhance existing hedgerows to ensure that the visual impact on the neighbouring properties, in particular Gore Farm, a Listed Building, is reduced. A new landscaped boundary will need to be created along the western perimeter of the site.

3.318 In order to improve connectivity for pedestrians, any scheme should include an element of frontage development with a new footway along Gore Lane to link with the existing footways. Vehicular access should be from Gore Lane as it would not be acceptable to create an access via the adjacent development, Albion Road, as this is too narrow. To retain the character of the area and ensure that there is no disruption to the flow of traffic, measures should be implemented to ensure Gore Lane is kept free from obstruction.

3.319 Early discussions should take place regarding connection to the wider sewerage and water distribution systems, which would need to be taken into account in the layout proposal of any planning application.

3.320 A combination of the scale of the development and the proximity of the site to European designated nature conservation sites means that any planning application will have to develop a strategy with a range of measures and initiatives such as the provision of informal open space or walking routes (leading to wider PROWs) within the development.

3.321 The overall size of the site and its location on the edge of the countryside provides the opportunity to offer a range of dwellings that would improve the housing offer in Eastry. These could range from lower density, larger family homes on the edge of the site, overlooking the countryside to higher density, smaller units fronting Gore Lane. The starting point for any proposal would be the mix identified in the SHMA.

Policy LA 27

Gore Field, Gore Lane

The site is allocated for residential development with an estimated capacity of 55 dwellings. Planning permission will be permitted provided that:

- i. the spatial character of the street scene is respected and reflected in frontage development;
- ii. there is provision for a footway fronting the site along Gore Lane;
- iii. the transition of built form with the rural landscape beyond is suitably addressed in the design and layout;
- iv. the western boundary is created through landscaping;
- v. existing boundary hedgerows and vegetation are retained and enhanced;
- vi. the main vehicular access/accesses is from Gore Lane;
- vii. the development should provide a connection to the sewerage and water supply infrastructure at the nearest point of adequate capacity; and
- viii. a mitigation strategy to address any impact on the Thanet Coast and Sandwich Bay Ramsar and SPA sites and Sandwich Bay SAC site is developed. The strategy should consider a range of measures and initiatives.

Eastry Court Farm

Site Location and Characteristics

3.322 Formerly in agricultural use, Eastry Court Farm is an irregular shaped site located on the eastern side of Eastry and is falling into disrepair. The 1.1ha site consists of a large shed in the central area with silos and other smaller barns located to the west of the site. Part of the site is within Eastry Conservation Area. There is also open space on the site with mature trees. There are seven residential properties adjacent to the farm that have access across Eastry Court Farm, using either the access onto Church Street, to the south west, or the one onto Brook Street, to the east. A PROW (EE251) runs along the north western boundary of the site.

Site Context

3.323 The site is in a particularly sensitive location, being on the edge of the village in a rural setting, with listed buildings (including Eastry Court and St Mary's Church) and mature trees on and adjacent to the site. All these contribute to the character of Eastry Conservation Area. Residential properties lie to the west and north, and agricultural fields to the north east of the site.

Proposed Development

3.324 Development provides the opportunity to improve the visual amenity and make better use of the land. It is envisaged that residential development could be accommodated on the site through the conversion of some of the existing farm buildings and through sensitive redevelopment. The farm buildings identified in Figure 3.12 need to be retained as they contribute to the special rural character of the area, adding local distinctiveness and are a reference to the former use as a farm.

3.325 The redevelopment of the remaining area, where the large modern barn is currently located, would have to ensure that the height, scale, massing, location and grain of any proposals would respect the sensitive nature of this farm and the setting of the adjacent heritage assets, both designated and undesignated, and the wider landscape. Figure 3.12 sets out the main issues to be considered.

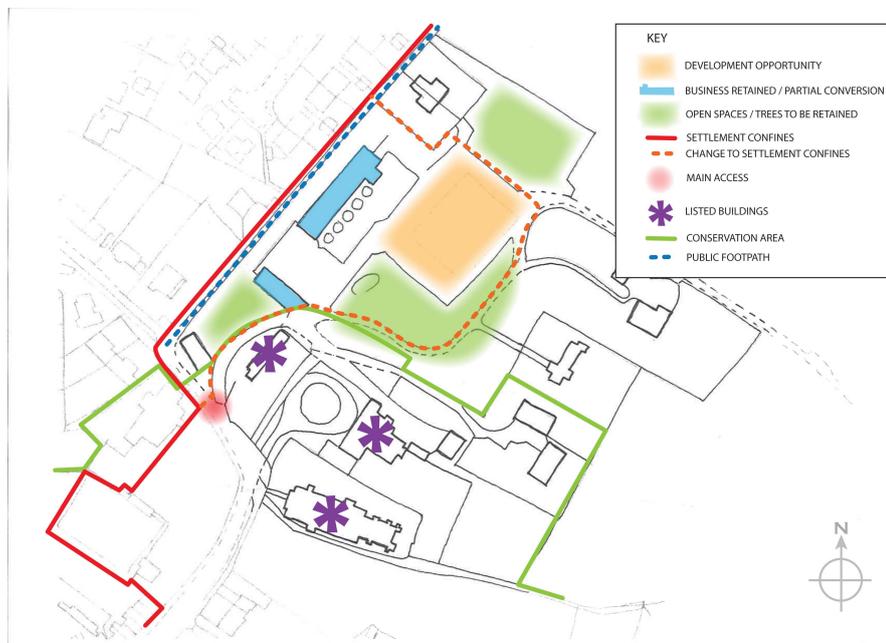


Figure 3.12 Opportunities and Constraints Eastry Court Farm

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3.326 Vehicular access to the site should only be via Church Street. Vehicular access from Brook Street would be unacceptable in highway terms. Should development trigger the need to bring the access road up to adoptable standards, great care would be needed with highway design to ensure compatibility with the historic environment. The PROW, which runs along the north western boundary, should be retained and enhanced as part of any development proposals.

3.327 Appendix 3 of the Dover District Heritage Strategy, has identified that there are nine historic 'Themes' that would be affected by development of this site. These include 'Conservation Areas', 'Listed Buildings', 'Archaeology' and 'Saxon remains'. The Heritage Strategy should be used as the initial starting point for any proposal. The estimated capacity is less than five dwellings but this should not preclude proposals that can demonstrate that additional dwellings would not have a detrimental impact on the sensitive nature of the site.

Policy LA 28

Eastry Court Farm

The site is allocated for residential development. Planning permission will be permitted provided that:

- i. development is limited to the conversion of the traditional barns and through the redevelopment of the modern agricultural buildings, which respect the character and quality of the historic environment;
- ii. visual improvements are made to the remaining site area through landscaping and the retention of existing trees;
- iii. vehicular access is achieved onto Church Street, which needs to be designed to ensure that it does not impact on the historic environment;
- iv. the Public Right of Way (EE251) is retained and enhanced; and
- v. the development should provide a connection to the sewerage and water supply infrastructure at the nearest point of adequate capacity.

Eastry Hospital, Mill Lane

Site Location and Characteristics

3.328 Eastry Hospital is located on the southern edge of the village. The site consists of three former hospital buildings (located in the north eastern corner) and a central part of the site that has been cleared of development together with a large area of open space to the rear of the site. The use of the site ceased some years ago, the buildings are now derelict and have been subject to fire damage and vandalism. Southern Water has indicated that there is insufficient water supply capacity directly available to serve this site.

Site Context

3.329 The site is located in a sensitive location. The former workhouse, which fronts the site on Mill Lane, is a Grade II Listed Building. There are two other buildings on the site, the Chapel, which is within the Eastry Conservation Area, and former hospital building, known as the Range building, to the rear of the Chapel. The Range building was extensively damaged by in fire in 2012.

3.330 The surrounding uses consist of residential (to the north and east) sheltered housing (to the west) and open agricultural land, which falls away providing long distance views to the south. There is a Public Right of Way (EE256) running along the southern boundary of the site.

Proposed Development

3.331 Development should reflect the existing historic character of the site while taking opportunities to improve design standards. The site was allocated in the 2002 Dover District Local Plan for a mixed use development. The policy restricted the number of dwellings to 40 due to traffic generation and highway capacity issues. Since that time the highway concerns have been addressed, to support the application made in 2009, and the District Council has made a resolution to grant a mixed use planning application for 80 dwellings and the conversion of the existing buildings to offices or community uses. This application secures repairs to the external fabric of the former listed workhouse. Should any revised proposals come forward, then they would need to be accompanied with an up to date transport assessment.

3.332 The Employment Update (2012) has indicated that, in terms of the rural area, retaining an element of employment at Eastry Hospital is important for the geographical distribution of employment sites in the District. The retention of an element of employment in the former workhouse, which fronts Mill Lane, is supported from a historic environment perspective as potentially there could be less damage to the internal layout.

3.333 In recognition that the demand for specific B1 (business) uses has historically been low, the District Council will be supportive of other employment generating uses, wider than the B1 use classification, providing that they are compatible with the residential element of the development.

3.334 Development must preserve the listed building, its setting and features of architectural and historic interest and preserve or enhance the character or appearance of the Eastry Conservation Area. Repairs to the listed building should be undertaken in the early phases of construction. Provision must also be made for an archaeological evaluation in advance of any planning decision and for the consequent appropriate level of archaeological mitigation. Appendix 3 of the Heritage Strategy has identified five historic 'Themes' that should be considered as a starting point for any proposals. These Themes are 'Settlement', 'Archaeology', 'Listed Buildings', 'Undesignated Buildings' and 'Conservation Areas'.

3.335 Along the northern frontage, any development needs to respond positively to the prominent position in village and the historic nature of the site as the site is a dominant feature in the street scene and is within the Eastry Conservation Area. The site is also highly visible in the wider landscape when viewed from the south. Development along the southern boundary should ensure that there is a soft edge, such as through the use of landscaping and sensitive design.

3.336 Early discussions should take place with Southern Water regarding connection to the wider water supply infrastructure, which would need to be taken into account as part of any planning application.

3.337 A combination of the scale of the development and the proximity of the site to European designated nature conservation sites means that any planning application will have to develop a strategy with a range of measures and initiatives such as the provision of informal open space or walking routes (leading to wider PROWs) within the development. The existing PROW should be retained and enhanced.

3.338 In order to improve connectivity for pedestrians, any scheme should include a pedestrian connection between the existing Public Right of Way that is located along the southern boundary of the site and Mill Lane.

Policy LA 29

Eastry Hospital

The site is allocated for a mixed use scheme including residential, community and compatible employment generating uses with an estimated capacity of 80 dwellings. Planning permission will be permitted provided that:

- i. any proposals ensure that repairs to the external envelope of the listed workhouse building are prioritised;
- ii. any proposals ensure that visual interest is not harmed, and provide for a soft loose knit interface between the site boundary and adjacent countryside and, in particular, provide for structural landscaping along the southern boundary of the site;
- iii. any road improvements arising from the development are funded by the developer and limited to works which are compatible with the historic environment;
- iv. the traffic and highways issues can be satisfactorily addressed;
- v. redevelopment of the Range building reflects the height, scale and massing of the fire damaged building and include a porte-cochere (a covered entrance large enough for vehicles to pass through);
- vi. the development should provide a connection to the water supply infrastructure at the nearest point of adequate capacity;
- vii. a mitigation strategy to address any impact on the Thanet Coast and Sandwich Bay Ramsar and SPA sites and Sandwich Bay SAC site is developed. The strategy should consider a range of measures and initiatives; and
- viii. the Public Right of Way (EE256) is retained and enhanced.

Residential Allocations

3.339 The following sites are allocated for residential development or are a change to settlement confines that may enable development but do not warrant a site specific policy. The acceptability of any planning application proposals will be judged against general Development Plan policies and all other material considerations.

Policy LA 30

Residential Development

Land Allocated for Residential Development at Eastry

Site	Design Guidelines	Approx No. Of Dwellings	Issues
The Old Chalk Pit, Heronden Road	Opportunity to provide family homes at a higher density reflecting scale and character of adjacent residential development.	20	Existing business use Connection to sewerage system at nearest point of adequate supply. Connection to water supply and ensure future access for maintenance and upsizing.
Land to the west of Gore Lane	Opportunity for lower density family dwellings reflecting scale and character of neighbouring properties.	Change to Settlement Confines	Footway

3.340 In addition to the residential allocations and changes to the settlement confines set out in Policy LA30, the confines have also been changed to include the business units to the rear of Coronation Cottage, Mill Lane. It is the Council's intention to retain the units for business purposes but if it can be demonstrated that such a use is no longer viable or appropriate (see Policy DM2 in the Core Strategy), then alternative development could be considered.

Policy LA 31

Employment Allocation

Land Allocated for Employment at Eastry		
Site	Approx No. Of Dwellings	Issues
Units to rear of Coronation Cottage, Mill Lane	Change to Settlement Confines	Change of confines to include employment units

3.5.4 Shepherdswell

3.341 Shepherdswell's designation as a Local Centre reflects its role in serving other nearby settlements (i.e. Coldred, Eythorne and Elvington). Shepherdswell is the only Local Centre to have a mainline railway station with an hourly service to both London Victoria and Dover Priory. However, it is not served by the high speed service (HS1), and a connection would need to be sought from Dover Priory for this service. The Parish has a population of 1,849 people ⁽²⁴⁾ and 792 dwellings ⁽²⁵⁾.

3.342 Shepherdswell is located to the north of the A2, approximately seven miles from Dover town, and located at the western boundary of the District. The Parish boundary borders Canterbury City Council. The AONB is located to the west of the built up area on Westcourt Lane. Any further development in a westerly direction has the potential to impact on the setting of the AONB. There is one conservation area in Shepherdswell at the top of Church Hill, which includes the Church, a number of residential properties, and a small triangular green area.

3.343 The settlement has a number of services and facilities including a village hall, a primary school, a church, a medical centre, a Co-operative store, and a number of public houses. The East Kent Railway terminus is located adjacent to the mainline railway station; this heritage line was originally built to serve the colliery at Tilmanstone, and now provides a two mile long tourist service to Eythorne.

3.344 To help sustain and strengthen Shepherdswell's role in the settlement hierarchy, it is considered that additional housing will be required over the lifespan of this Plan. One site has been identified for residential development, which will provide approximately 10 dwellings. There is also one change to the Shepherdswell Settlement Confines and any proposed development on this site would need to take account of its Conservation Area setting. The allocated site and the change to the confines are identified on the diagrammatic plan below.

24 2011 Census table QS103EW

25 2011 Census table QS418EW

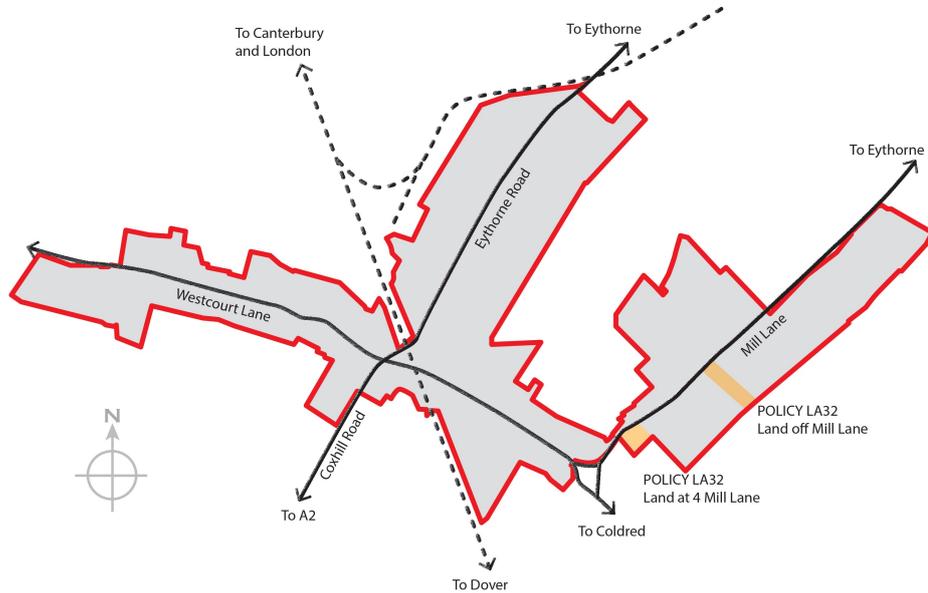


Figure 3.13 Diagram illustrating allocated sites and change in settlement confines in Shepherdswell

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Residential Allocations

3.345 The following sites are allocated for residential development or are a change to settlement confines that may enable development but do not warrant a site specific policy. The acceptability of any planning application proposals will be judged against general Development Plan policies and all other material considerations.

Policy LA 32

Residential Development

Land Allocated for Residential Development at Shepherdswell

Site	Design Guidelines	Approx No. Of Dwellings	Issues
Land off Mill Lane	A village location that lends itself to higher density development reflecting the neighbouring residential built form	10	Archaeology
Land at 4 Mill Lane	Development proposals should reflect the character and scale of adjacent development	Change to Settlement Confines	Conservation Area

3.5.5 Wingham

3.346 Wingham is located in the north western part of the District approximately 8km to the west of Sandwich. The village lies at the foot of Preston Hill in open countryside and has a small river, the Wingham, flowing through it. There are a high number of listed buildings in the village, the majority located along the High Street, and an extensive conservation area covering a large proportion of the settlement.

3.347 The Parish has a population of 1,775 people ⁽²⁶⁾ and has 781 dwellings ⁽²⁷⁾. There are a wide range of commercial and community facilities including a dentist, surgery, primary school, church, village hall and a range of shops including a post office, serving the local and surrounding population.

3.348 To help sustain and strengthen Wingham's role in the settlement hierarchy, it is considered that additional housing will be required over the lifespan of this Plan. However, the issues that provide the village with its unique character; the heritage assets, the river (creating Flood Zones 2 and 3) and its location in the open countryside, all limit the development opportunities in the village.

3.349 These constraints have resulted in only three changes to the confines to enable development of less than five dwellings in each case. These are identified on Figure 3.14.

26 2011 Census table QS103EW

27 2011 Census table QS418EW



Figure 3.14 Diagram illustrating the changes to the settlement confines in Wingham.

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Residential Allocations

3.350 The following sites are changes to settlement confines that may enable development but do not warrant a site specific policy. The acceptability of any planning application proposals will be judged against general Development Plan policies and all other material considerations.

Policy LA 33

Residential Development

Land Allocated for Residential Development at Wingham			
Site	Design Guidelines	Approx No. Of Dwellings	Issues
Builders Yard, 67 High Street	Lower density development responding to the characteristics and constraints of the site.	Change to Settlement Confines	Conservation Area, Listed Buildings, Access
Land North of College Way	Development proposals should reflect the character and scale of adjacent development.	Change to Settlement Confines	
Land to the south of Staple Road and north of Goodnestone Road	Lower density, medium sized family homes respecting the location on the edge of the built form.	Change to Settlement Confines	Access and landscaping

3.6 Villages

3.6.1 East Langdon

3.351 East Langdon is located to the east of the Whitfield Urban Expansion Area, approximately three miles from Dover town . The Parish has a population of 558 people ⁽²⁸⁾ and 409 dwellings ⁽²⁹⁾. The village is some distance from the AONB, which lies to the east of the A258 Dover to Deal road. The village comprises two distinct parts, each with settlement confines. The southern portion comprises the older part of the village, which is centred on the village green; adjacent to this is a pond. This part of the village is located within a Conservation Area, contains the Church and a number of Listed Buildings, and is characterised by large buildings in spacious grounds; this includes 'Jossenblock', which is located outside of the settlement confines. Only a small part of the northern portion of the village is located within the Conservation Area. The remainder comprises more dense residential development characteristic of modern developments, and this is the focus of the facilities in the village (namely, the village hall/Post Office and primary school).

28 2011 Census table QS103EW

29 2011 Census table QS418EW

3.352 Some distance beyond the settlement confines to the north is the playing field and play area. Beyond this, located approximately half a mile from the village edge is Martin Mill mainline railway station. The railway station provides services to both London and Ramsgate. However, there are no pedestrian footways from East Langdon to Martin Mill.

3.353 To help sustain and strengthen East Langdon's role in the Settlement Hierarchy, it is considered that additional housing will be required over the lifespan of this Plan. One site has been identified for residential development, which will provide approximately 10 dwellings. The allocated site is identified on the diagrammatic plan below

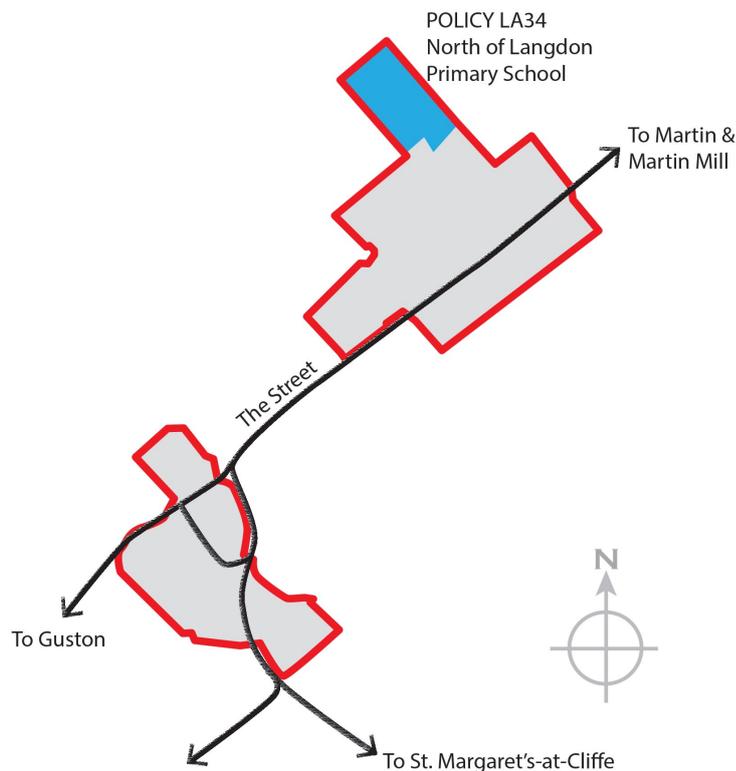


Figure 3.15 Diagram illustrating the allocated site in East Langdon

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North of Langdon Primary School, East Langdon

Site Location and Characteristics

3.354 The 0.33 ha site is located at the end of a residential cul-de-sac, West Side, on the eastern edge of the modern part of the village. It currently consists of unmanaged dense scrub and is visible in the wider landscape.

Site context

3.355 The site is surrounded by existing residential development to the south, the primary school to the west and agricultural land to the north and east. Aside from the boundary with the existing residential properties that are located off West Side, the boundaries are formed of dense hedgerow.

Proposed Development

3.356 The site is suitable for residential development to enable East Langdon to retain its position in the Settlement Hierarchy. This requires the protection of the existing boundary features, namely the dense hedgerow, which will help reduce the landscape impact of any development.

Policy LA 34

North of Langdon Primary School, East Langdon

The site is allocated for residential development with an estimated capacity of 10 dwellings. Planning permission will be permitted provided that the existing boundary hedgerows/vegetation are retained.

3.6.2 East Studdal

3.357 East Studdal is located to the south west of Deal. It lies roughly between the two settlements of Dover and Deal. Sutton Parish has a population of 772 people ⁽³⁰⁾ and 433 dwellings ⁽³¹⁾. The village is some distance from the AONB, and is not located in an area at risk of flooding.

3.358 The village is linear in form and has a village hall, Sutton Parish Community Centre and a recreation ground. East Studdal Nursery is currently the largest business in the village, although we understand from the landowner that the intention is for this to cease shortly.

3.359 The site is well screened behind hedging/trees along the north and west boundary line. Any development proposal would need to ensure mature treescape and the soft edge to the village is retained. It is also hoped that through redevelopment there could be an opportunity to enhance the services and facilities on offer in the settlement.

3.360 One site has been identified for residential development, which will provide approximately 30 dwellings. There is also one change to East Studdal's Settlement Confines. These are identified on the diagrammatic plan below.

30 2011 Census table QS103EW

31 2011 Census table QS418EW

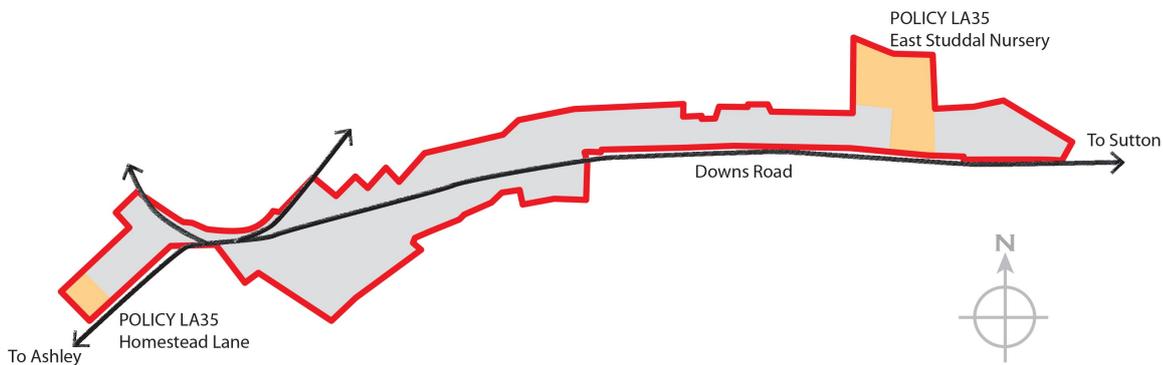


Figure 3.16 Diagram illustrating the allocated site and change in settlement confines in East Studdal

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Residential Allocations

3.361 The following sites are allocated for residential development or are a change to settlement confines that may enable development but do not warrant a site specific policy. The acceptability of any planning application proposals will be judged against general Development Plan policies and all other material considerations.

Policy LA 35

Residential Development

Land Allocated for Residential Development at East Studdal			
Site	Design Guidelines	Approx No. Of Dwellings	Issues
East Studdal Nursery, Downs Road	To create a mix of housing type and density. Higher density to the south of the site, progressively reducing northwards towards the boundary with the open countryside	30	Retention of Hedgerows Thanet Coast SPA mitigation contribution Connection to water supply and sewerage system at nearest point of adequate capacity
Homestead Lane	A change to the Settlement Confines will enable a small scheme to come forward reflective of its surroundings	Change to Settlement Confines	Biodiversity survey required.

3.6.3 Elvington & Eythorne

3.362 Elvington and Eythorne are located to the north of the A2, approximately two miles to the north east of Shepherdswell which is a local centre with a large number of services and facilities. In light of the proximity of the two settlements, which are both located within Eythorne Parish, this Plan will set out proposals for each settlement in this section. The Parish has a population of 2,594 people ⁽³²⁾ and 1,065 dwellings ⁽³³⁾.

3.363 Eythorne has two parts, each with their own Settlement Confines, bisected by the East Kent Light Railway Line. This heritage railway line was originally built to serve the colliery at Tilmanstone and link to the mainline, and now provides a two mile long tourist service to Shepherdswell. The larger part of the settlement contains a conservation area. This designation overlaps with the boundary of the Historic Park and Garden designation covering Waldershare Park, which is located immediately to the south of Eythorne.

3.364 Elvington, which was mostly built in the early twentieth Century to serve the nearby coal mine at Tilmanstone, is located approximately 300 metres to the north of Eythorne, and has its own settlement confines.

32 2011 Census table QS103EW

33 2011 Census table QS418EW

3.365 Eythorne has a number of services and facilities including a church hall, a primary school, three churches, a public house and a playground. Elvington has a medical facility, a small parade of shops (with hairdressers and takeaways) and a recreation ground. To the north east of the two settlements lies a sizeable industrial estate, which is primarily accessed from the A256 - the Dover to Sandwich Road, located beyond the industrial estate to the east. The Pike Road Industrial Estate offers a mix of units (B1/B2 and B8) of varying age; current occupiers include road haulage companies and Tilmanstone Salads.

3.366 To help sustain and strengthen Elvington and Eythorne's role in the Settlement Hierarchy, it is considered that additional housing will be required over the lifespan of this Plan. Two sites have been identified for residential development, which will provide approximately 75 dwellings. There are also two changes to Eythorne's Settlement Confines. The allocated sites and the change to the confines are identified on the diagrammatic plan below.

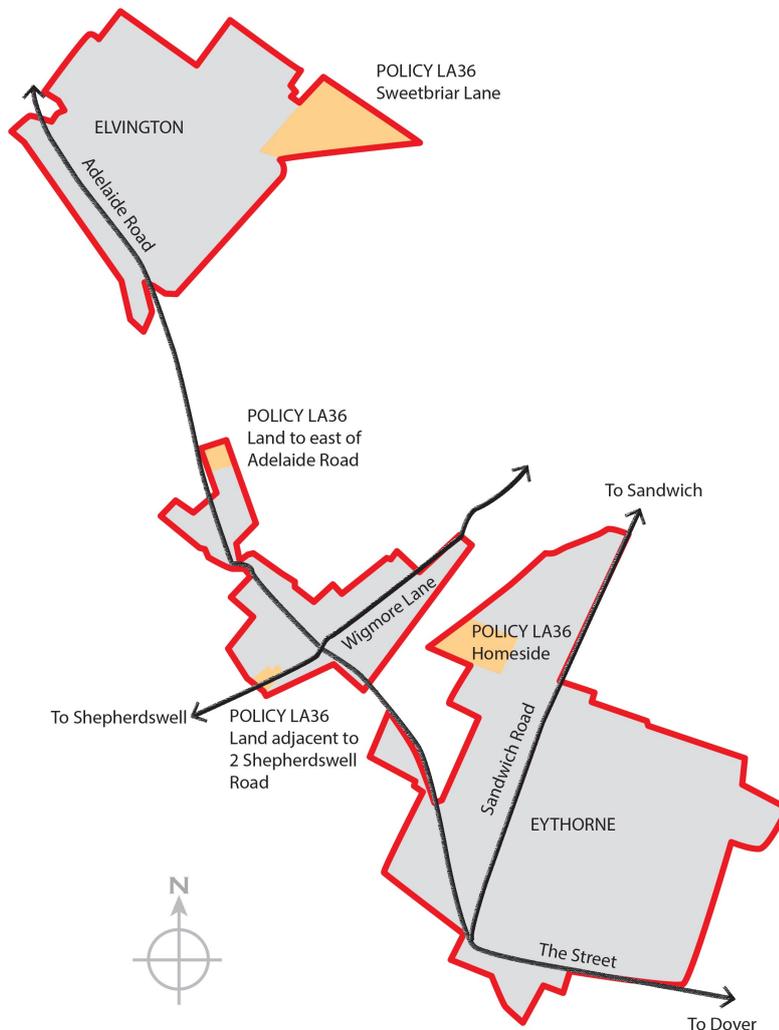


Figure 3.17 Diagram illustrating the allocated sites and changes in settlement confines in Elvington and Eythorne

Residential Allocations

3.367 The following sites are allocated for residential development or are a change to settlement confines that may enable development but do not warrant a site specific policy. The acceptability of any planning application proposals will be judged against general Development Plan policies and all other material considerations.

Policy LA 36

Residential Development

Land Allocated for Residential Development at Elvington and Eythorne			
Site	Design Guidelines	Approx No. Of Dwellings	Issues
Sweetbriar Lane, Elvington	To create a mix of housing type and density. Higher density to the west of the site, progressively reducing eastwards towards the boundary with the open countryside	50	<p>Connection to sewerage system at nearest point of adequate capacity.</p> <p>Ensure future access to existing sewerage infrastructure for maintenance and upsizing.</p> <p>Thanet Coast SPA mitigation contribution.</p> <p>Retain/ enhance PROW EE337</p>
Land to east of Adelaide Road, Eythorne	A change to the Settlement Confines will enable a small scheme to come forward reflective of its surroundings	Change to settlement confines	<p>Retention of trees</p> <p>Biodiversity survey</p>
Land at Homeside, Eythorne	Central village location that lends itself to higher density development reflecting the neighbouring residential built form	25	<p>Thanet Coast SPA mitigation contribution.</p> <p>Connection to sewerage system at nearest point of adequate capacity</p>
Land adjacent to 2 Shepherdswell Road, Eythorne	The site functions as the main built-up part of the village. A change to the settlement confines reflects this position.	Change to settlement confines	<p>Access</p> <p>Protected Trees</p> <p>Setting of Listed Building</p>

3.6.4 Great Mongeham

3.368 Great Mongeham is located adjacent to the western edge of Deal and consists essentially of linear development along two rural roads; Northbourne Road/Mongeham Road and Cherry Lane/Mongeham Road. The village has a church; village hall; recreational grounds and is served by an hourly bus service to Deal. There is also an equine shop. The Parish has a population of 762 people ⁽³⁴⁾ and 321 dwellings ⁽³⁵⁾.

3.369 The village has two conservation areas, one centred on the Listed Buildings around and including the church (Northbourne Road), the other based around early Listed Buildings with terraces of nineteenth century housing fronting Mongeham Road.

3.370 Due to this, and the narrow rural lanes, there are few suitable development sites. Only one allocation for 10 dwellings and three changes to the settlement confines have been identified. These are identified in the diagrammatic plan below.

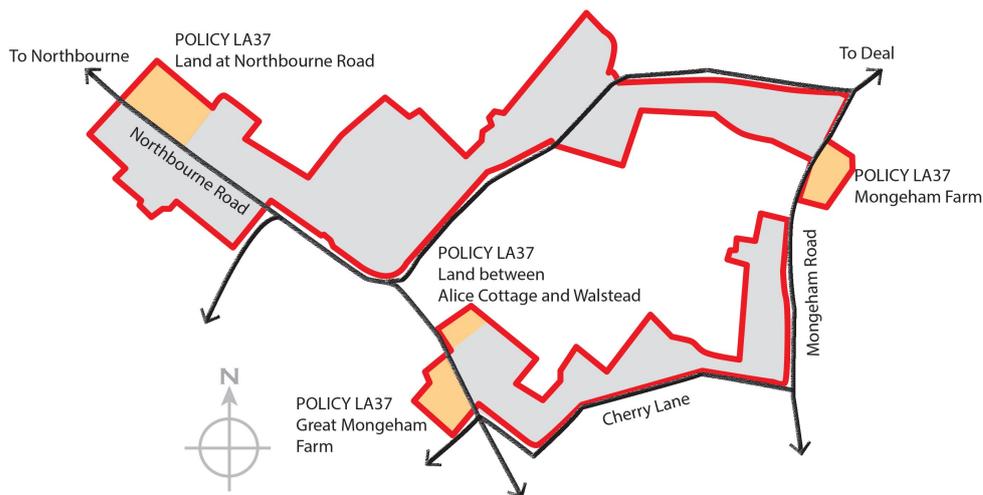


Figure 3.18 Diagram illustrating allocated sites and the change in confines in Great Mongeham

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Residential Allocations

3.371 The following sites are allocated for residential development or are a change to settlement confines that may enable development but do not warrant a site specific policy. The acceptability of any planning application proposals will be judged against general Development Plan policies and all other material considerations.

34 2011 Census table QS103EW
35 2011 Census table QS418EW.

Policy LA 37

Residential Development

Land Allocated for Residential Development at Great Mongeham			
Site	Design Guidelines	Approx No. Of Dwellings	Issues
Land at Northbourne Road	The location on the edge of the village provides an opportunity for lower density development reflecting the characteristics of the surrounding built form.	10	Frontage Development Only Retention of Hedgerows Creation of boundary to north west and north east. Provision of new footway fronting the site and connecting with existing footway on Northbourne Road
Great Mongeham Farm, Cherry Lane	Proposals limited to footprint and scale of existing farm buildings.	Change to Settlement Confines	Adjacent Listed Buildings
Mongeham Farm, Mongeham Road	Proposals limited to footprint and scale of existing farm buildings.	Change to Settlement Confines	Access Adjacent Listed Buildings Conservation Area
Land between Alice Cottage and Walstead, Great Mongeham	Low density development reflecting rural character.	Change to settlement Confines	

3.6.5 Kingsdown and Ringwould

3.372 Kingsdown is located to the south of Deal, approximately three miles from Deal town centre. The Parish, which also includes Ringwould, has a population of 2,030 people ⁽³⁶⁾ and 1,147 dwellings ⁽³⁷⁾. Although the village is located immediately adjacent to the coast,

the main focus of the village is further inland. The Oldstairs Bay Coastal Change Management Area (CCMA) is located along the coastline to the south of the village. This area is also protected as SSSI. Any development proposals which are located within the CCMA will be assessed to ensure that only appropriate development that requires a coastal location, and provides substantial economic and social benefits, is permitted.

3.373 The AONB is located to the south and west of the built form, and any further development in a south-westerly direction has the potential to impact on the AONB. There is one conservation area in Kingsdown to the south east of the village which is focused on Upper Street.

3.374 The settlement has a number of services and facilities including a village hall, a primary school, a church, a medical facility, a village shop, a playing field with play area, and a number of public houses. Kingsdown International Camping Centre is located to the south east of the settlement confines, providing tourist accommodation in a 14 hectare campsite which occupies a cliff-top location.

3.375 To help sustain and strengthen Kingsdown's role in the Settlement Hierarchy, it is considered that additional housing will be required over the lifespan of this Plan. One site has been identified for residential development, which will provide 7 dwellings. There is one change to the Kingsdown Settlement Confines and any proposed development on this site would need to incorporate sufficient landscaping due to its visible location.

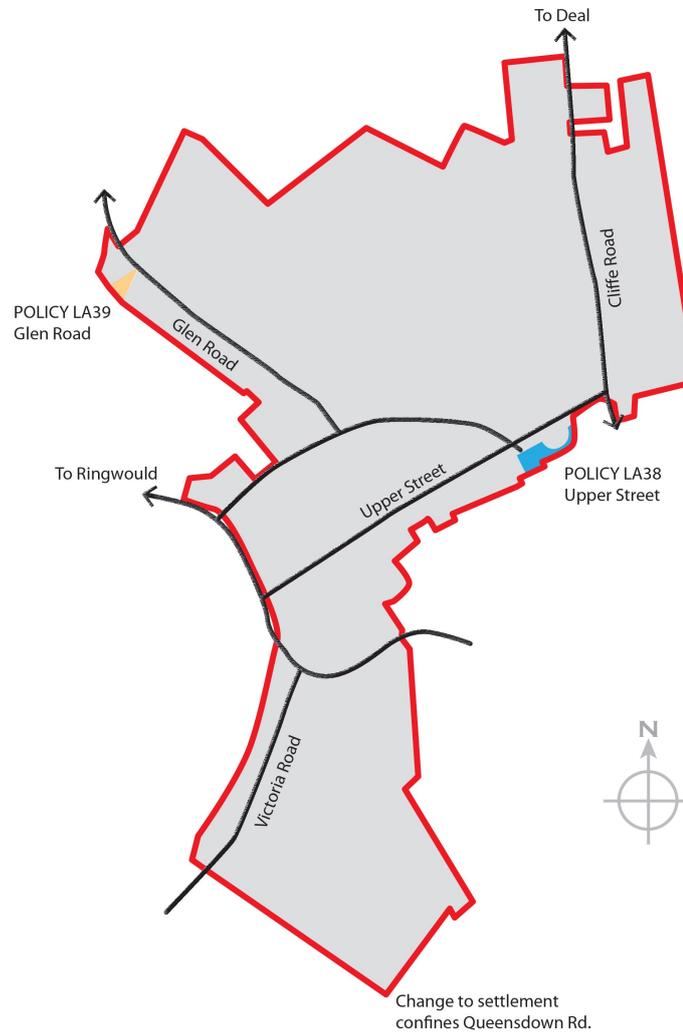


Figure 3.19 Diagram illustrating the allocated sites and changes in settlement confines in Kingsdown

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3.376 There is also one change to the Ringwould Settlement Confines and any proposed development on this site would need to satisfy the requirements of relevant development management policies. The allocated sites and the change to the confines are identified on the diagrammatic plan below.

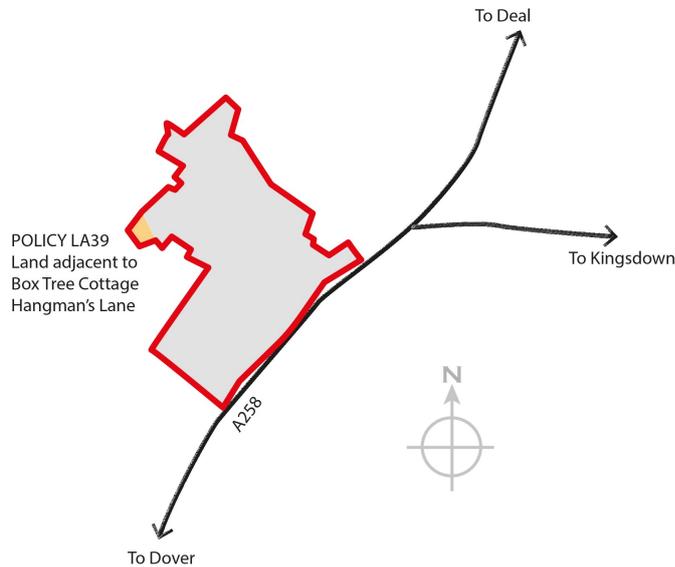


Figure 3.20 Diagram illustrating changes in settlement confines at Ringwould

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Land between the village hall and The Bothy, Upper Street, Kingsdown

Site Location and Characteristics

3.377 The 0.29 ha site is located close to the core of the village and was formerly used as a car park for a restaurant which used to be located in The Manor House to the east. The Manor House has since been converted to residential use which means that the car park is no longer required. The site is overgrown with self sown sycamore trees and other mature trees. The tops of the trees are clearly visible from Upper Street and The Rise, an elevated road rising to the north of the site. Trees are also visible through an opening that has been created in the wall. There is a blanket Tree Preservation Order across the site. This is a particularly sensitive site as it is located within the Kingsdown Conservation Area with part of the site in an elevated position.

3.378 The site also includes a road from Upper Street, curving behind two residential properties to the east. This road is shared with these dwellings, the holiday village/campsite and The Manor House.

Site Context

3.379 A brick and flint wall forms the frontage to the north. The wall is approximately 3 metres high and is a significant architectural feature in its own right as it immediately abuts Upper Street. This wall provides a continuous frontage, apart from an opening that has been created in the wall, that screens the view of the car park, and is visible for a considerable distance in either direction. A holiday village/campsite is located to the south and residential properties, outside of the settlement confines, are located to the east. The village hall lies to the west and beyond this residential properties.

Proposed Development

3.380 The site offers the potential for limited residential development subject to a scheme coming forward which preserves and enhances the special character of the area. In particular, the design should seek to reflect the informal character of the area and reflect the established pattern of the existing development. Development should be restricted to the lower portion of the site, and the elevated areas should be restricted to garden land only. In order to protect the setting of the Conservation Area the existing wall fronting Upper Street should be retained in its entirety. Development proposals will need to be accompanied by a Tree Survey that has been agreed with the Council that assesses the importance and identifies which trees on the site need to be retained.

Policy LA 38

Land between the village hall and The Bothy, Upper Street, Kingsdown

The site is allocated for residential development with an estimated capacity of 7 dwellings. Planning permission will be permitted provided that:

- i. the wall fronting Upper Street is retained in its entirety;
- ii. a tree survey is undertaken and agreed with the Council that assesses the importance and identifies which trees on the site need to be retained; and
- iii. there is no built development on the raised area to the south of the site.

Residential Allocations

3.381 The following sites are allocated for residential development or are a change to settlement confines that may enable development but do not warrant a site specific policy. The acceptability of any planning application proposals will be judged against general Development Plan policies and all other material considerations.

Policy LA 39

Residential Development

Land Allocated for Residential Development at Kingsdown and Ringwould

Site	Design Guidelines	Approx No. Of Dwellings	Issues
Land between Innisfree and Glen Lodge, Glen Road, Kingsdown	A change to the Settlement Confines will enable a small scheme to come forward reflective of its surroundings	Change to Settlement Confine to reflect irregular shape	Landscaping
Land adjacent to Box Tree Cottage, Hangman's Lane, Ringwould	Low density development reflecting rural character	Change to Settlement Confines	Conservation Area Access

3.6.6 Lydden

3.382 Lydden is located to the south of the A2, and is one of the closest settlements to Dover, being approximately two miles from the urban area. The Parish has a population of 673 people ⁽³⁸⁾ and 286 dwellings ⁽³⁹⁾. The AONB is located to the south of the village and the Lydden and Temple Ewell Downs SAC, a SSSI and SPA, is located immediately to the north. Any further development in a southerly direction has the potential to impact on the AONB. The settlement has a number of services and facilities including a village hall, a primary school, a church, a medical centre, recreation ground, and a public house.

3.383 To help sustain and strengthen Lydden's role in the Settlement Hierarchy, it is considered that additional housing will be required over the lifespan of this Plan. One site has been identified for residential development, which will provide approximately 40 dwellings. This allocated site is identified on the diagrammatic plan below.

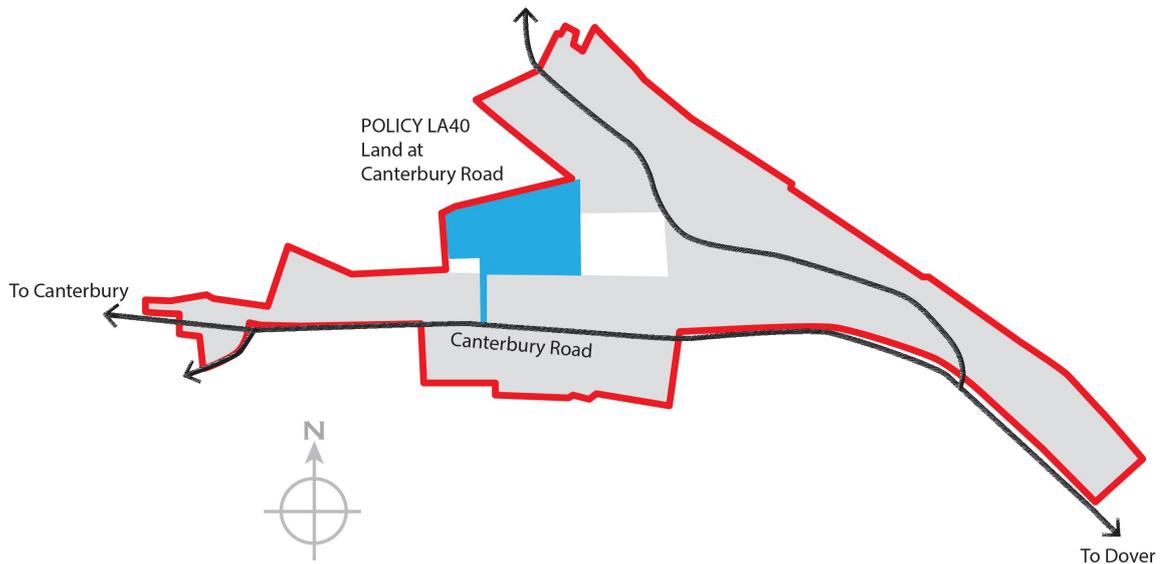


Figure 3.21 Diagram illustrating the allocated site Lydden

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Land at Canterbury Road, Lydden

Site Location and Characteristics

3.384 The 1.45 ha site is located within the settlement confines. Previously used for the storage and services of plant hire equipment and associated activities, the site comprises rough grassland, with areas of concrete hard standing and spoil heaps. An escarpment lies at the northern end of the site which borders the adjacent agricultural land, this is heavily treed; there is also substantial planting to other boundaries. The land falls away to both the north and east.

3.385 The site has the benefit of an existing access road, located on Canterbury Road, which was built to serve the GP surgery, located to the west of the access road. The initial outline planning consent also included planning permission for 24 residential units, although this permission has now lapsed and a new planning application would be required. The site includes an additional area of land, extending east of the land covered by the original outline permission. Southern Water has advised that there is insufficient sewerage (underground) capacity directly available to serve this site.

Site Context

3.386 Open countryside lies to the north and east, and the primary school and its playing fields are located to the west. Existing residential properties, which front Canterbury Road, are located to the south.

Proposed Development

3.387 The western portion of the site contains an undevelopable woodland bank that should be maintained and enhanced for screening purposes and for biodiversity enhancement. There is potential for incorporating multifunctional SUDs within any proposed development. The trees on the eastern boundary provide screening from views on Stonehall Road, and should be retained and incorporated into the design and layout.

3.388 The site lies adjacent to the Primary School and enhancements should be made to pedestrian and cycle connectivity to the existing network and if achievable to the Primary School.

3.389 Early discussions should take place with Southern Water regarding connection to the wider sewerage and water distribution systems, which would need to be taken into account in the layout proposal of any planning application.

3.390 In line with guidance contained in Annex 1 of this Plan (paragraphs 1.20 - to 1.23) a financial contribution is sought to address the cumulative 'in combination' impact of developments of greater than 15 dwellings on European designated nature conservation sites.

Policy LA 40

Land at Canterbury Road, Lydden

The site is allocated for residential development with an estimated capacity of 40 dwellings. Planning permission will be permitted provided that:

- i. development proposals are sensitively designed in terms of height and massing in order to ensure the development does not have an adverse impact on the AONB and countryside;
- ii. the woodland bank to the north is maintained and enhanced ;
- iii. trees on the eastern boundary retained and incorporated into the design and layout;
- iv. cycle and footway connections are established to connect to the existing network and if achievable to the Primary School;
- v. a financial contribution is secured to mitigate the impact on the Thanet Coast and sandwich Bay SPA;
- vi. development should provide a connection to the sewerage system at the nearest point of adequate capacity; and
- vii. if street lighting is required this should be designed to minimise the impact of light pollution and conserve the dark night skies of the AONB.

3.6.7 Nonington

3.391 Nonington is located in the western part of the District, just over 1km to the east of Aylesham. There are no local shops but there is a primary school, hourly bus service, public house, church, village hall and a recreational ground. The parish has a population of around 906 people ⁽⁴⁰⁾ and 354 dwellings ⁽⁴¹⁾.

3.392 The village has two conservation areas, Church Street (to the west) and Easole Street (to the east) and a high proportion of listed buildings.

3.393 One site has been allocated and there is one change to the Settlement Confines. The change in the confines reflect the outcome of an appeal decision. Both are in the eastern part of the village and are identified on the diagrammatic plan below.

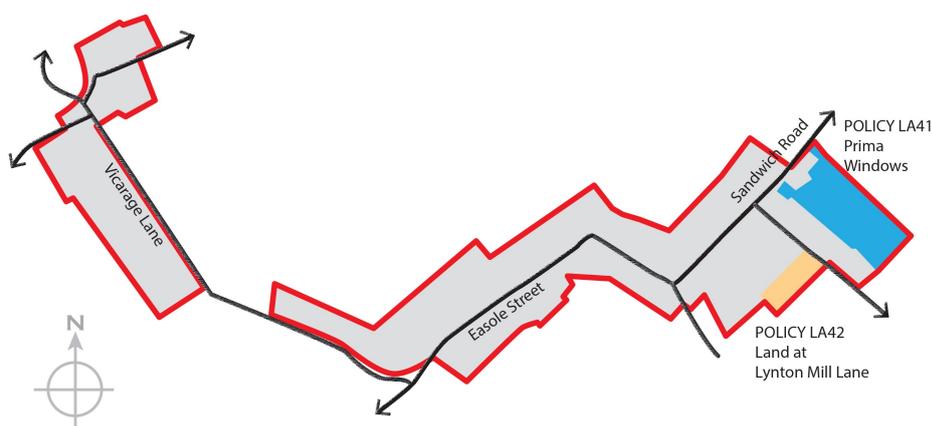


Figure 3.22 Diagram illustrating the allocation sites and changes to the settlement confines in Nonington

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Prima Windows, Easole Street, Nonington

Site Location and Characteristics

3.394 The 1.14ha site is located on the eastern edge of Nonington and is occupied by a manufacturing company. It is rectangular in shape and consists of two large industrial buildings which are located on the north western half of the site and open space at the south eastern half. The site is screened from the open countryside by a line of mature trees along the north eastern boundary. There is an existing vehicular access from Easole Street. The current site provides off street parking at the eastern corner of the site for workers. This is for approximately 20 to 25 cars but is not sufficient for the business and vehicles park along Easole Street which is at the entrance to the site. Southern Water has advised there is insufficient sewerage (underground) capacity directly available to serve this site.

40 2011 Census table QS103EW

41 2011 Census table QS418EW

Site Context

3.395 The site is on the edge of Nonington and the adjacent land uses reflect this with residential development to the south and east and open countryside to the north and west. The site is adjacent to a Conservation Area and four listed buildings; one of which is located adjacent to the main entrance of the site.

3.396 The company operating here has indicated that they are looking to relocate so that they can expand their business and the development of the site would enable this move.

Proposed Development

3.397 The design of the proposed development should be guided by its location on the edge of the countryside and the neighbouring heritage assets. It is considered that development of this site could enhance the setting of the Listed Buildings and Conservation Area with removal of industrial buildings. The parking issues along Sandwich Road should be also be alleviated through the change of use. Any development would, however, have to reflect current grain and density of existing development in the village. Appendix 3 of the Heritage Strategy has indicated that there are four Heritage 'Themes' that should be considered as a starting point for any development proposals. These are 'Settlement', 'Archaeology', 'Listed Buildings' and 'Conservation Areas'.

3.398 The line of mature trees along the north eastern boundary must be retained to reduce the impact of the built form on the wider landscape and to retain a soft edge to the village.

3.399 Early discussions should take place with Southern Water, as part of any planning application process, regarding connecting this site to the sewerage network at the nearest point of adequate capacity.

Policy LA 41

Prima Windows, Easole Street/Sandwich Road, Nonington

The site is allocated for residential development with an estimated capacity of 35 dwellings. Planning permission will be permitted provided that:

- i. the existing boundary hedgerows and vegetation is retained along the north eastern boundary;
- ii. development reflects the spatial character of the surrounding development;
- iii. due regard is made to the topography of the landscape; and
- iv. the development should provide a connection to the sewerage system at the nearest point of adequate capacity and ensure future access to the existing sewerage and water supply infrastructure for maintenance and upsizing purposes.

Residential Allocations

3.400 The following site is a change to settlement confines that enable development but does not warrant a site specific policy. The acceptability of any planning application proposals will be judged against general Development Plan policies and all other material considerations.

Policy LA 42

Residential Development

Land Allocated for Residential Development at Nonington			
Site	Design Guidelines	Approx No. Of Dwellings	Issues
Land at Lynton, Mill Lane	The location on the edge of the village provides an opportunity for lower density development, reflecting the spatial characteristics of the surrounding built form.	Change to Settlement Confines	Heritage Assets

3.6.8 Preston

3.401 Preston is located in the north west of the District, approximately two miles north of Wingham. The village consists primarily of linear development along The Street, although this branches off along Forstal Road, Court Lane, Longmete Road and Grove Road. The Parish has a population of 674 people ⁽⁴²⁾ and 296 dwellings ⁽⁴³⁾.

3.402 The settlement has a number of services and facilities including a village hall, primary school, a church, playing field, public house, village shop, butchers and a farm shop. Preston Nursery is located outside of the settlement confines, to the north east of the village. A large storage and haulier, Salvatori, is located to the north west of Preston outside the settlement confines.

3.403 The village has two conservation areas, one centred on The Street: this includes a number of Listed Buildings. The other is based around the St. Mildred's Church and encompasses the buildings of Preston Court.

3.404 It has not been possible through the Land Allocations Local Plan process to identify a suitable site for new residential development that would not cause a harmful impact on the character and appearance of the area or is easily accessible to the local services and facilities on foot.

42 2011 Census table QS103EW

43 2011 Census table QS418EW

3.6.9 St Margaret's at Cliffe

3.405 St. Margaret's at Cliffe is located to the east of Dover, and is roughly midway between Dover and Deal. The parish has a population of around 2,499 people⁽⁴⁴⁾ and 1,501 dwellings⁽⁴⁵⁾. The village is divided into two main parts St. Margaret's at Cliffe and St. Margaret's Bay each with their own settlement confines. To the west of the main part of St. Margaret's at Cliffe lies Nelson Park, with its own settlement confines, however no services and facilities are located here. The AONB is located along the majority of the village edge, aside from the area of land which acts as visual separation between St Margaret's at Cliffe and St. Margaret's Bay, with areas to the west, including Nelson Park, located within the AONB. This means that there are very limited development opportunities that would not harm the setting of the AONB or the character of the village.

3.406 St. Margaret's Bay is located in a prominent cliff-top position, with properties on Beach Road, Bay Hill and Hotel Road having extensive views of the English Channel. The Hope Point to St. Margaret's Coastal Change Management Area (CCMA) is located along the coastline to the east of the village. This area is also protected as SSSI and Heritage Coast. Any development proposals within the CCMA would need to be assessed to ensure that only appropriate development, that requires a coastal location, and provides substantial economic and social benefits, is permitted.

3.407 There are two conservation areas, one encompassing the older parts of St. Margaret's at Cliffe (St Margaret's at Cliffe Conservation Area), and the second located to the east and focused on the loose urban grain with areas of open space associated with the coastal area of St. Margaret's Bay (St Margaret's Bay Conservation Area).

3.408 The settlement has a number of services and facilities including a village hall, primary school, church, medical facility, village shop, playing field with play area, numerous public houses, tea rooms, country club, and a conference centre. St. Margaret's Bay Holiday Park is located to the south west of the settlement confines, and provides tourist accommodation (static caravans) in a resort with on-site facilities which include leisure facilities, restaurant and shop.

3.409 To help sustain and strengthen St. Margaret's at Cliffe's role in the Settlement Hierarchy, it is considered that additional housing will be required over the lifespan of this Plan. One site has been identified for residential development, which will provide approximately 7 dwellings. There is also one change to the St. Margaret's at Cliffe Settlement Confines and any proposed development on this site would need to incorporate sufficient landscaping due to its visible location. The allocated site and the change to the confines are identified on Figure 3.23.

44 2011 Census table QS103EW

45 2011 Census table QS418EW

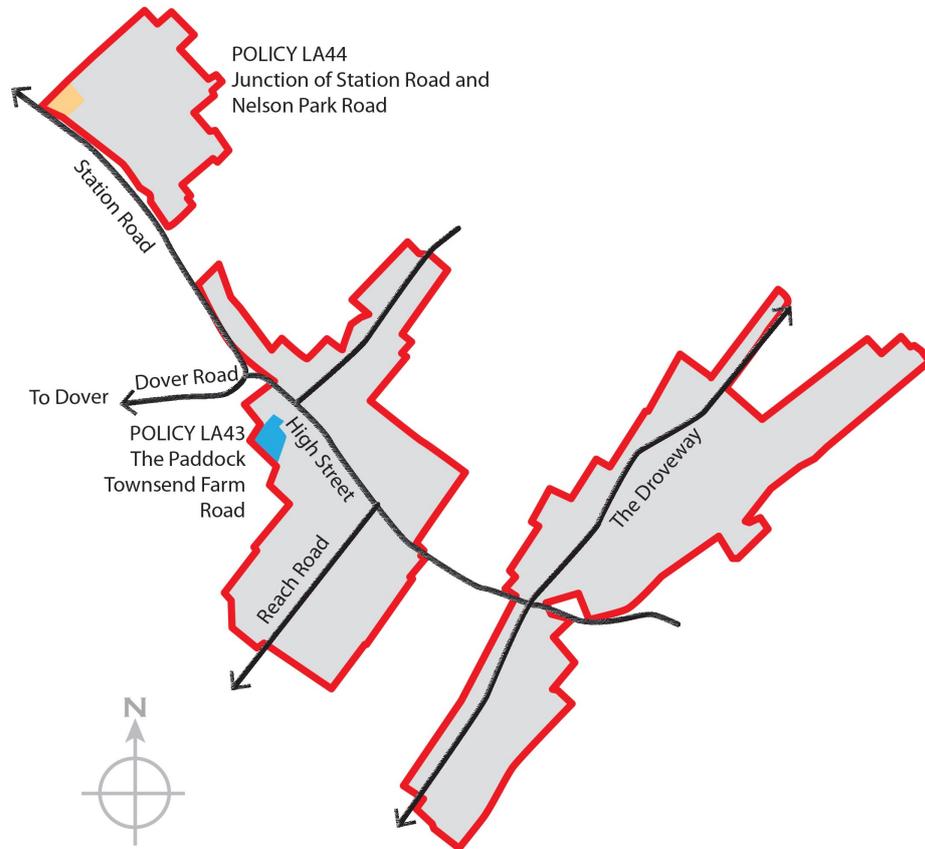


Figure 3.23 Diagram illustrating the allocated sites and changes in settlement confines in St Margaret's

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The Paddock, Townsend Farm Road, St Margaret's at Cliffe

Site Location and Characteristics

3.410 The 0.53 ha site is located to the south of St. Margaret's at Cliffe outside, but immediately adjacent to, the AONB. The site includes both numbers 1 and 2 Townsend Farm Road which are large bungalows constructed in the 1950s/1960s. To the rear of number 2, but within the site, is a paddock which comprises managed grassland. Land to the southern and eastern boundaries rises by approximately 3 metres, with mature trees along the southern boundary.

Site Context

3.411 Abutting the site to the south is Ash Grove, a rural exceptions scheme for 14 dwellings, which is located within the AONB but outside of the settlement confines. The very nature of this site means that it will remain outside of the settlement confines in perpetuity. The site is bounded by existing residential development to the north and east. Beyond Townsend Farm Road to the west lies open countryside located within the AONB.

3.412 Although the site lies outside of the St. Margaret's at Cliffe Conservation Area, the boundary is adjacent to 1 Townsend Farm Road.

Proposed Development

3.413 Given that land on the south east and south western boundaries of the paddock rises by a couple of metres, in order to reduce the impact on the nearby conservation area, this land should remain undeveloped . T he existing trees located along the boundary help to screen Ash Grove from the village and these should be retained as part of any development proposals for the site.

3.414 Figure 3.24 sets out the constraints and opportunities which would need to be taken into account in any development proposal.



Figure 3.24 Constraints and Opportunities

Policy LA43

The Paddock, Townsend Farm Road, St Margaret's at Cliffe

The site is allocated for residential development with an estimated capacity of 7 dwellings. Planning permission will be permitted provided that:

- i. development proposals are sensitively designed in terms of height and massing in order to ensure the development does not have an adverse impact on the AONB and countryside;
- ii. the raised land to the south east and south west is left undeveloped;
- iii. the existing trees along the south west boundary are retained; and
- iv. if street lighting is required this should be designed to minimise the impact of light pollution and conserve the dark night skies of the AONB.

Residential Allocations

3.415 The following site is a change to settlement confines that may enable development but does not warrant a site specific policy. The acceptability of any planning application proposals will be judged against general Development Plan policies and all other material considerations.

Policy LA44

Residential Development

Land Allocated for Residential Development at St. Margaret's at Cliffe			
Site	Design Guidelines	Approx No. Of Dwellings	Issues
Land at the junction of Station Road and Nelson Park Road	A change to the Settlement Confines will enable a small scheme to come forward reflective of its surroundings	Change to Settlement Confines	AONB, landscaping

3.6.10 Staple

3.416 The village of Staple is located in the north of the district, approximately 2km south west of Ash and east of Wingham. Barnsole, a hamlet, lies to the east of the village.

3.417 The majority of the village facilities are community based and consist of a Church, recreational ground, public house and village hall. The village also has an hourly bus service. The population of the village is approximately 551 people ⁽⁴⁶⁾ and there are 232 dwellings ⁽⁴⁷⁾ in the Parish.

3.418 To help sustain and strengthen Staple's role in the Settlement Hierarchy, it is considered that additional housing will be required over the lifespan of this Plan. The opportunity for further development in Staple is limited by its rural character and the setting of listed buildings.

3.419 The Plan has identified a change in the Settlement Confines to the land adjacent to Orchard Lea, The Street. This would enable low density development, consisting of one or two dwellings, reflecting the character of the surrounding area. The rural character of The Street, leading to St James Church, a Grade I listed building, and White Gate, a Grade II listed building, need to be protected and retained. An integral part of the rural character is the hedgerow that is located along the frontage of the land. This should be retained unless its removal is required for access. The change to the confines is identified in the diagrammatic plan below.

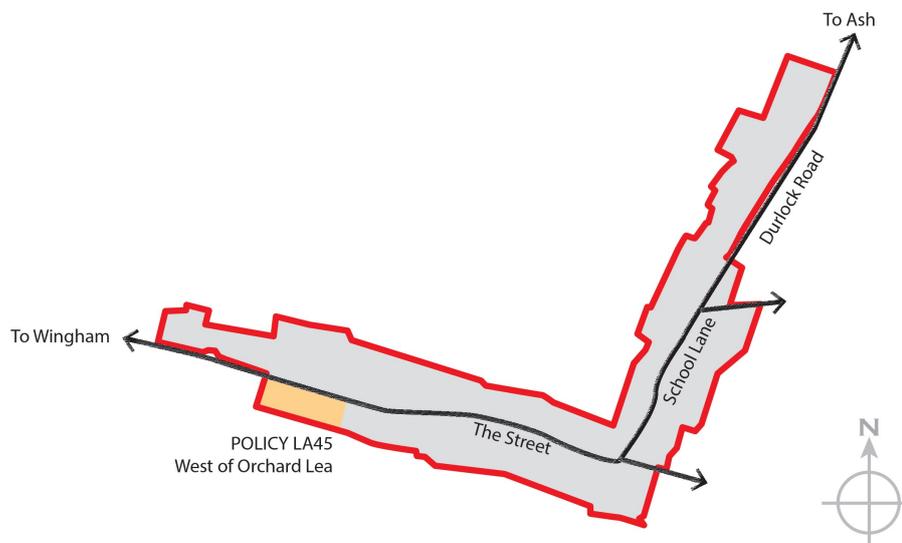


Figure 3.25 Diagram illustrating the change to the settlement confines in Staple

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Residential Allocations

3.420 The following site is a change to the settlement confines that may enable development but does not warrant a site specific policy. The acceptability of any planning application proposals will be judged against general Development Plan policies and all other material considerations.

46 2011 Census table QS103EW

47 2011 Census table QS418EW

Policy LA 45

Residential Development

Land Allocated for Residential Development at Staple			
Site	Design Guidelines	Approx No. Of Dwellings	Issues
Land to the west of Orchard Lea, The Street	Low density, larger family homes, respecting the spatial characteristics of the street scene.	Change to Settlement Confines	Retention of hedgerows Adjacent Listed Buildings

3.6.11 Woodnesborough

3.421 Woodnesborough is located in the northern part of the District located in close proximity to Sandwich, which lies to the east, and 1.5km from Ash to the north west. The village is in two distinct parts, the western part includes the church and the current recreation ground, the eastern part the public house and village hall. The village hall is, however, considered no longer fit for purpose and the Parish Council is actively seeking a new location for a village hall and a new recreation ground.

3.422 The two parts of the village are approximately 100m apart and are separated by agricultural fields. Both parts of the village are served by an hourly bus route. The population of the parish is 1,066 ⁽⁴⁸⁾ and there are 468 dwellings ⁽⁴⁹⁾.

3.423 To help sustain and strengthen Woodnesborough's role in the settlement hierarchy, it is considered that additional housing will be required over the lifespan of this Plan. Opportunities for further development in Woodnesborough are limited due to the impact on the wider landscape and the setting of the listed buildings in the village.

3.424 Two sites have been identified for residential development and these will provide 43 dwellings. The allocated sites are identified in the diagrammatic plan below.

48 2011 Census table QS103EW

49 2011 Census table QS418EW

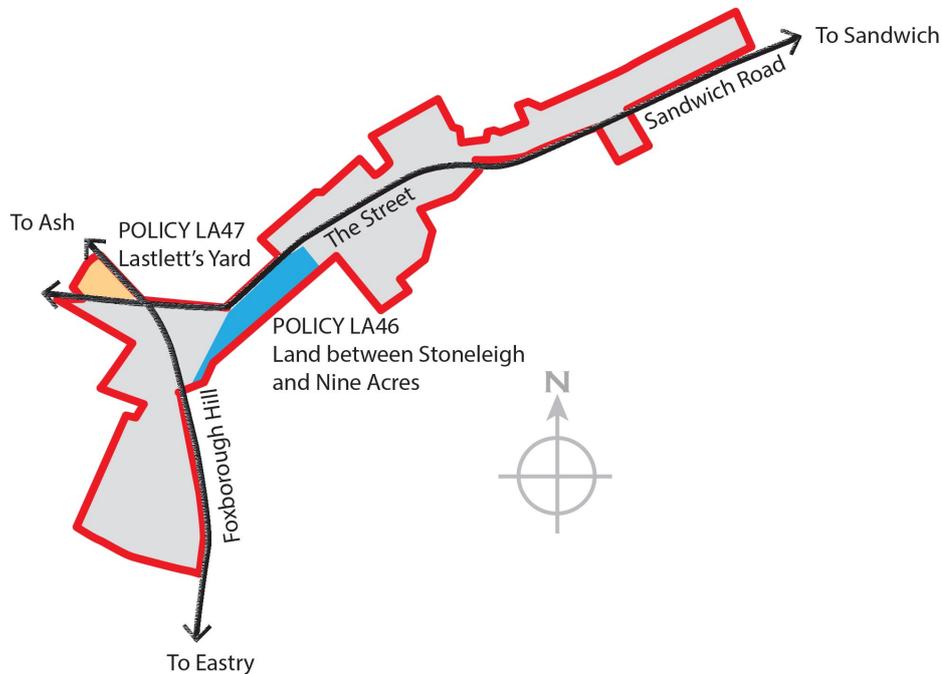


Figure 3.26 Diagram illustrating allocation sites in Woodnesborough

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Land Between Stoneleigh and Nine Acres, The Street

Site Location and Characteristics

3.425 The 1ha site is centrally located in the village on land to the south of The Street, which separates the two parts of the village. The site is irregular in shape and is long and narrow. It consists of agricultural land contained by hedgerows and trees located along the length of The Street and the rear of the site that screen the site. There is also a bank along the frontage with The Street. The existing field access is onto The Street at the northern end of the site. Southern Water has advised that a sewer crosses this site.

Site Context

3.426 The site is located on land separating the two distinct parts of the village and the surrounding land uses reflect this with open countryside to the south east and residential to the north, north east and to the south west. St Mary's Church, a Grade II listed building, is located to the south. The existing village hall, which is also Grade II listed, is located on the opposite side of The Street, to the north. The Parish Council has indicated that this hall is now no longer fit for purpose and a site for a new multi-purpose hall is required.

Proposed Development

3.427 The design of the proposed development should be guided by its location on the edge of the countryside and the neighbouring heritage assets.

3.428 The hedgerows and trees that are on the south east and north west boundaries of the site are considered important for retaining the rural character and reducing any detrimental impact on the wider landscape. These should be retained as part of any proposed development unless removal of part of the hedge is required for vehicle or pedestrian access.

3.429 The design and layout of any proposals should consider the setting of the village hall, a Grade II Listed Building, and the density and scale of the existing built form. This is to ensure that the rural character of the village is maintained. In particular, the access point onto the site and associated visibility splays, should be located to minimise impact on the village hall. The District Council will expect applications to be submitted with a Heritage Statement relating to Appendix 3 of the Heritage Strategy. The Strategy has identified six heritage 'Themes' of outstanding significance, including 'Churches' and 'Listed Buildings', that should be considered within any development proposals.

3.430 Development would also need to provide a public footway along The Street which should connect to the existing footway which is located on Fir Tree Hill. The footway should be set back within the site in order to avoid the loss of the existing hedgerow and trees along the road frontage and creating a detrimental impact on the rural character of the road.

3.431 The development of this site creates an opportunity for the provision of a replacement village hall and recreation ground on land adjacent to the site. This would be in a central location easily accessible to the local community and is an integral part of releasing this site for development. Proposals for the allocated site will need to demonstrate that they will not prejudice the implementation of any community facility.

3.432 Early discussions should take place with Southern Water regarding the sewer that crosses the site, which would need to be taken into account as part of any planning application.

3.433 The location of the site on land separating the two distinct parts of the village, in the countryside, means that development proposals should reflect the spatial character of the neighbouring built form. The configuration and the size of the site would lend itself to larger family dwellings set back to the rear of the site, overlooking the new access road and footway. The site was granted planning permission in 2014 for 24 dwellings and a new village hall.

Policy LA 46

Land between Stoneleigh and Nine Acres, The Street, Woodnesborough

The site is allocated for residential development with an estimated capacity of 30 dwellings. Planning permission will be permitted provided that:

- i. a tree survey is undertaken and agreed with the Council that assesses the importance and identifies which trees on the site need to be retained;
- ii. the development includes the creation of a public footway which is set back within the site that must connect to the existing footway that is located at Fir Tree Hill;
- iii. development reflects the spatial character of the existing built form;
- iv. it can be demonstrated that proposals will not prejudice the implementation of a community facility on land adjacent to the site; and
- v. the development should provide a connection to the sewerage system at the nearest point of adequate capacity and ensure future access to the existing sewerage and water supply infrastructure for maintenance and upsizing purposes.

Residential Allocations

3.434 The following site is allocated for residential development that may enable development but does not warrant a site specific policy. The acceptability of any planning application proposals will be judged against general Development Plan policies and all other material considerations.

Policy LA 47

Residential Development

Land Allocated for Residential Development at Woodnesborough

Site	Design Guidelines	Approx No. Of Dwellings	Issues
Land at Laslett's Yard and adjacent land	Located on the edge of the built form on a site currently consisting of a large shed and small holding. This provides an opportunity for a mix density development with higher density, smaller dwellings on the footprint of the shed and lower density dwellings on the remainder.	13	Retention of Hedgerows The improvement of footways & PROW to the site will be investigated and implemented if found to be appropriate.



4 Phasing, Delivery and Monitoring

4.1 There is a formal requirement for the Council to produce an Annual Monitoring Report. Copies of the Council's Annual Monitoring Report can be downloaded from the Council's website.

4.2 Chapter 5 of the Adopted Core Strategy identifies the Council's strategic delivery framework and sets out the critical relationship between core policies and development proposals and examines who does what to deliver the Core Strategy's aims and objectives. Whilst the Delivery Framework was prepared to support the Core Strategy the Council will apply this programme management, monitoring and review process to the Land Allocations Local Plan.

4.3 The Council will consider the outcomes of the Annual Monitoring Report and whether this indicates the need to review existing plans, or to produce any additional ones. Any such changes have to be set out in the Council's Local Development Scheme. Should monitoring find that progress is insufficient to meet targets it does not automatically mean that a review of a Plan should take place. Where targets are not being met the Council will identify the relevant issues, analyse the problem and propose remedial action if necessary.



Annex 1 Development Management Guidance and Policy

1.1 Proposals for development will be judged against all relevant policies in the Development Plan. The Development Plan consists of the District Local Plan, which currently consists of this Plan, the Core Strategy and saved elements of the 2002 Local Plan, and the Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan produced by Kent County Council. In addition all Local Plans must take full account of national policies set out in the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), together with requirements of planning legislation and Planning Practice Guidance.

This section is a continuation of the Development Management Annex in the Core Strategy, and must be read in conjunction to ensure that all issues are considered as part of any planning application. The policies in this Annex run consecutively from the Core Strategy Development Management policies and, therefore, start at Policy DM26.

New Comparison Provision

1.2 As outlined in Chapter 2 (Overarching Policies) the Dover District Retail Update (2012) has identified a need for comparison floorspace in Deal. This amounts to a requirement for 7,700 square metres of gross floorspace by 2026. The NPPF and PPG recognises that town centres are at the heart of communities and that Plans should allocate suitable site(s) for main town centre uses to meet the scale and type of retail development that is needed. If sufficient town centre or edge of centre sites cannot be identified or viable town centre sites are not available, the Council should set policies for meeting the identified need in other accessible locations that are well connected to the town centre. For further details please see Table 2.1 and paragraphs 2.10 to 2.17.

Policy DM 26

Provision of Comparison Floorspace in Deal

Planning permission for comparison goods shopping at Deal will be permitted provided that the sequential test set out in national planning policy has been followed. Should it be demonstrated through this test that no suitable town centre site can be identified and, following that, there is no appropriate edge-of-centre site an out-of-centre site will be permitted provided that all the following criteria are met:

- i. it is in an accessible location that is well connected to the town centre;
- ii. opportunities are taken to maximise the use of sustainable transport modes;
- iii. any proposal of more than 500 square metres gross floorspace is not likely to have a significant adverse impact on committed or planned town centre investment, nor on town centre vitality and viability; and
- iv. the proposals are in accordance with development plan policies to protect and enhance the environment.

1.3 The Retail Update identified that proposals for comparison floorspace over 500 square metres of gross floorspace should be accompanied by an impact assessment.

Guidance on Heritage Assets

1.4 The primary purpose of the Heritage Strategy is to identify, group and understand the value of the District's heritage assets. The Heritage Strategy is available on the Council's website www.dover.gov.uk/landallocations. The Strategy, however, considers a wide range of issues beyond the scope of this Local Plan, this section of the Annex provides additional support to the Heritage Strategy through:

- Guidance to help make planning decisions; and
- Promoting a better understanding of heritage assets in the District

Guidance for Planning Applications

1.5 The NPPF sets out the Government's policy stance to be considered as part of any planning application and this is considered to be sufficient not to warrant specific policy for heritage assets.

1.6 The starting point in the NPPF is that it is important to understand the value of heritage assets as part of any planning application, whether these are on or close to the site. The NPPF states that Local Planning Authorities should require applicants to describe the significance of any assets affected, including any contribution made by its setting. This assessment would be provided in Heritage Statements that are an integral part of the planning application, describing the significance of any heritage assets affected. Heritage Statements that do not address the above can result in delays to the assessment and determination of planning applications.

1.7 To assist developers with this requirement, the Heritage Strategy has provided a wealth of information that should be referred to. It has identified and provided a commentary on, thirteen broad themes to identify the numerous individual or groups of assets. Some of these themes have also been broken down into sub-themes. The Heritage Strategy has also assessed the significance of the themes to help applicants meet the requirement in the NPPF. The table below summarises the significance of the thirteen themes.

Theme	Significance
Coastal Process and Landscapes	Outstanding
Coastal Ports	Outstanding
Invasion and Defence	Moderate to Outstanding
Communications	Considerable
Maritime	Outstanding
Church	Outstanding
Country Houses and Estates	Considerable
Settlement	Outstanding

Theme	Significance
Agriculture and Farmsteads	Moderate to Outstanding
Industry	Moderate
Archaeology	Outstanding
Built Heritage	Outstanding
Conservation Areas	Outstanding

Table 1.1 Heritage Strategy Themes

1.8 To help improve the quality of Heritage Statements the Heritage Strategy has also identified a 'Themes Assessment' check list to assist in the assessment.

1.9 Furthermore, the Heritage Strategy has also provided guiding principles for Heritage Statements for larger schemes. These have been set out in four case studies (Discovery Park, Sandwich; North Deal; Farthingloe, Dover; and Fort Burgoyne & Connaught Barracks), and follow a simple format:

Guiding Principles for Heritage Statements

1. Site introduction/the study area - a brief description of the site.
2. Archaeological and Historical Background – a table listing the historical 'Themes', the principle assets affected in each theme and type of potential impact.
3. Historic Environment Issues – a list of the issues identified and a brief description of each.
4. Conclusion

1.10 For smaller scale proposals, additional advice on producing Heritage Statements is available on the Council's web site. The knowledge base will also be improved over time with the Conservation Area Character Appraisals and Local Lists.

1.11 Chapter 6 of the Heritage Strategy considers the opportunities for heritage assets in the District, in particular how these can add value to new developments and how they could be used to improve the offer for tourism. Landowners/developers are encouraged to consider the suggestions within their proposals.

Promoting better understanding of Heritage Assets

1.12 A key component of the Heritage Strategy is to promote a greater understanding by the Local Authority, landowners and local people of the heritage assets in the District. One of the best ways of raising appreciation of the historic environment, developing a sense of place for communities and helping to sustain and realise the benefits of heritage assets is to engage and encourage local people and groups to take a leading role in heritage activities.

1.13 Whilst many actions are outside the remit of this Plan, the Heritage Strategy has identified two areas where the involvement of local groups, would be of benefit. These are Conservation Area Character Appraisals and the production of a Local List of Heritage Assets.

1.14 It is envisaged that the assessment work would be completed by the local community with agreement by the District Council. To ensure that the assessments follow the same methodology, the District Council will produce guidance notes. These will be based on best practice, such as that produced by English Heritage.

1.15 The NPPF states that non-designated heritage assets should be taken account of when considering planning applications. A Local List would enable the importance of undesignated local heritage assets to be taken into account in the processing of any planning applications, which have an impact on them and their setting.

1.16 The criteria for identifying Heritage Assets for a Local List are as follows:

A local List of Heritage Assets will include buildings, structures, landscape and archaeological features, which are of local interest, and have no statutory designation. For inclusion within the Local List, the Heritage Asset must comply with at least one of the criteria listed below:

Historic Interest. This can include:

- Association with a figure or event of significant local or national importance.
- Buildings relating to traditional or historic 'industrial' processes.
- Age and use of distinctive local characteristics.
- Archaeological importance.

Architectural and Artistic Interest. This can include:

- Buildings of high quality design, displaying good use of materials, architectural features and styles and distinctive local characteristics, which retain much of their original character.
- Designed by an architect or engineer of local or national importance.
- Demonstrating good technological innovation.
- Good quality modern architecture.

Social, Communal and Economic Value. This can include:

- Reflecting important aspects of the development of a settlement.
- Demonstrating an important cultural role within the community.
- Places which are perceived to be a source of local identity, distinctiveness, social interaction and coherence.
- Demonstrating links to a significant local industry or trade.

Townscape Character. This can include:

- Providing a key local or national landmark.
- Of significant townscape or aesthetic value.
- Playing an integral role within a significant local vista or skyline.
- Groupings of assets with a clear visual, design or historic relationship.
- Part of a locally important designed landscape, park or garden.
- Providing a good example of early local town planning.

Guidance on Coastal Change Management Areas

1.17 With regard to future planning applications and assessment against the CCMA's it is not proposed to include a policy in this Plan as the NPPF and the accompanying Practice Guide sets out the planning considerations for Coastal Change Management Areas (CCMA).

Development proposals falling within the Coastal Change Management Areas, as defined on the Policies Map, will have to be accompanied by an assessment of the vulnerability of the proposed development to coastal change and whether there is any impact on coastal change.

1.18 Paragraphs 106 to 108 in the NPPF and, in particular, the Planning Practice Guidance provide clear guidance as to what is, and what is not, suitable for new development and this will be the initial policy stance of the District. The Planning Policy Guidance is summarised below:

- Essential infrastructure may be permitted in a CCMA provided there are clear plans to manage the impacts of coastal change on it, and it will not have an adverse impact on rates of coastal change;
- MoD installations that require a coastal location can be permitted within a CCMA provided there are clear plans to manage the impacts of coastal change;
- For all other development, within short-term risk areas (i.e. 20 years time horizon) only a limited range of types of development directly linked to the coastal strip such as beach huts, café/tea rooms, car parks and holiday short-let caravans and camping, might be permitted;
- Within medium to long term risk areas (i.e. 50 to 100 years time horizon) a wider range of time-limited development might be permitted such as hotels, shops, offices or leisure activities requiring a coastal location and providing substantial economic and social benefit;
- Permanent new residential development would not be appropriate.

1.19 Where extensions and alterations permitted under the General Permitted Development Order are likely to result in an increase in the scale of property and number of occupants at risk from coastal change in the short-term (i.e. next 20 years), the District Council will consider whether to make greater use of an Article 4 Direction under the Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995 to require planning permission to be sought.

1.20 Development proposals that fall within the Kent Downs Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Heritage Coast would also be restricted by those designations so the above examples may not be acceptable for reasons other than vulnerability to coastal erosion.

Thanet Coast and Sandwich Bay SPA and Ramsar Mitigation Strategy

1.21 It is a requirement of the EU 'Habitats Directive' 1992 (hereafter referred to as the Habitats Directive) (1) and the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010 that 'land use plans' (including local authority Local Plans) are subject to an 'Appropriate Assessment' (AA) if it is likely that they will lead to significant adverse effects on a Natura 2000 site (Special Areas of Conservation (SACs), and Special Protection Areas (SPAs)). As a matter of UK Government policy Ramsar sites (2), candidate Special Areas of Conservation (cSAC) and proposed Special Protection Areas (pSPA) are given equivalent status. These protected sites are collectively referred to as 'European sites' - see Kent Landscape Information System (KLIS) website for further information.

1.22 The Habitats Directive applies the precautionary principle to protected areas; plans and projects can only be permitted having ascertained that there will be no adverse effect on the integrity of the site(s) in question. The HRA of this Plan concluded that, due to the existence of the Thanet Coast and Sandwich Bay SPA and Ramsar Mitigation Strategy and the requirement for all new dwellings to contribute to that Strategy to deliver enhanced management of the SPA, the scale of development set out in this Plan will not lead to an adverse effect on the integrity of Thanet Coast & Sandwich Bay SPA, either alone or in combination with other projects and plans.

1.23 Full details of the Mitigation Strategy are contained within 'Thanet Coast and Sandwich Bay SPA and Ramsar Mitigation Strategy' and is available on the Council's website at www.dover.gov.uk

1.24 The purpose is to avoid potential impacts brought about by demographic changes, rather than ameliorate pre-existing impacts. However, a strategy that may have coincidental effects on existing impacts would produce an overall benefit. Wardening, for instance, should, by its very nature, reduce existing as well as new impacts.

The mitigation strategy comprises four elements:

1. The ability, if necessary, to draw on funding, via a bond, to support wardening at Sandwich Bay for a period up to 10 years.
2. Monitoring of potential impacts associated with Dover development to identify if and when such wardening (1) or other mitigation (4) is required;
3. Contribution to the Pegwell Bay and Sandwich Bay Disturbance Study to complement (2), provide weighting for different forms of disturbance and thus direct the role of wardening (1).
4. To use the monitoring (2) to identify lesser sources of development-related disturbance and to draw on the relevant development contributions for mitigation of such.

Financial contributions will address the cumulative 'in combination' impact of the smaller developments of greater than 15 dwellings allocated for development in this Plan. For developments requiring EIA, project-level HRA will be required in order to confirm any site specific details that may trigger a requirement for additional measures, notwithstanding the requirement to contribute to the Strategic Mitigation Strategy. Guidance at 2013 values indicates that costs range from £16.50 for a 1 bed dwelling to £66 for a 4 bed dwelling.

Open Space and Play Space Standards Policy

1.25 Access to high quality open spaces and opportunities for sport and recreation provides a vital contribution to community health and well-being. Growth expected in the District will increase the pressure on existing open space resources; therefore it is important to plan positively to meet the additional demand by enhancing existing facilities or creating new open spaces and securing their maintenance in the long term. The NPPF states that local planning authorities should base their policies for open spaces on robust and up-to-date assessments of local needs. Furthermore, these assessments should identify specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficits or surpluses of open space, sports and recreational facilities in the local area.

1.26 Open Space Standards have been produced to help evaluate any additional need arising from new development. Expected levels of quantity, quality and accessibility for the various categories of open space are defined within the standards. The standards have been derived using information gained from a number of sources, including recent comprehensive audits of outdoor sports facilities and equipped children's play areas. Projects

designed to address any identified deficits and spare capacity will be set out in supporting strategies. Supporting documents, such as the 'Review of Play Area Provision 2012-2026', are available on the Council's website.

The standards apply to four categories of open space:

- Accessible green space – parks and gardens, amenity open space, green corridors, village greens, informal kick-about areas, informal playable space and closed churchyards;
- Outdoor sports facilities – dedicated sport facilities that are suitable for competitive matches and formal training activity;
- Children's play space – equipped play space, multi-use games areas and skate parks; and
- Community gardens and allotments.

1.27 The total requirement for these categories of open space is 3.66 hectares per 1,000 residents. Details of the standards are provided in Table 1.2, including the minimum acceptable travelling time from new developments. Topographical factors must be taken into account when considering accessibility; the distance from a site to the nearest open space facility should be measured along pedestrian routes.

Open Space Type	Quantitative Standard	Accessibility Standard ⁽¹⁾	Quality Standard	Notes
Accessible green space	2.22 ha per 1,000 population	At least one accessible green space of minimum size 0.4ha within 300m At least one green space 2ha within 15 minute walking time/1,000m	Green Flag guidance at strategic sites. Qualitative improvement priorities at non-strategic sites discussed in the forthcoming refreshed Parks & Open Spaces Strategy	Green Flag status is held by one site in the District: the semi-natural space at Samphire Hoe. The long-term aspiration is to gain Green Flags for strategic parks; the adopted Parks & Open Spaces Strategy sets out action plans to achieve this
Outdoor sports facilities	1.17 ha of natural grass playing pitches per 1,000 population	Three sub-areas within the district have been defined on the basis of league structures	Sport England design and cost guidance, quality standards of relevant National	Requirements for artificial grass pitches, tennis courts, bowling greens, athletics tracks and netball courts are detailed in the adopted Playing

Open Space Type	Quantitative Standard	Accessibility Standard ⁽¹⁾	Quality Standard	Notes
		(Dover, Deal and rural)	Governing Bodies of sport	Pitch and Outdoor Sport Strategy
Children's equipped play space	0.06 ha per 1,000 population	Local play space within 600m and/or strategic play space 1,000m. At least one equipped play space in each settlement of village level or above	Play England Guidance, such as 'Design for Play'. Fields in Trust Guidance, such as 'Planning and Design for Outdoor Sport and Play'	Provision of 'Playable' accessible green space replaces the previous requirement for Local Areas for Play. Requirements for multi-use games areas and skate parks are detailed in the adopted Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sport Strategy
Allotments/Community Gardens	0.21 ha per 1,000 population	At least one site within 15 minute walking time or 1,000m	Not applicable	

Table 1.2 Proposed Open Space Standards

1. Accessibility standards are only applicable to settlements of village level or above, as defined in the Core Strategy settlement hierarchy (CP1). In hamlets long term support for open space facilities is more difficult to achieve, and in any case residents usually have ready access to public rights of way and the wider countryside. In addition, the requirement for a green space at least 2ha in size within 15 minute walking time/1,000m is only applicable to settlements of rural service centre level or above.

1.28 Requirements for some categories of open space cannot be expressed as district wide standards, therefore they will be assessed on a development specific basis. For example, operational cemeteries have been excluded from the standards, even though the Core Strategy recognises that additional cemetery provision will be required to serve the Dover urban area. Operational churchyards exist throughout the District, some of which could be extended. However, new cemetery provision derived through planning means should be suitable for all and acceptable to all religions ⁽⁵⁰⁾. Large developments could possibly meet this need on site, but it is not realistic to expect that new facilities be created within walking distance of all urban residents and therefore an accessibility standard is not defined. A survey carried out in 2010 ⁽⁵¹⁾ indicated that Dover District residents are willing to travel further to access cemeteries than other green infrastructure types.

50 A site assessment study for the Dover Town's new cemetery, Dover District Council, 2010

51 Proposed Standards for Open Space Provision, Dover District Council, 2011

1.29 In 'Nature Nearby: Accessible Natural Greenspace' (Natural England, March 2010), four levels of 'naturalness' category are given. Some of the sites discussed are subject to the local open space standards, the rest are designated for nature conservation either as European sites for conservation or Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) Habitats. The Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act, 2006, put responsibilities on local planning authorities to maintain or enhance biodiversity. While broad targets are established through the BAP, enhancements deriving from development must be dictated by site-specific conditions and may not be expressed as a quantitative standard unless it incorporates biodiversity targets. Additionally there may be a need to reduce impact on the landscape. For these reasons, no local standards are set for accessible natural/semi-natural green space.

Policy DM 27

Providing Open Space

To meet any additional need generated by development, planning applications for residential development of five or more dwellings will be required to provide or contribute towards provision of open space, unless existing provision within the relevant accessibility standard has sufficient capacity to accommodate the additional demand. This applies to accessible green space⁽⁵²⁾, outdoor sports facilities, children's equipped play space and community gardens in accordance with the standards that are contained in Table 1.2. Applications will also be required to demonstrate a minimum of 15 years maintenance of facilities. The need arising for other types of open space (operational cemeteries, European site mitigation and landscape mitigation) will be assessed on a development specific basis.

If it is impractical to provide a new area of open space in the form of an on-site contribution or there are existing facilities within the access distances contained in Table 1.2 and the capacity of those facilities can be expanded to meet the additional demand, then the District Council will consider accepting a commuted payment for the purpose of funding quantitative or qualitative improvement to an existing publicly accessible open space. Commuted sums will cover the cost of providing and maintaining the improvements.

1.30 The additional need arising from residential developments will be calculated using estimated occupancy rates given in the KCC paper 'Demographic Forecasts Dover District Council, April 2010', or a subsequent document. A worked example is presented in Tables 1.3 and 1.4, which calculates the open space needs arising from a hypothetical development of 100 units built to the Core Strategy housing mix. For very large applications, more detailed population modelling may be necessary to obtain predicted age structure, in order to utilise the Sport England Playing Pitch Model.

52 The types of open space categorised as accessible greenspace are listed in paragraph 1.26. Additional need for accessible green space that arises from new development may be met by provision of a combination of suitable open space types. Clearly, some types cannot be created within new developments, for example closed churchyards, however off-site contributions may be used to increase the capacity of suitably located of any type of accessible greenspace

Dwelling Type	Occupancy Rate	Number of Units	Number of Occupants
1 bed flats	1.247	15	19
2 bed houses	2.112	35	74
3 bed houses	2.621	40	105
4 bed houses	3.245	10	32
		Total	230

Table 1.3 Example calculation of the population arising from a new development

Open Space Type	Qualitative standard (Ha per thousand population)	Number of New Residents	Open Space Requirement
Accessible Green Space	2.22	230	0.51
Outdoor Sports Facilities	1.17	230	0.27
Childrens Equipped Play Space	0.06	230	0.01
Allotments/ Community Gardens	0.21	230	0.05
		Total	0.84

Table 1.4 Example calculation of the open space need arising from a new development

1.31 These open space needs may be met by new provision on-site. Alternatively, the standards will be applied to determine whether facilities already exist within an acceptable distance and whether sufficient capacity exists in them to accommodate the additional demand. In most cases it will be possible to provide at least some of the accessible green space within developments especially where fifteen or more houses are proposed. If the accessible green space is designed to be playable this would meet the need previously catered for by Local Areas for Play. Spare capacities and deficiencies of outdoor sports facilities within the district's three subareas are discussed in the adopted 'Playing Pitch and Outdoor Sports Facilities Strategy', which includes an analysis of provision based on the Sport England Playing Pitch Model (PPM) that utilises supply and demand data. Demand for children's equipped play areas is presumed to exist in all urban areas⁽⁵³⁾, information on supply is presented in 'Review of Play Area Provision 2012-2026'. Open space projects are being delivered all the time, so it will be necessary to check if provision local to the development has changed since the most recent strategy was published.

1.32 Out-of-town commercial developments on allocated sites are covered by site-specific policies that consider issues such as the impact on nearby natural and semi-natural green infrastructure and appropriate provision of green corridors and landscaping. For example

53 See discussion at paragraph 8.18 of Open Space Policy and Standards consultation (PS03)

Policy LA2 applies to Phases II and III of White Cliffs Business Park in Whitfield. It sets out requirements for improvements to the North Downs Way, structural landscaping and buffer zones. If unallocated sites come forward for commercial development the need for green infrastructure will be assessed on a site-specific basis.

1.33 Commercial developments within settlement confines may be capable of providing green infrastructure or public realm facilities to support increased footfall caused by the scheme. Examples of suitable projects are outlined in the Public Realm Strategy (October 2006). A commercial development that has a demonstrable local impact on the green infrastructure network should contribute to a project to mitigate those impacts.

1.34 Historically Dover District Council has secured off-site contributions via S106 agreements, including the cost of maintaining new facilities for fifteen years. This will continue at least until a locally determined Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) is introduced. The Council is preparing to introduce CIL to the District, and may choose to secure funding for open space provision via that route in the future. In the meantime, the 2010 CIL regulations have introduced restrictions to the way in which S106 agreements may be used. Planning obligations (such as off-site contributions) may only be secured if they are:

- (a) necessary to make the development acceptable in planning terms;
- (b) directly related to the development; and
- (c) fairly and reasonably related in scale and kind to the development.

1.35 In addition, off-site contributions may only service the additional need that arises from the new development; they cannot be used to put right existing deficiencies.

1.36 Appropriate off site contributions will be calculated by working out the proportion of a complete facility required to meet the additional need. For example the need of 0.27 ha calculated in Table 1.4 equates to 23% of a standard senior football pitch⁽⁵⁴⁾, therefore 23% of the cost of creating such a facility would be an appropriate contribution. Costing guidance is provided by Sport England, for example in the document 'Life Cycle Costings, Natural Turf Pitches'. Due to the limit on pooling S106 payments to no more than five per project, contributions are unlikely to be sought where the need created forms less than one fifth of a facility. Allocation of any off-site monetary contributions to projects will be guided by the accessibility standards, to ensure the facilities provided are directly related to the development. The detailed arrangements for any on or off-site provision will depend on the particular local conditions and issues, which may vary from site to site. In some cases improved access arrangements to an existing facility may be an appropriate use of off-site contributions.

1.37 This policy will support the implementation of two open space related policies in the Dover District Core Strategy (adopted 2010). Policy DM25 protects existing open space, while CP7 protects the wider Green Infrastructure Network. The standards will help to protect and enhance the publicly accessible open space component of existing green infrastructure by ensuring that proper consideration is given to needs arising from development. Provision of appropriate open space facilities has a valuable role in protecting the wider Green Infrastructure Network by significantly deflecting recreational pressures away from protected

54 According to 'Comparative sizes of Sports Pitches and Counts' a senior football pitch (including run offs) measures 1.2Ha <https://www.sportengland.org/media/30685/comparative-sizes-checklist-April-2011.Pdf>

natural and semi-natural elements. Application of the standards will also provide a clearly defined approach for determining whether public open space provision is deficient in the vicinity of a proposed development on protected open space.

Schedule of Policies

1.38 The table below lists, by policy issue, which of the saved Local Plan Policies are to be replaced by policies in the Land Allocations Local Plan.

Policy Issue	Land Allocations Local Plan Policy	Saved Dover District Local Plan Policy (2002) replaced
Development of White Cliffs Business Park, Dover	LA2	LE3
Children's Play Space provision in developments of 15 or more dwellings	DM27	OS2
Provision of open space needs from new development	DM27	OS3
Eastry Hospital	LA29	AS11

Table 1.5

1.39 The following table lists the saved Local Plan Policies (2002) that are to be deleted and not replaced.

Policy Issue	Saved Dover District Local Plan (2002) Policy to be deleted	Explanation for deletion
Industrial and business land allocations	LE2	DM2 in the Core Strategy has replaced this policy. Individual allocations are identified in the Land Allocations Local Plan.
Minter's Yard, Deal	LE4	The site has planning permission and is under construction.
Marlborough Road, Deal	LE6	The Retail and Employment Update (2012) has indicated that this allocation is no longer required.
Expansion at Pfizer	LE9	The policy was specific to Pfizer. The company has now sold the site and the site is now an Enterprise Zone and subject to a LDO.

Policy Issue	Saved Dover District Local Plan (2002) Policy to be deleted	Explanation for deletion
Safeguarding primary and secondary retail frontages in towns	LE12	Policy DM22 in the Core Strategy provides safeguarding for retail frontages. LE12 is not necessary.
Dover Castle Officer's Mess	LE25	Site specific policy not considered necessary as this site could come forward under Development Management policies.
Land allocated for housing	HS2	The sites identified in this policy have either been developed or saved.
Land south of Northwall Road Deal	HS6	Site is within Flood Risk Zone 3 and within the Rapid Inundation Zone (RIZ). Part of the site has been developed.
New convenience provision at Dover	SP3	This policy is no longer necessary as the issues are covered in the NPPF.
New comparison at West Street, Deal	SP8	The site has been developed for other uses.
Betteshanger Spoil Tip	AS2	This has been completed (Fowlmead Country Park).
Royal Marines School of Music, North Barracks, Deal	AS3	The site is under construction.
Army Careers' Information Office, Townwall Street	AS5	The site allocation does not conform to the town centre sequential test as set out in the NPPF.
Old Park Barracks, Dover	AS8	Site has extant planning permission
Church Farm, East Langdon	AS10	Site has been developed.
Boyes Lane Goodnestone	AS12	Site has been developed
Ramsgate Road, Sandwich	AS14	Sites have planning permission and/or have been developed. Minerals and Waste Policies apply.
Sandwich Industrial Estate	AS15	Application has been implemented
Snowdown Colliery Pithead and Sidings	AS16	Site is not viable

Policy Issue	Saved Dover District Local Plan (2002) Policy to be deleted	Explanation for deletion
Snowdown Colliery Spoil Tip	AS17	Site is not viable

Table 1.6

Glossary

Term	Definition
Accessible Green Space	Open space that may be freely accessed for a variety of amenity purposes including parks and gardens, green corridors, village greens, informal kick-about areas and closed churchyards.
Affordable Housing	Social rented, affordable rented and intermediate housing, provided to eligible households whose needs are not met by the market. Eligibility is determined with regard to local incomes and local house prices. Affordable housing should include provisions to remain at an affordable price for future eligible households or for the subsidy to be recycled for alternative affordable housing provision.
Annual Monitoring Report (AMR)	The Council is required to produce an AMR each year to assess the performance and effects of the Local Plan. Copies of the AMR are available on the District Council website.
Area of Change	Parts of Dover that are either in need of renewal or do not fulfil their potential but where proposals are not yet sufficiently advanced to justify a site specific allocation in the Plan.
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)	Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty are designated under the National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 for their outstanding landscape quality.
Background Buildings	Buildings that form a backdrop to public space and enclose space. They form the majority of buildings.
Biodiversity	The diversity of plant and animal life in a particular habitat or area.
Bund	An embankment, often used to soften impact from adjacent uses, such as a noisy road.
Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)	A flexible, frequent, dependable bus transit system that combines a variety of physical and operating elements into a permanent and integrated system with a quality image and unique identity.
Channel Tunnel Rail Link	High speed rail route linking the Channel Tunnel with Ashford, Ebbsfleet and London.
Code for Sustainable Homes	A National Code that measures the sustainability of a new home against categories of sustainable design, rating the 'whole home' as a complete package.
Commercial Information Audit	An annual commercial land study that is undertaken to meet policy and research requirements. It is managed and co-ordinated by Kent County Council and undertaken by the Local Authorities. Information collected includes developments that have not been started, under construction and completed. Studies for each District in Kent can be viewed at, http://www.kent.gov.uk/your_council/kent_facts_and_figures/housing_and_commercial_land.aspx .
Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)	A new charge which local authorities in England and Wales will be empowered, but not required, to charge on most types of new development in their area. CIL charges will be based on simple formulae which relate the size of the charge to the size and character of the development paying it.
Compulsory Purchase	Legislation in England and Wales that gives local authorities the power to acquire land compulsorily, to help deliver social and economic change, where the landowner or occupier is not willing to sell by agreement.
Conservation Areas	A statutory designation made by the local planning authority for areas that have a special architectural or historical interest. Designated under the Town and Country Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
Core Strategy	The Core Strategy contains the Council's vision and spatial strategy for the future development of the District.
Discovery Park Enterprise Zone	Discovery Park Enterprise Zone covers 82 hectares to the north of the town of Sandwich. It includes the former Pfizer complex and a number of smaller businesses to the South.

Term	Definition
Dover Masterplan	A study which considers options and appraisal work on a series of areas within the urban area of Dover, and illustrates how they can be developed.
East Kent Health Authority (EKHA)	The EKHA manages the NHS locally by working closely with local primary care trusts and hospital trusts. Their role is to identify the health needs of local people and arrange for services to be provided by hospitals, doctors and others. It does not directly provide health services.
Employment Land	Land for office, industrial and warehousing uses (B1/B2/B8).
European Designations	This includes candidate Special Areas of Conservation, Sites of Community Importance, Special Areas of Conservation and Special Protection Areas, and is defined in regulation 8 of the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010.
Evidence Base	The process of producing a Local Plan firstly requires the assembly of an evidence base. The Evidence Base consists of studies, plans and strategies produced by the Council and other organisations.
Exceptions Test	A test with three criteria, set out in National Planning Policy Framework, Flood Risk, which need to be passed before development can be considered in areas at risk of flooding.
Feasibility Study	A preliminary study undertaken to determine and document a project's viability.
Flood Risk Assessment	A detailed, site - based, investigation that is undertaken by the developer at planning application stage.
Flood Zones (1, 2 and 3)	Flood Zones indicate the probability of flooding. Flood Zone 1 has the lowest probability and Flood Zone 3 has the highest. Zones 2 and 3 are shown on the Environment Agency Flood Map with Flood Zone 1 being all the land falling outside Zones 2 and 3.
Foreground Building	Buildings that stand out from background buildings due to unusual size, features, use or function, or relationship with the street or area in which they are located. They help to create a sense of place and interest, and enable people to differentiate between areas and to orient themselves.
Greenfield Land	Land, often farmland, that has not previously been developed.
Green Infrastructure	A network of multi-functional green space, urban and rural, which is capable of delivering a wide range of environmental and quality of life benefits for local communities.
Green Travel Plan	A package of practical measures to encourage staff and/or users of a development to choose alternatives to single occupancy car use and to reduce the need to travel.
Groundwater Source Protection Zones	Areas defined by the Environment Agency in which certain types of development are restricted/prevented in order to ensure that groundwater sources remain free from contamination/pollution.
Habitat Regulations Assessment	The need for Habitat Regulations Assessment is set out within Article 6 of the EC Habitats Directive 1992, and interpreted into British law by Regulation 48 of the Conservation (Natural Habitats &c) Regulations 1994 (as amended in 2007). The ultimate aim of HRA is to "maintain or restore, at favourable conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of Community interest" (Habitats Directive, Article 2(2)). This aim relates to habitats and species, not the European sites themselves, although the sites have a significant role in delivering favourable conservation status.
Hamlet	Name used in the Settlement Hierarchy in the Core Strategy to describe settlements with no facilities. Not suitable for future development.
Heritage Asset	A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape positively identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions. Heritage assets are the valued components of the historic environment. They include designated heritage assets (as defined in PPS 5) and assets identified by the local planning authority during the process of decision-making or through the plan-making process (including local listing).

Term	Definition
Heritage Coast	An area identified to focus attention on managing the best stretches of undeveloped coast, where the needs of conservation, pressures of recreation and problems of pollution need to be considered in a co-ordinated way.
Heritage Strategy	This seeks to identify and understand the many heritage assets in Dover District and how their special character could contribute to the regeneration and place-making objectives in the Core Strategy. It provides advice and guidance for the management of historic assets and provides an evidence base for any funding bid opportunities that may arise in the future.
High Speed 1 (HS1)	Also known as the Channel Tunnel Rail Link (CTRL) is a 108 km (67 mile) high speed railway line running from London to Kent.
Homes & Communities Agency (HCA)	The HCA brings together English Partnerships, the Housing Corporation and the Academy for Sustainable Communities and is the single, national housing and regeneration agency for England
Housing Information Audit (HIA)	An annual housing land study that is undertaken to meet statutory, policy and research requirements. It is managed and co-ordinated by Kent County Council and undertaken by the Local Authorities. Information collected includes properties that have not been constructed, number of properties under construction and properties completed. The Study also phases development in the future. Studies for each District in Kent can be viewed at, http://www.kent.gov.uk/your_council/kent_facts_and_figures/housing_and_commercial_land.aspx .
Infrastructure	Infrastructure is defined as transport (airports, ports, road network, cycling and walking infrastructure, rail network), affordable housing, education (further and higher education, secondary and primary education, nursery school), health (acute care and general hospitals, mental hospitals, health centres/primary care trusts, ambulance services), social infrastructure (supported accommodation, social and community facilities, sports centres, open spaces, parks and play space), green infrastructure (see separate definition), public services (waste management and disposal, libraries, cemeteries, emergency services, places of worship, prisons, drug treatment centres), utility services (gas supply, electricity supply, heat supply, water supply, waste water treatment, telecommunications infrastructure) and flood defences, together with any necessary management regimes to ensure efficient, effective and long-term arrangements are in place to ensure continued upkeep.
Interim Consultation Document	The Interim Consultation Document was between the public consultation held on the Preferred Option and further participation on the Land Allocations Pre-Submission Local Plan.
Kent Minerals and Waste Development Framework	A series of Plans in preparation by the County Council setting out policies to provide for the supply of minerals and for the management of waste in Kent. These will replace the previous Minerals and Waste Local Plans.
Landmark Building	Landmark buildings or structures commence or terminate a prominent view and create a strong sense of place. They are, therefore, a particular form of foreground building and can also perform the role of a focal point.
Listed Building	A building of architectural or historical importance, graded according to its importance, Graded I (highest quality), II* or II. The list is kept by English Heritage. Buildings on the list are subject to special control.
Local Centre	Name used in the Settlement Hierarchy in the Core Strategy to describe settlements with a variety of services and facilities. Secondary focus for development in the rural area.
Local Development Order (LDO)	An Order made by a local planning authority (under the Town and Country Planning Act 1990) that grants planning permission for a specific development proposal or classes of development.
Local Transport Plan	A plan that sets out the local authority's transport policies and detailed investment priorities over a five year period.
National Planning Policy Framework	Planning policy guidance issued by Central Government, which has replaced Planning Policy Guidance and Planning Policy Statements.

Term	Definition
Natura 2000	European Union governments adopted legislation designed to protect the most seriously threatened habitats and species across Europe. This legislation is called the Habitats Directive. At the heart of the Directive is the creation of a network of sites called Natura 2000. Special Protection Areas and Special Areas of Conservation make up the Natura 2000 series.
Neighbourhood Development Plan	A plan prepared by a Parish Council or Neighbourhood Forum for a particular neighbourhood area (made under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004).
Outdoor Sports Facilities	This only refers to dedicated sport facilities that are suitable for competitive matches.
Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)	Web-based resource which brings together planning guidance on various topics into one place. It was launched in March 2014 and coincided with the cancelling of the majority of Government Circulars which had previously given guidance on many aspects of planning.
Playable Space	Any public space or facility that children and young people might legitimately use for play and informal recreation
Primary Health Care Trust (PCT)	The local NHS organisation responsible for improving the health of their local population, providing community and primary care services and commissioning hospital and other specialist services.
Primary Shopping Frontage	The most important shopping area of a town, usually characterised by having the highest rents and pedestrian flow, where development on ground floors is primarily restricted to retailing.
Protected Open Space	Open space of various types and ownerships, the importance of which has been recognised by identification on the District's proposal map.
Public Realm	Streets and spaces which can be accessed by the public.
Ramsar Site	Wildlife sites designated under the Ramsar Convention, 1971 to protect wetlands that are of international importance. UK Government Policy is to offer such sites protection equal to those of European wildlife sites.
Rapid Inundation Zone (RIZ)	An area immediately behind flood defences which, should they fail, will generate a combination of high velocities and flood depths that would cause a risk to life.
Regional Hub	South East Plan designation for logical areas within which the various components of growth will need to be focused and co-ordinated to help deliver more sustainable forms of development. They will be the focus for investment in infrastructure, economic activity and regeneration, housing and major retail and employment development.
Registered Providers	Registered Providers supply social housing to households who are eligible for social rented housing. Registered Providers are free to undertake the delivery of other types of social housing or market housing, funded entirely from their own resources (without conversion of re-lets), without entering into an agreement with the HCA.
Rural Service Centre	Term used in the Settlement Hierarchy for the primary settlement that has the function of serving a large rural hinterland.
Scheduled Monument	A statutory designation for structures of national archaeological importance. Designated by the Government under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979 (as amended by the National Heritage Act 1983).
Secondary Shopping Frontage	Shopping areas of secondary importance where it is desirable to restrict the use of ground floors to retailing, financial and professional services and food and drink.
Settlement Confines	The residential core of rural settlements, within which minor residential may be acceptable on suitable sites. They do not define the extent of a village, its community nor its built up area.
Settlement Hierarchy	The grading of settlements based on the number of facilities and function. For example, a town that has banks, a wide range of shops and is the base for the District local authority serving the whole

Term	Definition
	district, would be at the top of the grading. A hamlet with no facilities would be at the bottom. This is used to guide future development. See Policy CP1 of the Adopted Core Strategy.
Site of Nature Conservation Importance	A non-statutory area designated as being of country or regional wildlife value.
Site of Special Scientific Interest	Statutory designated site with national importance for wildlife, can relate to habitats or species of plants, birds, animals, insects etc.
Spatial Planning	Spatial planning goes beyond traditional land use planning to bring together and integrate policies for the development and use of land with other policies and programmes, which influence the nature of places and how they function.
Special Area of Conservation (SAC)	A site designated under the European Community Habitats Directive. To protect internationally important natural habitats and species.
Special Protection Areas (SPA)	Sites classified under the European Community Directive on Wild Birds to protect international bird species.
Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA)	The assessment of flood risk on a catchment-wide basis for proposed development in a District.
Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA)	The SHLAA's primary role is to identify sites with potential for housing, identify any issues affecting the development of sites such as access problems and estimate when they are likely to come forward which may be affected by issues such as policy constraints or site conditions. The SHLAA is therefore of considerable value in being able to demonstrate that sufficient developable sites are available to deliver the Core Strategy.
Strategic Housing Market Assessment (SHMA)	SHMAs help local authorities to understand their local housing markets and assist them in developing their planning and housing policies, particularly policies for affordable housing
Sustainability Appraisal (SA)	An appraisal of the impacts of policies and proposals on economic, social and environmental issues - incorporates the Strategic Environmental Assessment.
Town Centre	Area defined on the local authority's proposal map, including the primary shopping area and areas predominantly occupied by main town centre uses within or adjacent to the primary shopping area. References to town centres or centres apply to city centres, town centres, district centres and local centres but exclude small parades of shops of purely neighbourhood significance. Unless they are identified as centres in Local Plans, existing out-of-centre developments, comprising or including main town centre uses, do not constitute town centres.
Town Frontages	The most important shopping areas in Sandwich, within which only A1, A2 and A3 uses will be acceptable (in line with saved Local Plan Policy SP9).
Urban Boundaries	The residential core of urban settlements, within which minor residential may be acceptable on suitable sites. They do not define the extent of a town, its community nor its built up area.
Use Classes	A classification of land uses for development control purposes defined by the Town and Country Planning (Use Class) Order 1987 and subsequent amended orders. Changes of use of buildings or land between uses within a single 'use class' are excluded from the definition of development in the Town and Country Planning Act 1990, thus making planning permission unnecessary. Definitions of the Use Classes can be viewed at, http://www.legislation.gov.uk/all?title=Use%20Classes%20Order
Village	Name used in the Settlement Hierarchy to describe a settlement that has facilities that serve the immediate population.

Term	Definition
Windfall	Windfall sites are those which have not been specifically identified as available in the Local Plan process. They comprise previously developed sites that have unexpectedly become available, for example, a factory closure or a new flat above a shop.

Table .1

