

**Local Flood Risk Management Strategy
for Hertfordshire**

**Strategic Environmental Assessment
Environmental Report -
Annex A: Plans and Programmes**

Prepared June 2012



Produced by Place Services on behalf of Hertfordshire County Council

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

In July 2011 Hertfordshire County Council commissioned Essex County Council's Strategic Environmental Assessment Team, now part of Place Services, to undertake a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) on the proposed Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (hereafter referred to as LFRMS) for Hertfordshire. Place Services continues to act as consultants for this work; therefore the content of the SEA should not be interpreted or otherwise represented as the formal view of Essex County Council.

This document is Annex A to the Environmental Report of the draft LFRMS. It details those plans, programmes, policies and environmental protection objectives which are relevant to the assessment of, and production of the proposed LFRMS.

1.2 Identifying Other Relevant Policies, Plans and Programmes

The SEA Directive requires "an outline of the plan or programme's "relationship with other relevant plans and programmes" Annex 1(a); and

"the environmental protection objectives, established at international, Community or Member State level, which are relevant to the plan or programme and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation" Annex 1(e)

The LFRMS must comply with existing policies, plans and programmes at national and regional levels and strengthen and support local plans and strategies. It is therefore important to identify and review those policies, plans and programmes and environmental protection objectives which are relevant to both the LFRMS and the SEA at an early stage to allow any inconsistencies or constraints within the LRMS to be addressed and also to help develop the SEA Framework.

The relationship between various policies, plans, programmes and sustainability objectives may influence the LFRMS in various ways. The relationships are analysed to:

- identify any external environmental, social or economic objectives that should be reflected in the SEA process;
- identify external factors that may have influenced the preparation of the plan; and
- determine whether the policies in other plans and programmes might lead to cumulative or synergistic effects when combined with policies in the plan.

It is recognised that no list of plans or programmes can be definitive and as a result this report describes only the key documents which influence the LFRMS.

2 LIST OF RELEVANT PLANS AND PROGRAMMES

The plans and programmes form a contextual review and have been categorised into a hierarchy of influence, based on their administrative scope or focus. A considerable amount of water based policy exists at the national level although it is important to retain a localised focus to ensure that the evidence base for the LFRMS and accompanying Strategic Environmental Assessment is centred on the county of Hertfordshire. Please note that current best practice states that there is no requirement to include overlapping policy documents and it is therefore considered that the issues raised in international level documents are generally covered sufficiently at more localised policy tiers. However a number of Directives particularly relevant to the LFRMS have been included here.

International
The Floods Directive, 2007
Water Framework Directive, 2000
Drinking Water Directive, 1998
Landfill Directive, 1991
Groundwater Directive, 1980
Urban Wastewater Directive, 1991
Habitats Directive, 1992
Mining Waste Directive, 2006
National
National Planning Policy Framework, March 2012
Flood and Water Management Act, 2010
The Flood Risk Regulations, 2009
Future Water, The Government's water strategy for England, 2008
The Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations Act, 2000
Water Act, 2003
Water Resources Act, 1991
Water Industry Act, 1999
Environmental Permitting Regulations (EPR) 2010
The Water Environment Regulations , 2003

Guidance for risk management authorities on sustainable development in relation to their flood and coastal erosion risk management functions, 2011
Protection of Water Against Agricultural Nitrate Pollution (England and Wales) Regulations, 1996
Water for People and the Environment; Water Resources Strategy for England and Wales, 2009
Directing the Flow: Priorities for Future Water Policy, 2002
The Impact of Flooding on Urban and Rural Communities, 2005
Land Drainage Act, 1991, (as Amended 2004)
The Environmental Impact Assessment (Land Drainage Improvement Works) Regulations, 1999
Environment Agency Policy: Sustainable Drainage Systems, 2002
Biodiversity 2020: A Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystems, 2011
Waste Strategy 2007 - England
Underground, Under Threat; The state of groundwater in England and Wales, 2006
Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981 (as Amended); Countryside and Rights of Way Act, 2000
Environment Act, 1995
The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act, 2006
Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations, 2010
UK Biodiversity Action Plan, 2007
Safeguarding our Soils, A Strategy for England, 2009
Contaminated Land (England) Regulations, 2006
Adapting to Climate Change – UK Climate Change Projections, 2009
Climate Change – National Adaptation Programme
Mainstreaming Sustainable Development, 2011
Securing the Future: Delivering the Sustainable Development Strategy, 2005
Strong and Prosperous communities – The Local Government White Paper, 2006
Fair Society, Healthy Lives: The Marmot Review, 2010
Low Carbon Transport: A Greener Future, 2009
Environmental Permitting Regulations, 2010

Groundwater Protection Policy (GP3)
A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive, 2006
Sub-National
Anglian River Basin Management Plan, 2009
Thames River Basin Management Plan, 2009
Rye Meads Water Cycle Strategy, 2009
Dacorum Borough Council, St Albans City and District Council, Three Rivers District Council, Watford Borough Council, Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council Water Cycle Study, 2010
Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared for Dacorum Borough Council, St. Albans City & District Council, Three Rivers District Council and Watford Borough Council, 2007
Thames Catchment Flood Management Plan, 2009
Great Ouse Catchment Flood Management Plan, 2011
Lower Lee Flood Risk Management Strategy, Consultation Update, 2008
Upper Lee Flood Risk Management Strategy, 2007
Upper Colne Flood Risk Management Strategy Position Statement, 2007
River Ash Flood Risk Management Strategy Summary and Conclusions Report, 2006
County
Hertfordshire County Council Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, 2010
Hertfordshire County Council Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment, 2011
Groundwater Quality Review: Mid-Chiltern and Colne
Groundwater Quality Review: Upper River Lee
Hertfordshire UKCP09 headlines report, 2010
Hertfordshire Local Transport Plan, 2011 - 2031 (LTP3)
Hertfordshire Economic Development Strategy, 2009 - 2021
Hertfordshire Minerals Local Plan Review 2002-2016 (adopted 2007)
Hertfordshire Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy, 2007
A 50 year vision for the wildlife and natural habitats of Hertfordshire – A Local Biodiversity Action Plan, 1998, (Reviewed 2006)
A Better Quality of Life – The Hertfordshire Environmental Strategy, 2001

The Environment in Hertfordshire, 2010
Hertfordshire Landscape Character Assessments, 2000 - 2005
Public Health Observatory – Hertfordshire Health Profile, 2011
Hertfordshire Red Data Book
Hertfordshire Sustainability Forum Quality of Life Reports (annual)
District
Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared for Broxbourne Borough Council, 2007
Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared by East Hertfordshire Council, 2008
Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared for Hertsmere Borough Council, 2008
Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared for North Hertfordshire District Council, 2008
Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared for Stevenage Borough Council, 2009
Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared for Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council, 2009
Saved Policies within Broxbourne Borough Local Plan 2001 – 2011 and Broxbourne Borough Council Core Strategy Submission Draft December 2010
Dacorum Borough Council Local Plan 1991 – 2011 and Core Strategy – Pre-submission Omissions Document February 2012
East Hertfordshire Local Plan 2007 and Core Strategy Issues and Options 2010
Hertsmere Local Plan, 2003 and Revised Core Strategy Consultation Draft, 2010
North Hertfordshire District Local Plan (No.2) with Alterations (originally adopted 1996) and Core Strategy Preferred Options, 2007
St Albans City & District Local Plan Saved Policies, 2007 and Core Strategy Consultation on the Strategy for Locating Future Development in the District, 2010
Stevenage Borough Council Local Plan Saved Policies, 2007 and Submission Draft Core Strategy, 2010
Three Rivers District Council Core Strategy, 2011
Watford Borough Council Local Plan, 2000 and Core Strategy Publication - Significant Changes Consultation, 2011
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council Local Plan Saved Policies, 2007, Core Strategy Issues and Options, 2009 and Core Strategy Consultation - How Many New Homes?, 2011
Dacorum Landscape Character Assessment, 2004
East Hertfordshire District Landscape Character Assessment, 2007

North Hertfordshire and Stevenage Landscape Character Assessment, 2004

Landscape Regions (Part of Hertfordshire Landscape Regions), Three Rivers District Council, 2003

3 REVIEW OF PLANS AND PROGRAMMES

3.1 International Level

International Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
Urban Wastewater Directive, 1991	The aim of this Directive is to protect the environment from the adverse effects of urban waste water discharges and discharges from certain industrial sectors. The planning aspects of the Directive require Member States to designate sensitive water bodies, identify relevant hydraulic catchment areas of the sensitive areas and ensure adequate financial systems are in place to fund the requirements of the Directive.	The Strategy will need to consider the requirements of the Directive and ensure that it does not compromise its objectives, and that it contributes to achieving its aims.
Habitats Directive, 1992	The Habitats Directive aims to conserve fauna, flora and natural habitats of EU importance. The Directive requires the establishment of a network of protected Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs) across Europe, to be known as Natura 2000 sites.	The LFRMS should seek to avoid impacting on sites of international or national importance detailed within this Directive. Where the LFRMS allows development that will negatively affect relevant sites, compensatory measures must be provided for.
The Floods Directive, 2007	This Directive provides a framework for the assessment and management of flood risks, aiming to reduce the adverse consequences associated with flooding for human health, the environment, cultural heritage and economic activity.	The LFRMS will complement the requirements of the Directive.
Water Framework Directive, 2000	This Directive aims to prevent the deterioration of aquatic ecosystems and associated wetland by setting out a timetable until 2027 to achieve good ecological status or potential. The Water Framework Directive requires Member States to manage the effects on the ecological quality of water which result from changes to the physical characteristics of water bodies. It requires action in those cases where these “hydro-morphological” pressures are having an ecological impact which will interfere with the ability to achieve Water Framework Directive objectives. The Strategy	The Strategy will need to consider the requirements of the WFD and ensure that it does not compromise its objectives, and that it contributes to achieving its aims.

International Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
	should promote sustainable management of the water environment by carefully considering current land use and future climate scenarios, minimise the effects of flooding and drought events and to facilitate long term improvements in water quality, including the protection of groundwater near landfill sites, as well as minimising agricultural runoff.	
Drinking Water Directive, 1998	Sets quality standards for drinking water quality at the tap (microbiological, chemical and organoleptic parameters) and states the general obligation that drinking water must be wholesome and clean.	The LFRMS may have implications for waters used as a drinking water supply.
Landfill Directive, 1991	The objective of the Directive is to prevent or reduce so far as possible negative effects on the environment from the land filling of waste by introducing stringent technical requirements for waste and landfills. It is intended to prevent or reduce the adverse effects of landfill of waste on the environment, in particular on surface water, groundwater, soil, air and human health.	The LFRMS should take account of the duties and powers resulting from this Act.
Groundwater Directive, 1980	Aims to protect groundwater from pollution by controlling discharges and disposals of certain dangerous substances to groundwater. In the UK, the directive is implemented through the Environmental Permitting Regulations (EPR) 2010. The existing Groundwater Directive is to be repealed by the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC (WFD) in 2013.	The LFRMS should take account of the duties and powers resulting from this Directive.
Mining Waste Directive, 2006	The Directive provides a framework for the safe management of waste from extractive industries. Such waste can have long lasting environmental impacts and can be costly to address through remedial measures. Wastes from the extractive industries have to therefore be properly managed in order to ensure in particular the long-term stability of disposal facilities and to prevent or minimise any water and soil pollution arising from acid or alkaline drainage and leaching of heavy metals. The risk of such an occurrence would be exacerbated during flood events unless mitigation is taken.	The LFRMS should take account of the duties and powers resulting from this Directive.

3.2 National Level

National Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
National Planning Policy Framework, 2012	<p>This framework sets out the Government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. It replaces all Planning Policy Statements and Planning Policy Guidance.</p> <p>The framework seeks to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development by pursuing economic, environmental and social gains jointly and simultaneously through the planning system. It defines planning as having:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an economic role – contributing to building a strong, responsive and competitive economy,; - a social role – supporting strong, vibrant and healthy communities; and - an environmental role – contributing to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment. <p>Chapter 10 - Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change is of particular relevance and recognises the need for local authorities to plan for, and take account of flood risk and the future increases of flooding caused by climate change. It states that Local Plans should develop policies to manage flood risk from all sources by taking advice from Lead Local Flood Authorities and other responsible bodies.</p>	The LFRMS must be in conformity with this planning policy framework.
Flood and Water Management Act, 2010	It is through the Flood and Water Management Act that the need for a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy is required, and through which Hertfordshire County Council was designated as the Lead Local Flood Authority. The Act sets out what must be included in a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. Risk and necessary management needs to be detailed with respect to impacts on human health, the social and economic welfare of individuals and communities, infrastructure and the environment. The Act sets out courses of action which could be taken to mitigate against risk, stipulates that a Local Flood Risk	This Act sets out the requirement for a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy, what it contains and who is responsible for developing it. This list of contents will inform the SA/SEA of what components should be present in the document being assessed.

National Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
	<p>Management Strategy must be in conformity to the National Flood Risk Management Strategy and that it must also specify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the risk management authorities in the authority's area, - the flood and coastal erosion risk management functions that may be exercised by those authorities in relation to the area, - the objectives for managing local flood risk (including any objectives included in the authority's flood risk management plan prepared in accordance with the Flood Risk Regulations 2009), - the measures proposed to achieve those objectives, - how and when the measures are expected to be implemented, - the costs and benefits of those measures, and how they are to be paid for, - the assessment of local flood risk for the purpose of the strategy, - how and when the strategy is to be reviewed, and - how the strategy contributes to the achievement of wider environmental objectives. 	
The Flood Risk Regulations, 2009	<p>The Flood Risk Regulations transpose the EU Floods Directive into UK law. These regulations state that a Lead Local Flood Authority must prepare a preliminary assessment report in relation to forms of flooding caused by precipitation (other than those from the sea, main rivers and reservoirs) in its area to be sent to the Environment Agency. The assessment report is to determine whether there are significant flood risks in its area and where they are located. For each area of flood risk the Lead Local Flood Authority must produce a Flood Hazard map and a Flood Risk map. A flood hazard map must include the likely extent (including water level or depth) of possible floods, the likely direction and speed of flow of possible floods and whether the probability of</p>	<p>The Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment report has shown that Hertfordshire County Council will not need to compile a Flood Risk or Flood Hazard map as it is not anticipated that there will be a flood risk of sufficient magnitude in the county to require one. The inclusion of the Flood Risk Regulations 2009 within the Plans and Programmes is</p>

National Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
	<p>each possible flood occurring is low, medium or high (in the opinion of the person preparing the map). The flood risk map must detail:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the number of people living in an area likely to be affected in the event of flooding - the type of economic activity likely to be affected in the event of flooding, - any industrial activities in the area that may increase the risk of pollution in the event of flooding, - any relevant protected areas that may be affected in the event of flooding, - any areas of water subject to specified measures or protection for the purpose of maintaining the water quality that may be affected in the event of flooding, and - any other effect on - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) human health, (ii) economic activity, or (iii) the environment (including cultural heritage). 	<p>therefore consequently for the purpose of highlighting our awareness to statutory consultees</p>
<p>Future Water, The Government's water strategy for England, 2008</p>	<p>Future Water sets out how it is intended for the water sector to look by 2030. It is a vision where rivers, canals, lakes and seas have improved for people and wildlife, with benefits for angling, boating and other recreational activities, and where excellent quality drinking water can continue to be provided. It is a vision of a sector that values and protects its water resources; that delivers water to customers through fair, affordable and cost-reflective charges; where flood risk is addressed with markedly greater understanding and use of good surface water management; and where the water industry has cut its greenhouse gas emissions. The vision shows a sector that is resilient to climate change, with its likelihood of more frequent droughts as well as floods, and to population growth, with the forward planning detailed fully in tune with these adaptation challenges.</p>	<p>This document is the prime piece of national legislation concerning water as a valuable resource.</p>
<p>The Water Supply (Water Quality) Regulations Act, 2000</p>	<p>Sets out the acceptable levels of various substances and chemical properties that must not be exceeded within drinking water. The Act also makes provision for</p>	<p>Part of the LFRMS is concerned with the protection of drinking water, a</p>

National Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
	the monitoring of water supplies, water treatment, maintenance of records and the function of local authorities in relation to water quality.	valuable resource. Approaches set out in the LFRMS will have to ensure that they result in drinking water which meets the provisions of this Act.
Water Act, 2003	Goals of this Act include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to amend the Water Resources Act 1991 and the Water Industry Act 1991; - to make provision with respect to compensation under section 61 of the Water Resources Act 1991; - to provide for the establishment and functions of the Water Services Regulation Authority and the Consumer Council for Water; to make provision in connection with land drainage and flood defense; - to make provision about contaminated land so far as it relates to the pollution of controlled waters 	The LFRMS should take account of the duties and powers resulting from this Act.
Water Resources Act, 1991	The WRA regulates discharges to controlled waters, namely rivers, estuaries, coastal waters, lakes and groundwater.	The LFRMS should take account of the duties and powers resulting from this Act.
Water Industry Act, 1999	An Act to make further provision in relation to England and Wales as to charges in respect of the supply of water and the provision of sewerage services	The LFRMS should take account of the duties and powers resulting from this Act.
The Water Environment Regulations , 2003	These Regulations make provision for the purpose of implementing in river basin districts within England and Wales in the Water Framework Directive 2000/60/EC. They require a new strategic planning process to be established for the purposes of managing, protecting and improving the quality of water resources.	The LFRMS should take account of the duties and powers resulting from these regulations.
Guidance for risk management authorities on sustainable	This document stresses the importance of adhering to sustainable development principles when devising flood mitigation	This Guidance represents the current best

National Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
development in relation to their flood and coastal erosion risk management functions, 2011	strategies. This Guidance reiterates what is meant by sustainable development and what this means in the context of food risk management. Examples include increasing awareness amongst individuals, businesses and communities, utilising the environment to reduce surface run off and ensuring that there are emergency plans in place for flood emergencies.	practice relating to the inter-relationship between flood mitigation and sustainable development. Its contents are important to the SEA as the SEA will be expected to ensure that the LFRMS adheres to the principles detailed in this document.
Protection of Water Against Agricultural Nitrate Pollution (England and Wales) Regulations, 1996	The regulations aim to protect water quality across England and Wales by preventing nitrates from agricultural sources polluting ground and surface waters and by promoting the use of good farming practices	The LFRMS should take account of the duties and powers resulting from these regulations
Water for People and the Environment; Water Resources Strategy for England and Wales, 2009	The Strategy sets out how the Environment Agency believe water resources should be managed over the coming decades so that water can be abstracted and used sustainably. Implementing these will help to ensure there will be enough water for people and the environment now and in the future.	The SFRA should have regard to the management of water resources within Hertfordshire so as not to detrimentally impact on them.
Directing the Flow: Priorities for Future Water Policy, 2002	Sets future water policy to implement the Water Framework Directive 2000. Highlights that considerably more emphasis needs to be put on integrating water policies with policies in other areas other than to health, and particularly: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agriculture and fisheries; - Biodiversity; - Tourism and recreation; - Land-use planning. 	Translates the Water Framework Directive 2000 into national policy.
The Impact of Flooding on Urban and Rural Communities, 2005	This document has two stated aims, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - understanding the relationships between urban/rural policies and flood risk management (FRM) policy such that opportunities for 'win-win' solutions could be explored; 	The LFRMS will need to take into account the findings of this report.

National Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
	understanding the social impacts (e.g. economic, health, community) on urban and rural communities from an empirical perspective (i.e. what evidence is there for differential impacts on urban and rural communities in terms of flooding).	
Land Drainage Act, 1991, (as Amended 2004)	Gives operating authorities (including the Environment Agency) authorisation to carry out works on watercourses for certain purposes. Also places environmental and recreational duties on the Environment Agency.	The LFRMS should take account of the duties and powers resulting from this Act.
The Environmental Impact Assessment (Land Drainage Improvement Works) Regulations, 1999	These Regulations, which replace the Land Drainage Improvement Works (Assessment of Environmental Effects) Regulations 1988 (as amended), implement in part Council Directive 85/337/EEC on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the Environment.	The LFRMS should take account of the duties and powers resulting from this Act.
Environment Agency Policy: Sustainable Drainage Systems, 2002	<p>The adopted policy is that the Environment Agency 'will promote SUDS as a technique to manage surface and groundwater regimes sustainably'. The policy has two key objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - primary objective: to establish SUDS as normal drainage practice where appropriate for all new developments in England and Wales - secondary objective: retrofitting SUDS on those existing surface water drainage systems which have an adverse effect on the environment. 	SUDS are considered to be a key tool in alleviating both flood risk and impact in areas of flood risk.
Biodiversity 2020: A Strategy for England's Wildlife and Ecosystem Services, 2011	The strategy presents a comprehensive picture of how the Government are implementing their international and EU commitments with regard to biodiversity. It sets out the strategic direction for biodiversity policy, ascertains priority areas for intervention and details a number of measures through which progress could be tracked.	This strategy represents the latest national level policy document for biodiversity issues.
Waste Strategy 2007 - England	The strategy describes the changes needed to put the above points into practice. A key aim is tackling the growth in waste, the need to use resources more efficiently and make greater use of	Different forms of waste management give rise to significant water issues and whether actions

National Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
	secondary resources.	need to be proposed to address these.
Underground, Under Threat; The state of groundwater in England and Wales, 2006	This document is intended to be used by anyone interested in groundwater and particularly those proposing an activity which may cause groundwater impacts and details the best ways to mitigate impacts on groundwater.	This document will inform the SEA with regard to the best practise for the protection of groundwater.
Wildlife & Countryside Act, 1981 (as Amended); Countryside and Rights of Way Act, 2000	<p>The purpose of the Act is to create a new statutory right of access on foot to certain types of open land, to modernise the public rights of way system, to strengthen nature conservation legislation, and to facilitate better management of AONBs. Government departments are required to have regard for biodiversity in carrying out its functions, and to take positive steps to further the conservation of listed species and habitats. The protection of SSSIs, already established in the Wildlife and Countryside Act, is strengthened giving greater power to Natural England. Local Authorities have a statutory duty to further the conservation and enhancement of SSSIs both in carrying out their operations, and in exercising their decision making functions. The Act strengthens legal protection for threatened species and assists in bringing offenders to justice, and provides for stronger penalties.</p> <p>The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 provides for the statutory right of access to open country and registered common land, modernise the rights of way system, give greater protection to SSSIs, provide better management arrangements for AONBs and strengthen wildlife enforcement legislation.</p>	The LFRMS will need to be implemented in accordance with these Acts. The LMFRS must recognise the statutory importance of protected species and strive to ensure that they are adequately protected.
Environment Act, 1995	Created the Environment Agency and set new legislation for environmental protection.	The LFRMS should take account of the duties and powers resulting from this Act.
The Natural Environment and Rural Communities	Established Natural England and united in a single organisation the responsibility for enhancing biodiversity and landscape	The LFRMS should take account of the duties and powers

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(NERC) Act, 2006	– in rural, urban and coastal areas – with promoting access and recreation. Other relevant elements include: provisions to address a small number of gaps and uncertainties which have been identified for Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), provisions to make amendments to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to improve wildlife protection, extension of the CROW biodiversity duty to public bodies and statutory undertakers to ensure due regard to the conservation of biodiversity, provisions to amend the flood defence byelaw-making powers of the Environment Agency, Local Authority and Internal Drainage Board to allow them to take nature conservation into account when determining consent for flood defence works.	resulting from this Act.
Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations, 2010	The Regulations provide for the designation and protection of European sites, the protection of European protected species, and the adaptation of planning and other controls for the protection of European Sites. The Regulations make special provisions for the protection of European marine sites, and apply in the terrestrial environment and in territorial waters out to 12 nautical miles. The Regulations require competent authorities to consider or review planning permission, applied for or granted, affecting a European site, and, subject to certain exceptions, restrict or revoke permission where the integrity of the site would be adversely affected. Strategies and plans are also subject to the requirements of the legislation.	The LFRMS will be subject to assessment under these regulations.

National Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
UK Biodiversity Action Plan, 2007	This contains the most recent list of UK BAP priority species and habitats following a 2 year review. It describes the biological resources of the UK and provides detailed plans for conservation of these resources, at national and devolved levels. Action plans for the most threatened species and habitats have been set out to aid recovery. The UK BAP priority list now contains 1150 species, and 65 habitats.	The LFRMS will need to be implemented in accordance with the UK BAP. The LFRMS must recognise the statutory importance of protected species and strive to ensure that they are adequately protected.
Safeguarding our Soils, A Strategy for England, 2009	The strategy sets out the current policy context on soils and a number of core objectives for policy and research. The following Vision is espoused: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - agricultural soils will be better managed and threats to them will be addressed; - soils will play a greater role in the fight against climate change and in helping us to manage its impacts; - soils in urban areas will be valued during development, and construction practices will ensure vital soil functions can be maintained; and - that pollution of our soils is prevented, and that our historic legacy of contaminated land will be dealt with. 	Compaction of soil reduces agricultural productivity and water infiltration, and increases flood risk through higher levels of run off. The strategy includes a number of measures in which the resilience of soils can be built.
Contaminated Land (England) Regulations, 2006	Under the Contaminated Land Regulations, Local Authorities are responsible for surveying their areas and identifying sites which may give rise to environmental or human health problems. Local Authorities and the Environment Agency will then discuss the nature of the sites and those that are designated as 'special' will become the responsibility of the Environment Agency. Sites will then have action plans to remedy the contamination.	Flooding events can cause the mobilisation of contaminants outside of areas already identified as being contaminated land. The LFRMS will need to ensure conformity with these regulations.
Adapting to Climate Change – UK Climate Change Projections, 2009	This report summarises the UK Climate Projections 2009 (UKCP09) which show how the future climate could change dramatically if emissions aren't reduced. It also sets out the Government's plans and actions to mitigation and adaptation	The LFRMS should have regards to the findings within this report.

National Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
	<p>with flooding being a key issue related to climate change.</p> <p>One element to their plan is to protect the public from immediate risk, referring specifically to increasing flood protection.</p>	
Climate Change - National Adaptation Programme	<p>This programme is currently being developed in line with requirements under the Climate Change Act (2008). The first National Adaptation Programme will cover a period of five years (2013-2018) and based around five themes - Agriculture and Forestry, Business, Health and Wellbeing, Buildings and Infrastructure, and Natural Environment.</p> <p>The Programme is intended to manage the major risks of climate change and its opportunities and provide well developed policy proposals as well as identify areas for future development and consideration.</p>	The Strategy should have regard to this programme.
Securing the Future: Delivering the Sustainable Development Strategy, 2005	<p>This Strategy sets out the Government approach to sustainable development and new shared priorities agreed across the UK. It sets out ways in which to adapt to climate change, one of which is to research the effects of climate change, particularly flood and coastal management sectors. It also sets out that in line with national planning policy guidance, there will be flood risk assessments for publicly funded developments and new flood defence schemes; and integrated water management studies.</p>	The LFRMS needs to consider the approach set out in this government Strategy
Mainstreaming Sustainable Development, 2011	<p>This document sets out the Government vision for sustainable development and the measures they will adopt to deliver it. The package of measures include the Green Economy, action to tackle climate change, protecting and enhancing the natural environment, and fairness and improving wellbeing, and building a Big Society. This document builds on the principles that underpinned the UK's 2005 sustainable development strategy.</p>	The LFRMS should consider the vision and measures set out in this document.
Strong and Prosperous communities – The Local Government White Paper,	<p>The aim of this White Paper is to give local people and local communities more influence and power to improve their</p>	The strategy should have regard to the aims of this

National Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
2006	lives. It is about creating strong, prosperous communities and delivering better public services through a rebalancing of the relationship between central government, local government and local people.	government paper.
Fair Society, Healthy Lives: The Marmot Review, 2010	This Review aims to facilitate the creation of fair, equal communities. It has five key themes, with Theme 6; Tackling health inequalities including a section on climate change which is of relevance here.	There is a small section detailing inequality due to unfavourable environmental conditions and policy recommendations to alleviate such inequality.
Low Carbon Transport: A Greener Future, 2009	<p>The strategy aims to decarbonise transport for a low carbon future in Britain in line with the Government's target for a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by at least 80% by 2050. This was set in response to the Climate Change Act 2008. The strategy is based on the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Supporting a shift to new technologies and fuels - Promoting lower carbon transport choices - Using market-based measures to encourage a shift to lower carbon transport 	The Strategy should ensure that any LFRMS responses do not conflict with plans for sustainable transport. The Strategy will also take the effects of climate change into account when identifying flood risk management responses.
Environmental Permitting Regulations, 2010	The Environmental Permitting Regulations (England and Wales) 2010 were introduced on 6 April 2010, replacing the 2007 Regulations. In 2007 the Regulations combined the Pollution Prevention and Control (PPC) and Waste Management Licensing (WML) regulations. Their scope has since been widened to include water discharge and groundwater activities, radioactive substances and provision for a number of Directives, including the Mining Waste Directive.	The regulations highlight those waste and water discharge practices and radioactive substances for which consent must be given from the Environment Agency to manage.
Groundwater Protection Policy (GP3)	GP3 is intended to be used by anyone interested in groundwater and particularly those proposing an activity which may cause groundwater impacts. The aims of GP3 are to provide a	This is a key document for managing groundwater issues in the country, and

National Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
	<p>framework for the statutory role of the Environment Agency in terms of groundwater protection, to encourage co-operation between all bodies concerned with groundwater protection, to promote Environment Agency policies so the likely Environment Agency response to applications can be anticipated, to influence other bodies around issues connected with groundwater that the Environment Agency do not have regulatory controls over and to ensure that groundwater protection and management is consistent with the Environment Agency vision for the environment.</p>	<p>flood events can have dramatic effects on groundwater levels and quality.</p>
<p>A Practical Guide to the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive, 2006</p>	<p>This Practical Guide provides information and guidance on how to comply with the European Directive 2001/42/EC “on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment”, known as the Strategic Environmental Assessment or SEA Directive. The Guide is intended to apply to all plans and programmes in the UK which fall within the scope of the Directive.</p>	<p>This guidance is an important tool on best practice for carrying out Strategic Environmental Assessments.</p>

3.3 Sub-National Level

Sub-National Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
<p>Anglian River Basin Management Plan, 2009</p>	<p>This plan is about the pressures facing the water environment in the Anglian River Basin District, and the actions that will address them. It has been prepared under the Water Framework Directive, and is the first of a series of six-year planning cycles. Identified issues include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - point source pollution from sewage treatment works; - the physical modification of water bodies; - diffuse pollution from agricultural activities; - water abstraction; - diffuse pollution from urban sources. 	<p>This plan is concerned with a water environment which lies partly within Hertfordshire and as such it has relevance to the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy</p>

Sub-National Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
Thames River Basin Management Plan, 2009	<p>This plan is about the pressures facing the water environment in the Thames River Basin District, and the actions that will address them. It has been prepared under the Water Framework Directive, and is the first of a series of six-year planning cycles. Identified issues include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - point source pollution from sewage treatment works; - the physical modification of water bodies; - diffuse pollution from agricultural activities; - water abstraction; - diffuse pollution from urban sources. 	This plan is concerned with a water environment which covers the majority of Hertfordshire and as such it has relevance to the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy
Rye Meads Water Cycle Strategy, 2009	This Water Cycle Strategy has studied water resources, drinking water supply, wastewater networks and treatment, flood risk, water quality and environmental opportunities within the Rye Meads catchment. It sets out recommendations regarding housing growth and water infrastructure to 2021 and beyond.	This document has informed part of the Flooding section in the SEA Baseline Information Annex. It will also be a useful reference document when assessing potential impacts on water resources.
Dacorum Borough Council, St Albans City and District Council, Three Rivers District Council, Watford Borough Council Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council Water Cycle Study, 2010	This Water Cycle Strategy has studied water resources, drinking water supply, wastewater networks and treatment, flood risk, water quality and environmental opportunities within the study area. It sets out recommendations regarding housing growth and water infrastructure to 2021 and beyond.	This document has informed part of the Flooding section in the SEA Baseline Information Annex. It will also be a useful reference document when assessing potential impacts on water resources.
Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared for Dacorum Borough Council, St. Albans City & District Council, Three Rivers District Council and Watford Borough Council, 2007	An SFRA also allows a local council to prepare appropriate policies for the management of flood risk, identify the level of detail required for site-specific Flood Risk Assessments and determine the acceptability of flood risk in relation to emergency planning capability.	An SFRA informs an SEA insofar as highlighting that flood risk has been taken account of when considering options and in the preparation of strategic land use policies.
Thames	The Catchment Flood Management Plan for	This plan details

Sub-National Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
<p>Catchment Flood Management Plan, 2009</p>	<p>Thames Region proposes a more sustainable approach to managing the risk of fluvial flooding to people, property and the environment. The Thames Region Catchment Flood Management Plan (CFMP) recommends a long term approach to managing the risk of fluvial flooding to people, property and the environment for the next 50 to 100 years.</p> <p>The plan covers the likely impacts of climate change and development across the region. As well as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the physical characteristics of the Thames Region - the hydrology and history of flooding - current flood risk and how it is managed - how we can best tackle the impact of climate change on flooding - how making space for water and using the natural floodplain will be our greatest asset in protecting properties in the future - how development and urban regeneration provide a crucial opportunity to manage flood risk - the recommended approaches and actions needed to deliver the selected flood risk management option in each of the 43 sub-areas that have been identified. - flood defenses cannot be built to protect everything - climate change will be the major cause of increased flood risk <p>The sub areas within the Thames CFMP which the study area lies in are the Upper Lee, the Middle Lee and Stort, and the Lower Lee. The policy units linked to these sub areas are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Upper Lee - P3: Areas of low to moderate flood risk where we are generally managing existing flood risk effectively - Lower Lee - P5: Areas of moderate to high flood risk where we can generally take further action to reduce flood risk - Middle Lee and Stort - P6: Areas of low to moderate flood risk where we will take action with others to store water or manage run-off in locations that provide overall flood risk reduction or 	<p>policy and strategy relating to flood issues within the study area and will therefore have informed the LFRMS.</p>

Sub-National Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
	environmental benefits	
Great Ouse Catchment Flood Management Plan, 2011	<p>The Great Ouse Catchment Flood Management Plan (CFMP) is a high level strategic plan that assesses how flood risk might change and be managed over the next 50-100 years. The results show that at a regional level, river basin and catchment scale, climate change has the greatest significance for future levels of flood risk due to the large increases in fluvial flows. The three key drivers which define future scenarios are land management, urban development and climate change. The CFMP identifies how each of these drivers may change in the future and aims to identify the most sustainable flood risk management approaches for the catchment through identification of preferred policies for different parts of the catchment.</p>	<p>This plan details policy and strategy relating to flood issues within the study area and will therefore have informed the LFRMS.</p>
Lower Lee Flood Risk Management Strategy, Consultation Update, 2008	<p>This strategy makes the following recommendations with respect to Hertfordshire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The need to protect the town of Hertford in the short to long term. The strategy has recognised that within five years a further study is needed to look at this area in further detail as the management of flood risk in Hertford is particularly complex. - From 5 – 100 years could see the implementation of non-structural and structural measures, to be evaluated through Environmental Impact Assessments (EIAs) in, and immediately surrounding Hertford. - There is a need to influence regional, sub-regional and local spatial planning in areas upstream of Hertford and throughout the Stort catchment area in the next 100 years. There would also need to be future support given to future flood risk management in line with CFMP policy. - In addition, the Lower Lee FRM recognises the need for areas to be safeguarded for flood storage, as there are areas within the catchment that have greater environmental acceptability to accommodate such schemes within land that is currently used for agriculture or, which is derelict. 	<p>This plan details policy and strategy relating to flood issues within the study area and will therefore have informed the LFRMS.</p>
Upper Lee Flood	The upper lee catchment area covers areas of	This plan details

Sub-National Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
Risk Management Strategy, 2007	East Hertfordshire, St. Albans, and Welwyn Hatfield districts. The strategy considers a number of options for reducing flood risk within the upper lee catchment that will be of most benefit to land lying within St. Albans district. The strategy considered a number of structural options that are considered to reduce flood risk, and were considered to be of most benefit to land lying within St. Albans district. However, only one scheme (the construction of a flood storage area in Luton) was found to be economically viable, but the benefits of this would not extend as far down to Batford and Wheathampstead, which lie within St. Albans district. This FRM recommends an integrated approach to managing flood risk within the upper lee catchment, whilst primarily focussing on improvements to the overall maintenance of existing defences and encouraging non-structural measures.	policy and strategy relating to flood issues within the study area and will therefore have informed the LFRMS.
Upper Colne Flood Risk Management Strategy Position Statement, 2007	Published by the Environment Agency in 2005, the Upper Colne catchment covers the majority of St. Albans and Watford districts. The study concluded that there were no suitable locations for flood storage within the catchment, except for three areas in the headwaters of the Mimmshall Brook. The economic viability for this has yet to be determined. The pre-feasibility study identified a number of option elements for localised flood risk reduction in London Colney and Watford.	This plan details policy and strategy relating to flood issues within the study area and will therefore have informed the LFRMS.
River Ash Flood Risk Management Strategy Summary and Conclusions Report, 2006	The river ash is a relatively small river catchment, exclusively situated within East Hertfordshire district covering areas west of Bishop's Stortford and east of Puckeridge and Standon. The strategy proposes the creation of three flood storage areas within the river channel at Little Hadham. These flood alleviation options may mean the construction of three bunds across the valley floor in order to store flood water and retain flows within the river ash's channel. Although no waste sites are proposed within this river catchment, waste developments will still need to take into account the findings of the river ash FRMS, should planning applications be submitted within this catchment.	This plan details policy and strategy relating to flood issues within the study area and will therefore have informed the LFRMS.

3.4 County Level

County Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
Hertfordshire County Council Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, 2010	As a requirement of Planning Policy Statement 25 (PPS 25), Hertfordshire County Council have prepared a Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA). This SFRA identifies areas of flood risk within Hertfordshire which must be assessed in order to inform the planning process. Level 1 SFRAs details main rivers, ordinary watercourses and flood zones, including the functional floodplain, across the local authority area. An assessment of the implications of climate change for flood risk an appropriate time period is also required if this hasn't been factored in.	The SFRA would have been crucial in informing the LFRMS and as such will be an important resource for the SEA of the LFRMS.
Hertfordshire County Council Preliminary Flood Risk Assessment	The document gives an overview of flood risk in Hertfordshire. Historic accounts of flooding are presented and modelling is used to ascertain areas of potential future flood risk.	The PFRA contains a wealth of baseline information which will have great importance to the SEA of the LFRMS.
Groundwater Quality Review: Mid-Chiltern and Colne	This report assesses groundwater quality in the Chalk aquifer of the Mid-Chilterns and Colne Valley, north of London. This will enable an increased understanding of groundwater quality and to support improvements in groundwater management.	The review details the chemical composition and pressures and drivers of part of the water environment within the scope of the Hertfordshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.
Groundwater Quality Review: Upper River Lee	This report assesses groundwater quality in the Chalk of the Upper River Lee Reporting Unit, which is located to the north of London. This will enable an increased understanding of groundwater quality and to support improvements in groundwater management.	The review details the chemical composition and pressures and drivers of part of the water environment within the scope of the Hertfordshire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.

County Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
Hertfordshire Local Transport Plan, 2011 - 2031 (LTP3)	<p>The vision of the strategy is to provide a safe, efficient and resilient transport system that serves the needs of business and residents across Hertfordshire and minimise its impact on the environment. The strategy aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - make best use of the existing network to deliver a reliable and readily useable transport network to benefit local business, - promote and supporting sustainable travel to reduce growth in car traffic and contribute to improved health and quality of life <p>Five identified goals supporting the Vision are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support economic development and planned dwelling growth. - Improve transport opportunities for all and behavioural change in mode choice. - Enhance quality of life, health and the natural, built and historic environment for all Hertfordshire residents. - Improve the safety and security of residents and other road users. - Reduce transport's contribution to greenhouse gas emissions and improve its resilience. 	Any measures incorporated into the LFRMS should not unduly conflict with plans for transport espoused in the LTP3. The management of infrastructure links within the study areas will need to be considered alongside the priorities and goals of the LTP3.
Hertfordshire UKCP09 headlines report, 2010	The UK Climate Projections (UKCP09) were funded by Defra and facilitated by the UK Climate Impacts Programme, and they represent the fifth generation of climate information for the UK. UKCP09 is the most comprehensive package produced to date and for the first time it also attempts to represent the known sources of uncertainty in climate modelling. This particular report focuses on Hertfordshire and presents the predicted changes in temperature and annual precipitation expected within Hertfordshire across three emission scenarios from the current day up to 2099.	The document represents the primary source for baseline information relating to climatic change in the county.
Hertfordshire Economic Development Strategy, 2009 - 2021	This document sets out the economic vision for the county of Hertfordshire. It aims to direct the activities and	The policy direction of the LFRMS will need to be in

County Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
	<p>investment of key partners, regional and national agencies in areas that are key drivers for productive growth. Learning and skill opportunities will be promoted between the public, private and third sector to help identify and address gaps in the provision of skills. Stated aims include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The creation of a resilient economy with balance between global and local, and old and new, sectors to avoid becoming over reliant on a few sectors or large companies. - Build on strengths in Research and Development, life sciences, telecoms and IT. Clusters of these types of industry will be encouraged. - Digital, media and creative industries, green industries, hi-tech manufacturing and health care industries will also be promoted. - Entrepreneurship, networking and innovation will be encouraged. - The growth and retention of local SMEs. - Encouraging economic growth with strong low carbon credentials. - Identify strategic locations for high quality employment growth along key corridors. - Encouraging regeneration of existing employment areas and town centres to improve social and economic wellbeing. - Lobby to unblock infrastructure constraints including rail capacity, water supply and sewage treatment. 	<p>conformity with, and help facilitate, the Economic Strategy. In addition the Economic Strategy highlights major employment areas within the county and identifies major infrastructure needs. Routes and sites may fall under the remit of the Local Flood Risk Management Strategy.</p>
<p>Hertfordshire Minerals Local Plan Review 2002-2016 (adopted 2007)</p>	<p>Objectives are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To encourage the efficient use of materials, particularly maximising the use of recycled and secondary aggregates and reducing the use of primary aggregates, thereby reducing reliance on land won sources of material. - To identify and safeguard mineral resources to ensure that there are sufficient environmentally acceptable sources to maintain an appropriate level of current and future supply in 	<p>This plan relates to the extraction of minerals in the county including details on the transportation of minerals. Mineral extraction can dramatically affect the morphology of the extracted area, and therefore affect flood risk.</p>

County Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
	<p>accordance with Government guidance and to prevent the unnecessary sterilisation of mineral resources.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To ensure that the adverse impacts on the environment and people caused by mineral operations and the transport of minerals are kept, as far as possible, to an acceptable minimum. - To ensure sensitive working, reclamation and aftercare practices so as to preserve or enhance the overall quality of the environment and promote biodiversity where appropriate. - To enable stakeholders to contribute to planning for minerals supply in Hertfordshire 	<p>However a detailed consideration of the impacts of current and proposed extraction proposals is outside the remit of this study and is best addressed at the planning application stage.</p>
<p>Hertfordshire Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy, 2007</p>	<p>This Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Hertfordshire is the means by which the eleven waste authorities of the county aim to deliver a modern approach to dealing with household waste. The strategy's cornerstone is treating waste as a resource and focuses on a promotion of the Waste Hierarchy and a reduction in waste overall. The Strategy identified a number of potential options for the management of waste and the implications of Hertfordshire on the chosen strategy.</p>	<p>Waste and landfill sites are strategic infrastructure which are susceptible to flooding and have the potential to cause significant environmental damage. As such the local strategy pertaining to waste sites and movements is an important part of the SEA information base.</p>
<p>A 50 year vision for the wildlife and natural habitats of Hertfordshire – A Local Biodiversity Action Plan, 1998, (Reviewed 2006)</p>	<p>Identifies flagship species and habitats within Hertfordshire and then establishes an action plan for each for their conservation.</p> <p>Key principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assess - the biodiversity value of the site. - Protect - current key habitats and species of wildlife interest. - Enhance and Create - enhance existing habitats or create new areas. - Mitigate - against potentially damaging impacts on wildlife. 	<p>The protection and conservation of biodiversity features and the introduction of new features in new development is a key component of sustainable development. This plan is an important reference for the SEA when undertaking the</p>

County Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Compensate - where damage is unavoidable to wildlife. - Monitor and Enforce - to promote the success of enhancement, mitigatory and compensatory measures. - A Checklist - for developers and planners. 	assessment on the HCC LFRMS.
A Better Quality of Life – The Hertfordshire Environmental Strategy, 2001	<p>The following sustainability principles are outlined in the Environmental Strategy as key goals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A better quality of life - Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone - Effective protection of the environment - Prudent use of natural resources - Maintenance of high levels of economic growth and employment so that everyone can share in high living standards and greater job opportunities - Effective communications of ideas and information 	The strategy sets out a number of sustainability principles which aim to guide practice in Hertfordshire. Such sustainability principles are at the core of SEA.
The Environment in Hertfordshire, 2010	The aim of this 'Environment in Hertfordshire' report is to provide data and information for Hertfordshire, providing a snapshot of the status of the county across a range of indicators as well as to recommend future development direction.	This report partly informed the Baseline Report across a number of thematic chapters.
Hertfordshire Landscape Character Assessments, 2000 - 2005	Landscape Character Assessments are tools that are used to understand and describe the character of the landscape. They identify the features which give a locality a 'sense of place' and which makes them different from neighbouring areas. The purpose is to form a basis to guide development control, regeneration and future landscape management and conservation.	The countywide landscape and localised landscapes within Hertfordshire are intrinsically linked with flooding issues. The HCC LFRMS should have regard to this assessment and the impact policies may have on the landscape and its subsequent effect on flood waters.
Public Health Observatory – Hertfordshire Health	This profile gives a picture of health within Hertfordshire. It is designed to	This report partly informed the

County Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
Profile, 2011	help local government and health services understand their community's needs, so that they can work to improve people's health and reduce health inequalities.	Health chapter of the Baseline Report.
Hertfordshire Red Data Book, ongoing	Red Books detail flora, fauna and rare habitats that are locally scarce. Their inclusion here is irrespective of their extent at the national scale. Many locally scarce species receive no legal protection at all. Their inclusion on a scientifically based Red Data List can help to highlight the vulnerability of these species. Site identification for these vulnerable species can help to ensure that protection mechanisms can be put in place, particularly through the designation of sites supporting red data book species as Local Wildlife Sites.	This report partly informed the Biodiversity chapter of the Baseline Report.
Hertfordshire Sustainability Forum Quality of Life Reports (annual)	The Hertfordshire Sustainability Forum produces a Quality of Life report each year. This gives up to date information on indicators of Hertfordshire's quality of life across the themes of Development, Housing, Education, Economy and Employment, Social Exclusion, health Crime, Culture, Decision Making and Community Participation, Noise, Air Quality, Climate Change, Energy, Transport, Waste, Water, and Wildlife and Habitats.	These annual reports partly informed the Baseline Report across a number of thematic chapters, as well as contributing to the key sustainability issues scoped as being relevant to the plan.

3.5 District and Borough Level

District and Borough Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared for Broxbourne Borough Council, 2007	An SFRA also allows a local council to prepare appropriate policies for the management of flood risk, identify the level of detail required for site-specific Flood Risk Assessments and determine the acceptability of flood risk in relation to emergency planning capability.	An SFRA informs an SEA insofar as highlighting that flood risk has been taken account of when considering options and in the preparation of strategic land use

District and Borough Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
		policies.
Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared by East Hertfordshire Council, 2008	An SFRA also allows a local council to prepare appropriate policies for the management of flood risk, identify the level of detail required for site-specific Flood Risk Assessments and determine the acceptability of flood risk in relation to emergency planning capability.	An SFRA informs an SEA insofar as highlighting that flood risk has been taken account of when considering options and in the preparation of strategic land use policies.
Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared for Hertsmere Borough Council, 2008	An SFRA also allows a local council to prepare appropriate policies for the management of flood risk, identify the level of detail required for site-specific Flood Risk Assessments and determine the acceptability of flood risk in relation to emergency planning capability.	An SFRA informs an SEA insofar as highlighting that flood risk has been taken account of when considering options and in the preparation of strategic land use policies.
Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared for North Hertfordshire District Council, 2008	An SFRA also allows a local council to prepare appropriate policies for the management of flood risk, identify the level of detail required for site-specific Flood Risk Assessments and determine the acceptability of flood risk in relation to emergency planning capability.	An SFRA informs an SEA insofar as highlighting that flood risk has been taken account of when considering options and in the preparation of strategic land use policies.
Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared for Stevenage Borough Council, 2009	An SFRA also allows a local council to prepare appropriate policies for the management of flood risk, identify the level of detail required for site-specific Flood Risk Assessments and determine the acceptability of flood risk in relation to emergency planning capability.	An SFRA informs an SEA insofar as highlighting that flood risk has been taken account of when considering options and in the preparation of strategic land use policies.
Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment prepared for Welwyn Hatfield	An SFRA also allows a local council to prepare appropriate policies for the management of flood risk, identify the level of detail required for site-specific Flood Risk Assessments and determine the acceptability	An SFRA informs an SEA insofar as highlighting that flood risk has been taken account of when

District and Borough Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
Borough Council, 2009	of flood risk in relation to emergency planning capability.	considering options and in the preparation of strategic land use policies.
Saved Policies within Broxbourne Borough Local Plan 2001 – 2011 and Broxbourne Borough Council Core Strategy Submission Draft December 2010	<p>The Local Plan was originally designed to control development within the borough up to 2011 although it will now be progressively replaced by their Local Development Framework when it becomes available. However, until such a date the saved policies within the Local Plan will continue to govern the borough. Key policies relevant to this SEA within the Core Strategy include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - to regenerate neighbourhoods by building high quality sustainable homes well connected to public transport - All development to be designed to enhance surroundings and reduce impact on climate change - Appropriate infrastructure will be brought forward to support regeneration and growth 	<p>The two documents set out Broxbourne Borough Council's borough-wide planning strategy, objectives and policies aimed at helping to achieve sustainable development and provide a robust and sound means of planning for the development requirements of the borough. A section addressing water and flood issues is contained within the Submission Draft Core Strategy and this will help to inform the SEA of localised water and flooding issues in Broxbourne, useful in assessing higher level policies and the formulation of sustainability objectives.</p>
Dacorum Borough Council Local Plan 1991 – 2011 and Core Strategy – Pre-submission Omissions Document February 2012	<p>The Local Plan was originally designed to control development within the borough up to 2011 although it will now be progressively replaced by their Local Development Framework when it becomes available. However, until such a date, the saved policies within the Local Plan will continue to govern the Borough.</p> <p>A commitment to protect people from property and flooding and to manage flood risk areas is contained within the Pre-Submission Omissions Core Strategy whilst there are also more general water management commitments made within this document.</p>	<p>The two documents set out Dacorum Borough Council's borough-wide planning strategy, objectives and policies aimed at helping to achieve sustainable development and provide a robust and sound means of planning for the development</p>

District and Borough Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
	Policies 96 – 129 within the Local Plan cover Environmental Issues, with a number addressing water management and flooding concerns.	requirements of the borough. The LFRMS will need to be in conformity with the Core Strategy when it is adopted.
East Hertfordshire Local Plan 2007 and Core Strategy Issues and Options 2010	<p>The Local Plan was originally designed to control development within the administrative area although it will now be progressively replaced by their Local Development Framework when it becomes available. However, until such a date the saved policies within the Local Plan will continue to govern the administrative area and will be referred to when necessary during the SEA process. Within the Local Plan, Chapter 8 – Environment and Design is of most relevance to this SEA and has the following aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To protect and enhance the natural and built environment. - To ensure that new development is consistent with the principles of sustainable development. <p>Themes within the Core Strategy Issues and Options document relevant to the issue of flooding are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Theme 1: East Herts Energy and Climate Change - Theme 2: East Herts People and Community Safety - Theme 7: East Herts Health, Wellbeing and Prosperity - Theme 8: Green East Herts 	The two documents set out East Hertfordshire Council's borough-wide planning strategy, objectives and policies aimed at helping to achieve sustainable development and provide a robust and sound means of planning for the development requirements within the administrative area. The LFRMS will need to be in conformity with the Core Strategy when it is adopted.
Hertsmere Local Plan, 2003 and Revised Core Strategy Consultation Draft, 2010	<p>The Local Plan was originally designed to control development within the administrative area although it will now be progressively replaced by their Local Development Framework when it becomes available. However, until such a date the saved policies within the Local Plan will continue to govern the administrative area and will be referred to when necessary during the SEA process. Environmental aims of the Local Plan are as follows</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - safeguard environmental and heritage resources; 	The two documents set out Hertsmere Borough Council's borough-wide planning strategy, objectives and policies aimed at helping to achieve sustainable development and provide a robust and sound means of planning for the development

District and Borough Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - assess the capacity for, and consequences of, change (environmental capacity) and make it a key consideration in decision making; - integrate environmental and conservation issues into all aspects of land use and development planning; - seek to maintain and enhance the quality and character of the environment as a whole; and - promote a greater understanding of, and facilitate access to, our natural and built heritage. <p>The Core Strategy recognises the importance of flood risk and states that new development can increase the risk of flooding by causing increased run off or simply by impeding the flow or storage of floodwater. Where necessary, appropriate alleviation measures will be sought, including investment in sewage discharge capacity and treatment. In order to achieve a sustainable method of surface water discharge, the Council will seek the introduction of rainwater harvesting and 'sustainable drainage systems' (SUDS)</p>	<p>requirements within the administrative area. The LFRMS will need to be in conformity with the Core Strategy when it is adopted.</p>
<p>North Hertfordshire District Local Plan (No.2) with Alterations (originally adopted 1996) and Core Strategy Preferred Options, 2007</p>	<p>The Local Plan was originally designed to control development within the administrative area although it will now be progressively replaced by their Local Development Framework when it becomes available. However, until such a date the saved policies within the Local Plan will continue to govern the administrative area and will be referred to when necessary during the SEA process. The Local Plan does not feature a dedicated section on environmental protection although key themes feature throughout the document.</p> <p>Within the Core Strategy Preferred Options document, the following statement is made:</p> <p>"Now, Government and regional plan policies can be used in determining planning applications, and we are actively discouraged from repeating them in the Local Development Framework. Therefore, there are some areas (e.g. flooding and conservation areas) which used to have policies in our old Local Plan, but which will not have their own policies in the Core</p>	<p>The two documents set out North Hertfordshire District Council's district-wide planning strategy, objectives and policies aimed at helping to achieve sustainable development and provide a robust and sound means of planning for the development requirements within the administrative area. The LFRMS will need to be in conformity with local policy.</p>

District and Borough Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
	Strategy.	
St Albans City & District Local Plan Saved Policies, 2007 and Core Strategy Consultation on the Strategy for Locating Future Development in the District, 2010	<p>The Local Plan was originally designed to control development within the administrative area although it will now be progressively replaced by their Local Development Framework when it becomes available. However, until such a date the saved policies within the Local Plan will continue to govern the administrative area and will be referred to when necessary during the SEA process.</p> <p>The St Albans Core Strategy Consultation document sets out the strategy for locating future development in the District. It takes account of feedback received from earlier consultations.</p>	<p>The two documents set out St Albans City & District Council's district-wide planning strategy, objectives and policies aimed at helping to achieve sustainable development and provide a robust and sound means of planning for the development requirements within the administrative area. The LFRMS will need to be in conformity with local policy.</p>
Stevenage Borough Council Local Plan Saved Policies, 2007	<p>The Local Plan was originally designed to control development within the administrative area although it will now be progressively replaced by their Local Development Framework when it becomes available. However, until such a date the saved policies within the Local Plan will continue to govern the administrative area and will be referred to when necessary during the SEA process.</p> <p>The council is currently preparing a new Local Plan having withdrawn the developing Core Strategy</p>	<p>The document sets out Stevenage Borough Council's borough-wide planning strategy, objectives and policies aimed at helping to achieve sustainable development and provide a robust and sound means of planning for the development requirements within the administrative area. The LFRMS will need to be in conformity with local policy.</p>
Three Rivers District Council Core Strategy, 2011	<p>As part of the overall vision within the Core Strategy, the following statement is made "To locate growth in the most sustainable locations in terms of access to services and transport networks and impact on the environment" The Strategic Objectives and Spatial Strategy also mention the need to site development away from flood risk areas and</p>	<p>The Core Strategy set out Three Rivers District Council's borough-wide planning strategy, objectives and policies aimed at helping to achieve</p>

District and Borough Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
	design new developments in order to minimise flood risk.	sustainable development and provide a robust and sound means of planning for the development requirements within the administrative area. The LFRMS will need to be in conformity with local policy.
Watford Borough Council Local Plan, 2000 and Core Strategy Publication - Significant Changes Consultation, 2011	<p>The Local Plan was originally designed to control development within the administrative area although it will now be progressively replaced by their Local Development Framework when it becomes available. However, until such a date the saved policies within the Local Plan will continue to govern the administrative area and will be referred to when necessary during the SEA process.</p> <p>Within the Core Strategy, Chapter 6 – Sustainable Development is of the most relevance, with the chapter containing sub-sections concerning water and climate change.</p>	The two documents set out Watford Borough Council's borough-wide planning strategy, objectives and policies aimed at helping to achieve sustainable development and provide a robust and sound means of planning for the development requirements within the administrative area. The LFRMS will need to be in conformity with local policy.
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council Local Plan Saved Policies, 2007, Core Strategy Issues and Options, 2009 and Core Strategy Consultation - How Many New Homes?, 2011	<p>The Local Plan was originally designed to control development within the administrative area although it will now be progressively replaced by their Local Development Framework when it becomes available. However, until such a date the saved policies within the Local Plan will continue to govern the administrative area and will be referred to when necessary during the SEA process.</p> <p>Within the Core Strategy, Chapter 4 – Environment is of the most relevance, with the chapter containing a sub-section headed Climate Change which contains a section of Flood Risk policy.</p> <p>The latter document contains 5 alternative housing targets for the borough.</p>	The documents set out Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council's borough-wide planning strategy, objectives and policies aimed at helping to achieve sustainable development and provide a robust and sound means of planning for the development requirements within the administrative area. The LFRMS will

District and Borough Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
		need to be in conformity with local policy
Dacorum Landscape Character Assessment, 2004	Landscape Character Assessments are tools that are used to understand and describe the character of the landscape. They identify the features which give a locality a 'sense of place' and which makes them different from neighbouring areas. The purpose is to form a basis to guide development control, regeneration and future landscape management and conservation.	The countywide landscape and localised landscapes within Hertfordshire are intrinsically linked with flooding issues. The HCC LFRMS should have regard to this assessment and the impact policies may have on the landscape and its subsequent effect on flood waters. This particular Landscape Character Assessment will provide further detail regarding the landscape characteristics within Dacorum.
East Hertfordshire District Landscape Character Assessment, 2007	Landscape Character Assessments are tools that are used to understand and describe the character of the landscape. They identify the features which give a locality a 'sense of place' and which makes them different from neighbouring areas. The purpose is to form a basis to guide development control, regeneration and future landscape management and conservation.	The countywide landscape and localised landscapes within Hertfordshire are intrinsically linked with flooding issues. The HCC LFRMS should have regard to this assessment and the impact policies may have on the landscape and its subsequent effect on flood waters. This particular Landscape Character Assessment will provide further detail regarding the landscape characteristics within East Hertfordshire.
North Hertfordshire	Landscape Character Assessments are tools	The countywide

District and Borough Plans and Programmes	Main Aims and Objectives	Relevance to the LFRMS
and Stevenage Landscape Character Assessment, 2004	that are used to understand and describe the character of the landscape. They identify the features which give a locality a 'sense of place' and which makes them different from neighbouring areas. The purpose is to form a basis to guide development control, regeneration and future landscape management and conservation.	landscape and localised landscapes within Hertfordshire are intrinsically linked with flooding issues. The HCC LFRMS should have regard to this assessment and the impact policies may have on the landscape and its subsequent effect on flood waters. This particular Landscape Character Assessment will provide further detail regarding the landscape characteristics within North Hertfordshire and Stevenage.
Landscape Regions (Part of Hertfordshire Landscape Regions), Three Rivers District Council, 2003	Landscape Character Assessments are tools that are used to understand and describe the character of the landscape. They identify the features which give a locality a 'sense of place' and which makes them different from neighbouring areas. The purpose is to form a basis to guide development control, regeneration and future landscape management and conservation.	The countywide landscape and localised landscapes within Hertfordshire are intrinsically linked with flooding issues. The HCC LFRMS should have regard to this assessment and the impact policies may have on the landscape and its subsequent effect on flood waters. This particular Landscape Character Assessment will provide further detail regarding the landscape characteristics within Three Rivers.

