**Local Planning Context**

The statutory planning context for preparation of a neighbourhood Plan is the [Core Strategy](http://www.rother.gov.uk/corestrategy), which sets out the broad planning strategy for Rother District up to 2028. The existing RDC evidence base was the starting point for the steering group when gathering information to support our policies. The following lists the key documents used:

1. The [**Rother in Profile Document**](http://www.rother.gov.uk/media/pdf/q/a/Rother_in_Profile.pdf) identifies the main spatial characteristics of the District, and sets the scene for the consideration of future development and change in Rother.
2. A [**Rural Settlements Study**](http://www.rother.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=5011) aims to contribute towards the 'Place-Shaping' of individual villages. It has helped inform the Core Strategy by defining villages in terms of their service role, and need/suitability for development.
3. The [**Affordable Housing background paper**](http://www.rother.gov.uk/media/pdf/m/5/Final_Affordable_Housing_Background_Paper.pdf) details the evidence base which supports the affordable housing policies in the Local Housing Needs chapter of the Proposed Submission Core Strategy. It looks at thresholds, percentages and tenures of affordable housing, along with the methodology for affordable housing targets.
4. The [**Rother District Affordable Housing Viability Assessment 2010**](http://www.rother.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=432) tests the District Council's proposed affordable housing policies and ensures that they are consistent with securing the delivery of new houses within Rother.
5. The [**Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment**](http://www.rother.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=6434) (SHLAA) 2013 identifies sites with housing potential, both those that accord with current planning policy and further ones that would require a change in policies if they are to be pursued.
6. The [**Hastings and Rother Employment Strategy Review**](http://www.rother.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=5012) (incorporating Employment Land Review) has been prepared jointly with Hastings Borough Council. It provides the evidence base for the development of spatial economic strategies in the Authorities' respective Local Plans. The [**Hastings and Rother Employment Strategy Review Update**](http://www.rother.gov.uk/media/pdf/b/t/Hastings_and_Rother_Employment_Strategy_Review_Update.pdf) (incorporating Employment Land Review) has been prepared jointly with Hastings Borough Council.  It updates the evidence base for the development of spatial economic strategies in the Authorities' respective LDFs.
7. An [**'Employment Land Supply and Trajectory April 2012'**](http://www.rother.gov.uk/media/pdf/a/b/EMPLOYMENT_LAND_SUPPLY_AND_TRAJECTORY_APRIL_2012.pdf) which indicates the anticipated delivery of employment land proposed in the Core Strategy and the current position on the supply of deliverable sites.
8. [**Review of Employment Land Requirements in Light of Proposed Revised Housing Targets July 2013 [97kb]**](http://www.rother.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=20273&p=0)
9. An [**Open Space, Sport and Recreation Audit and Assessment**](http://www.rother.gov.uk/openspaces)  has been completed with the assistance of PMP consultants and in accordance with national planning guidance (PPG17).
10. [**Hastings and Rother - Leisure Facilities Strategy (2009-2020)**](http://www.rother.gov.uk/leisurefacilitiesstrategy) was prepared by Capita Symonds for Rother District Council and Hastings Borough Council. The final report, dated August 2009, has been adopted by the Councils.
11. The **Green Infrastructure Study** is a background evidence study for the Local Plan (2011-2028). Its purpose is to draw on relevant sources to identify spaces that contribute to green infrastructure in the district and to identify potential opportunities for future green infrastructure provision. [Green Infrastructure Study [3Mb]](http://www.rother.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=14911&p=0)
12. [**Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA)**](http://www.rother.gov.uk/article/8829/Habitat-Regulations-Assessment-HRA) - The purpose of a HRA is to assess the impacts of a land-use plan, in combination with the effects of other plans and projects, against the conservation objectives of a European nature conservation site, also known as the Natura 2000 network; and to ascertain whether that plan would adversely affect the protection or integrity of such a site.
13. [**Landscape Assessments**](http://www.rother.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=6526) have been carried out for strategic development areas around Bexhill and the Hastings Fringes and for the Market Towns and Villages in order to assist consideration of the development strategy.
14. A [**'Low Carbon and Renewable Potential Study'**](http://www.rother.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=7240) has been prepared for the Council by Scott Wilson in association with Drivers Jonas and Thameswey Energy to help in the development of policies for a low-carbon future.
15. A [**Strategic Flood Risk Assessment**](http://www.rother.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=4900) has been prepared by the council, together with its consultants, Scott Wilson and in consultation with the Environment Agency.
16. [**'Water, People, Places'**](http://www.eastsussex.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/47E78405-8C95-460E-ACB7-A2EE28BE4810/36322/cab040314item7wpp.pdf) is a sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) guide developed for the South East 7 (SE7) authorities, which includes East Sussex County Council. This guidance outlines the process for integrating sustainable drainage systems (SuDS) into the master planning of large and small developments. This guidance should be used by developers and planners and other practitioners involved in the planning and design of the built environment in the South East of England.
17. The [**Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP)**](http://icm.rother.gov.uk/media/pdf/g/2/Updated_Infrastructure_Delivery_Plan_%28IDP%29.pdf?CFID=f95b4cc8-ac47-486d-a67e-f46c3cfb1f92&CFTOKEN=0) **(July 2012)** identifies key pieces of infrastructure needed to achieve the objectives and policies in the Core Strategy, and identifies broad locations where the infrastructure will be located. The IDP is a 'live' document and will be periodically reviewed and updated as infrastructure providers assess their investment plans.  The previous Infrastructure Delivery Plan was completed in August 2011 and can be found [**here**](http://www.rother.gov.uk/media/pdf/q/m/Infrastructure_Delivery_Plan.pdf).
18. The Rother, Brede and Tillingham Woods Biodiversity Opportunity Area.
19. Rother document – Conservation Area Appraisal: Robertsbridge and Northbridge Street
20. [Survey Ancient Woodland by Weald and Downs Ancient Woodland Survey for RDC 2010](http://www.rother.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=12578&p=0)
21. [High Weald AONB Management Plan 2014](http://www.highweald.org/downloads/publications/high-weald-aonb-management-plan-documents/1475-high-weald-management-plan-3rd-edition-2014-2019/file.html)
22. [Pride of Place](http://www.essp.org.uk/What-we-do/Pride-of-Place.aspx) – a sustainable community strategy for East Sussex – 2008 (this was the catalyst for local action plans
23. S & R parish profile by AiRS 2011
24. ESCC info re S & R older people's housing needs survey report 2012