

PART THREE – CORE POLICIES

3.1 This section of the Revised Preferred Options consists of our preferred approach to strategic policy issues such as housing, transport and shopping. Rather than arranged under the headings of the council's revised Sustainable Community Strategy as previously, these are listed from CP1- CP19.

CP1 – Sustainable Buildings



Supporting Documents:

- Sustainable Community Strategy - 2006
- Sustainability Strategy - 2002
- Sustainable Building Design SPD - 2008
- Draft Nature Conservation in Development SPD - 2008
- Construction & Demolition Waste SPD - 2006
- Home Energy Efficiency Strategy - 2001
- Fuel Poverty Strategy - 2002
- Waste Local Plan - 2006
- Housing Strategy - 2004-2007 (being revised)
- Climate Change Action Plan - 2006
- Draft South East Plan - 2006
- PPS 1 (including Supplement - consultation), PPG 3, PPS 9, PPG 10, PPS 22, PPS 23, PPG 24
- Nottingham Declaration on Climate Change - 2000
- UK Microgeneration Strategy - 2006
- Air Quality Action Plan- 2007

Context

3.2 Globally, the rate that we are consuming natural resources and altering the environment is unprecedented. Studies have shown that in UK consumption equates on average to 5.4 global hectares (gha) per person (a sustainable level is suggested to be 1.8gha¹⁹). Resources are not only being used more quickly than they can be replenished, but potentially contributing to ecological degradation, loss of species, resource depletion and an increase in greenhouse gas emissions that contribute to climate change. A WWF report²⁰ on ecological footprinting revealed that Brighton & Hove performs particularly badly being ranked 57th out of the 60 cities featured in the study. This makes the city's footprint one of the worst in the UK requiring 3.47 planets or 6.25gha per person. As part of this, activities in Brighton & Hove emit about 1.373 million tonnes of CO₂ every year, with the domestic sector alone accounting for 48% of emissions (mostly from energy use). According to the Environment Agency the city is within a 'highly water stressed' region²¹ with above regional average per capita consumption²². This is not

¹⁹ 'The Ecological Footprint of Brighton & Hove' Stockholm Environmental Institute (SEI) January 2006. www.sei.se/reap

²⁰ 'Ecological footprint of British city residents' http://www.wwf.org.uk/filelibrary/pdf/city_footprint2.pdf. Report commissioned by WWF and based on data collated by the Stockholm Environmental Institute (SEI) November 2007.

²¹ Water stress is related to the amount of water available per person for a given area now and in the future. An area of serious water stress is defined as that where the current household demand for water is high in relation to current effective rainfall or future household demand is likely to be a high proportion of the effective rainfall available to meet demand. In areas of serious water stress, water abstraction is already close to or above acceptable limits.

²² South East average 150 to 160 litres per person per day (l/p/d); Brighton & Hove's consumption is higher averaging 169 l/p/d (Audit Commission).