



Feria Urbanism is a planning and design studio that specialises in urban design, urban planning, neighbourhood strategies, public participation and community engagement. Established in 2007, we have been involved in a diverse range of planning and design projects across the UK.

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## The policies in the Hawkhurst Neighbourhood Plan should:

- 01. Provide sufficient housing to meet Hawkhurst's identified needs, including affordable housing and self-finishing.
- 02. Improve health and reduce health inequalities.
- 03. Reduce poverty and increase social inclusion.
- 04. Improve educational attainment and enhance the skills base.
- 05. Reduce crime and the fear of crime.
- 06. Improve quality, range and accessibility to all services and facilities.
- 07. Improve efficiency in land use via the reuse of previously developed land and encourage innovation.
- 08. Reduce pollution (to land, air and soil) and greenhouse gas emissions.

- 09. Protect and enhance water resources, manage flood risk and reduce the impact of flooding.
- 10. Conserve and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity.
- 11. Protect and enhance the natural and built environment and provide accessibility.
- 12. Improve travel choice and reduce the need to travel, particularly by car/lorry to reduce traffic congestion.
- 13. Reduce the impact of resource consumption and reduce waste generation and disposal.
- 14. Increase energy efficiency and the proportion of energy generated from renewable sources.
- 15. Facilitate and support a diverse employment base and sustainable economic growth.

## Factors to consider when determining the score for each sustainability objective.

Sustainability	Aspects to consider when determining the impact of an NDP Policy				
Objective	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts			
oı — Provide sufficient	Gradual increase in net	Decreasing net housing units			
housing to meet Hawkhurst's	housing provision constrained	Providing the wrong type of			
identified needs, including	by infrastructure.	housing for Hawkhurst's needs			
affordable housing and self-	Adding to range of housing	(ref policy HD <sub>3</sub> ).			
finishing.	available particularly to meet	Infrastructure capacity			
	identified needs e.g. affordable	insufficient and not			
	housing, smaller units etc.	improved e.g. roads,			
	Raising quality of housing/	telecommunications,			
	replacing deficient housing.	electricity, water, drainage.			
	Usually minimum of 30				
	dwellings per hectare (Core				
	Policy 6).				
	Affordable usually 35% of				
	total dwellings (defined in Site				
	Allocations DPD).				

Sustainability	Aspects to co determining the imp	onsider when eact of an NDP Policy
Objective	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts
02 — Improve health and	Particularly within pockets of	Loss or reduced quality of any
reduce health inequalities.	deprivation:	mentioned.
	Net increase or improved	
	quality of green open space,	
	sports or recreation facilities.	
	New health development –	
	clinics, hospitals etc. Improved	
	access to health facilities	
	– more local provision,	
	improvements to non-car	
	access (ref. DDA).	
	Improved air quality, noise	
	reduction, removal of soil	
	contamination.	
	Net increase in allotments.	
	Cycle ways, footpaths.	
	Road safety measures.	
	Improvements to living	
	conditions.	
	Anything that increases	
	quality of life, reduces stress	
	and improves safety.	

Sustainability Objective	Aspects to consider when determining the impact of an NDP Policy				
	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts			
o3 — Reduce poverty and increase social inclusion.	Improved local services and recreation opportunities particularly in pockets of deprivation by increasing provision, range, quality and non-car access networks.  Redevelopment of poor quality areas and substandard housing Site affordable housing in most accessible locations with good access to green open space.  Reverse trends for narrowing demographic mix.  NOTE: Affordable housing already considered in Objective 1.	Affordable housing of poor quality in inaccessible locations.  Reduction of free/cheap local services and access to convenience shops.  Loss of rural services, community facilities etc. and public transport in rural settlements.			
04 — Improve educational attainment and enhance skills base.	Provision of new/improved local schools and adult education centres as local demographic requires Provision of libraries in accessible locations.	Loss or reduced service of any mentioned.			
05 — Reduce crime and fear of crime.	Redevelopment/upgrading of derelict and vacant sites New developments designed to minimise crime – well-lit, overlooked, off road parking.  Provision of local recreation and leisure opportunities in deprived areas.  Road safety measures/traffic calming.  Retention of policing.	Deterioration of services.			

Sustainability	Aspects to consider when determining the impact of an NDP Policy				
Objective	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts			
o6 — Improve quality, range	Improve local services and	Reductions in net quantity,			
and accessibility to all services	facilities – net quantity,	quality, range and accessibility			
and facilities.	quality, range and accessibility	of local services.			
	by a range of modes.	New housing poorly related to			
	Retain/enhance local services	existing services with no on-			
	in Hawkhurst Transport	site provision.			
	improvements to the village	New Services or facilities in			
	centre – particularly non-car.	inaccessible locations.			
	Protect in-centre facilities by	Loss of village centre			
	controlling large development.	services. Reductions in rural			
	Ensuring that space is set	transport options.			
	aside to meet local need for				
	recreation, employment etc.				
	Ensure new housing is well-				
	related to existing services.				

#### Sustainability Objective

## Aspects to consider when determining the impact of an NDP Policy

#### Positive Impacts

#### Negative Impacts

o<sub>7</sub> — Improve efficiency in land use through the reuse of previously developed land and encourage innovation.

Redevelopment of previously developed land. Efficient use of the site – appropriate density, effective landscaping/screening, usable public/green areas, good layout with connecting transport routes etc. Avoiding most valuable land – biodiversity, best and most versatile agricultural land, Green Belt, important landscape features etc. Well located within or adjoining existing settlements/ transport routes. Upgrading poor quality environments, improving village edges. Maximising the multi-

functional use of space.

On greenfield land.
On valued land – biodiversity, open space, landscape value, agricultural etc.
Loss of valued community asset such as recreation open space or allotments particularly where there is a deficiency.
Fragmenting habitats.
Inefficient layout with poorly laid out public areas, transport networks/connections and open space of little value.

Sustainability	Aspects to consider when determining the impact of an NDP Policy				
Objective	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts			
o8 — Reduce pollution	Reduce land contamination.	Increasing traffic in AQMA.			
(to land, air and soil) and	Non-polluting uses.	Locating new development in			
greenhouse gas emissions.	Reductions in motorised	inaccessible locations.			
	traffic, enhancement of non-	Permitting polluting uses.			
	motorised modes particularly	Siting housing near polluting			
	in AQMA.	uses.			
	Increase in vegetation to				
	reduce air pollution and				
	increase carbon capture.				
	Reductions in congestion.				
	Energy efficient developments				
	with low carbon requirements.				
	Renewable technologies.				
	Reducing health impacts of				
	pollution – siting housing				
	away from traffic pollution,				
	contaminated land, polluting				
	uses etc.				

#### Aspects to consider when determining the impact of an NDP Policy Sustainability Objective Positive Impacts Negative Impacts og — Protect and enhance Protect surface water features Locating polluting uses close water resources and manage quality and quantity of to surface water features/ flood risk and reduce the water. ground water sensitivity. impact of flooding. Increasing risk of flooding and Site new development away from surface water features/ impact of flooding. ground water vulnerability to Reducing natural drainage avoid pollution. by hard surfacing/removal of Increase/retain green open vegetation. areas/vegetation to promote Increase pressure on water natural drainage. supply. Avoid over-abstraction/ increasing water stress. Encourage use of SUDS, slowing rate of runoff, providing water storage features. Locate new development outside flood zones and functional flood plains. Enhance flood protection measures.

Promote rainwater harvesting.

Reducing storm runoff.

Sustainability	Aspects to consider when determining the impact of an NDP Policy				
Objective	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts			
10 — Conserve and enhance	Protect designated habitats	Threats to protected species			
biodiversity and geodiversity.	and species.	and habitats.			
	Promote green corridors/	Reduction in the size, quality			
	the connectivity of wildlife	and range of habitats.			
	habitats.	Reduction in the biodiversity			
	Retain vegetation that	value of sites.			
	provides food, shelter and	Fragmentation of			
	migration routes for fauna.	habitats Reductions in the			
	Protect ancient woodland and	connectivity of green open			
	surface water features.	space.			
	Enhance the area, quality and	Loss/harm to water features,			
	range of habitats.	ancient woodland, traditional			
	Protect important geological	meadowland etc.			
	features.				
	Enhance multi-functional				
	green open space.				

#### Sustainability Objective

## Aspects to consider when determining the impact of an NDP Policy

#### Positive Impacts

#### Negative Impacts

II — Protect and enhance the natural and built environment and provide accessibility.

Protect sites of landscape value – AONB.

Protect the character of the countryside.

Protect and enhance listed buildings/conservation areas and their settings.

Encourage local distinctiveness.

Encourage permeable developments with good foot/cycle connections with surrounding area.

Promote non-car transport networks that are safe and efficient.

Promote the vitality and viability of the village.
Redevelopment of vacant or derelict sites – grot spots.
Improve landscape setting of existing developments and settlements.

Protect/enhance the character of rural lanes/historic routes.
Protects/creates landmark buildings.

Harms the character of the countryside particularly protected landscapes.
Results in derelict or vacant site.

Development that is out of character with the local area or lacks local distinctiveness.

Development that would harm a conservation area/listed building or its setting.

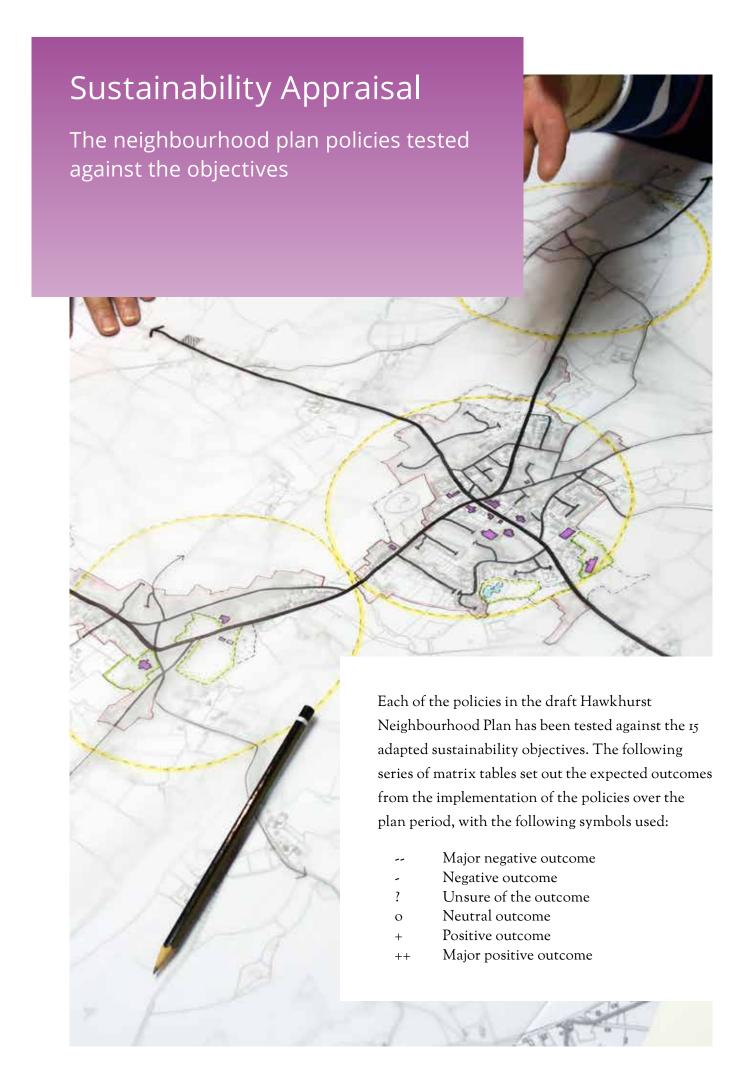
Adverse impact on the vitality and viability of a centre.

Sustainability	Aspects to consider when determining the impact of an NDP Policy				
Objective	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts			
12 — Improve travel choice	Local provision of shops and	Development poorly located			
and reduce the need to travel,	services.	relative to existing services/			
particularly by car/lorry to	Improvements to cycle/foot	population centres.			
reduce traffic congestion.	path network and public	Removal of footpaths, cycle			
	transport.	ways, bus lanes etc.			
	Green corridors New	Lack of local employment			
	development in most	opportunities.			
	accessible locations with range	Large housing developments.			
	of transport modes.	Dangerous roads unsuitable			
	Protection/enhancement of	for non-car traffic, lack of			
	village services.	pavements, cycle ways etc.			
	Enhancing local employment				
	opportunities reducing the				
	need to commute.				
	Travel Plans.				

#### Aspects to consider when determining the impact of an NDP Policy Sustainability Objective Positive Impacts Negative Impacts 13 — Reduce the impact of Encourages recycling, Demolition of usable resource consumption and rainwater harvesting, buildings. Development in unsustainable reduce waste generation and renewable energy etc. locations Reduces waste to disposal. landfill Development able to be adapted to future needs. Reuse/conversion of existing buildings. Reduces fossil fuel use in construction and use. Ensure materials are sustainable and waste is minimised in manufacture and construction. Durable buildings made of sustainable, recyclable products. Promotes non-motorised forms of transport New renewable energy schemes. Local provision of waste recycling facilities Upgrading energy inefficient buildings - insulation, energy efficient appliances, passive solar

heating etc.

Sustainability Objective	Aspects to co determining the imp	onsider when eact of an NDP Policy
Objective	Positive Impacts	Negative Impacts
14 — Increase energy efficiency and the proportion of energy generated from renewable resources.	Promote energy efficient buildings – heat, light, materials. Development in most accessible locations Local provision of services Promote non-motorised transport modes. New renewable energy installations. Consider lifetime energy consumption of developments.	Development in less accessible locations.
15 — Facilitate and support a diverse employment base and sustainable economic growth.	Set aside land for employment uses.  Promote vitality and viability of the village.  Ensure a range of suitable business premises from HQ to rural workshops Avoid loss of employment buildings to other uses.  Education/skills training facilities.  Ensure local economy is varied and resilient.  Support for small businesses/ rural enterprises Provision of a high quality environment for tourism/leisure.  Promote access to tourist destinations.	Over dependence on a narrow range of industries.  Economic growth that harms the quality of the local environment.  Lack of suitable business premises.  Lack of housing for staff.  Poor, congested transport networks.



#### **Site Selection Criteria**

Su	stainability Objective		Appraisa	l Results		
No	Title	 -	?	0	+	++
OI	Housing Need					
02	Health					
03	Social Inclusion					
04	Education					
05	Crime					
06	Service Provision					
07	Efficient Land Use					
08	Pollution					
09	Water/Flood Risk					
10	Biodiversity					
II	Natural/Built Env.					
12	Transport					
13	Waste					
14	Energy					
15	Employment					

#### Comments

/ By having a clear policy overall, stress on village residents, concerned about the future, is reduced.

/ Small developments facilitate social inclusion and neighbourliness.

/ Small development encourages the use of small local builders helping to sustain local employment.

/ Small developments do not significantly increase pressure on village infrastructure and services and lessens the scale of infrastructure improvement required.

/ Small sites are more easily located away from historical features such as routes and waterways and facilitating the protection of flora and fauna.

/ Small development sites place less of a strain on education resources.

/ Brownfield sites are less likely to impact negatively upon biodiversity.

## **Future Housing Mix**

Su	stainability Objective		Appraisa	l Results		
No	Title	 -	?	0	+	++
OI	Housing Need					
02	Health					
03	Social Inclusion					
04	Education					
05	Crime					
06	Service Provision					
07	Efficient Land Use					
08	Pollution					
09	Water/Flood Risk					
10	Biodiversity					
II	Natural/Built Env.					
12	Transport					
13	Waste					
14	Energy					
15	Employment					

#### Comments

/ Hawkhurst's housing need will be reviewed annually by the Parish Council and the mix established for the following year.

/ In 2016 an emphasis on smaller units addresses the need for down-sizers and first time buyers, especially if self finishing is made available. This will improve Hawkhurst's demographic mix.

## **Modern Living**

Sustainability Objective Appraisal Results							
No	Title		-	?	0	+	++
OI	Housing Need						
02	Health						
03	Social Inclusion						
04	Education						
05	Crime						
06	Service Provision						
07	Efficient Land Use						
08	Pollution						
09	Water/Flood Risk						
IO	Biodiversity						
II	Natural/Built Env.						
12	Transport						
13	Waste						
14	Energy						
15	Employment						

#### Comments

/ Hawkhurst's demographic is the older generation rather than younger but both needs can be met by simple single storey housing with self finishing.

/ Self-Finishing provides multi-functional use of land with both first time buyers and down-sizers units. This would also mix generations within a small development.

/ Bungalows have less impact on the AONB.

/ Quality, sustainability and energy efficiency are all encouraged. Use of "Lifetime Housing" standards will provide responsiveness to the residents' mobility changes.

## **Design Quality**

Su	stainability Objective	Appraisal Results					
No	Title		-	?	0	+	++
OI	Housing Need						
02	Health						
03	Social Inclusion						
04	Education						
05	Crime						
06	Service Provision						
07	Efficient Land Use						
08	Pollution						
09	Water/Flood Risk						
10	Biodiversity						
II	Natural/Built Env.						
12	Transport						
13	Waste						
14	Energy						
15	Employment						

#### Comments

/ The design guide applies to buildings and their arrangement not to location.

/ The design guide encourages design to deter crime and the efficient use of sites.

/ Enhancing Hawkhurst's distinctive character is encouraged.

## **Policy LP1**

## Views Between Village & Countryside

Su	stainability Objective		Appraisa	l Results		
No	Title	 -	?	0	+	++
OI	Housing Need					
02	Health					
03	Social Inclusion					
04	Education					
05	Crime					
06	Service Provision					
07	Efficient Land Use					
08	Pollution					
09	Water/Flood Risk					
10	Biodiversity					
II	Natural/Built Env.					
12	Transport					
13	Waste					
14	Energy					
15	Employment					

#### Comments

/ Protecting the identified views encourages developers to landscape effectively providing a frame for the countryside.

/ The policy restricts use of AONB land.

## **Policy LP2**

## **Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty**

Su	stainability Objective		Appraisa	l Results		
No	Title	 -	?	0	+	++
OI	Housing Need					
02	Health					
03	Social Inclusion					
04	Education					
05	Crime					
06	Service Provision					
07	Efficient Land Use					
08	Pollution					
09	Water/Flood Risk					
IO	Biodiversity					
II	Natural/Built Env.					
12	Transport					
13	Waste					
14	Energy					
15	Employment					

#### Comments

/ Supporting CROW and the High Weald AONB Management Plan restricts site choice.

/ CROW provides access to AONB land.

/ Land continues to be an agricultural resource.

## **Policy LP3**

## **Designated Green Spaces**

Su	stainability Objective		Appraisa	l Results		
No	Title	 -	?	0	+	++
OI	Housing Need					
02	Health					
03	Social Inclusion					
04	Education					
05	Crime					
06	Service Provision					
07	Efficient Land Use					
08	Pollution					
09	Water/Flood Risk					
10	Biodiversity					
II	Natural/Built Env.					
12	Transport					
13	Waste					
14	Energy					
15	Employment					

#### Comments

/ The policy encourages protection of existing and the creation of new green spaces.

/ It also restricts the use of hard, non-porous landscaping.

/ Access to good quality green, open space has proven health benefits.

## **Highgate Hill Junction**

Su	stainability Objective		Appraisa	l Results		
No	Title	 -	?	0	+	++
OI	Housing Need					
02	Health					
03	Social Inclusion					
04	Education					
05	Crime					
06	Service Provision					
07	Efficient Land Use					
08	Pollution					
09	Water/Flood Risk					
10	Biodiversity					
II	Natural/Built Env.					
12	Transport					
13	Waste					
14	Energy					
15	Employment					

#### Comments

/ No more significant housing can be accepted due to increased traffic volume. The crossroads are over maximum capacity, confirmed by KCC and a 2015 traffic survey.

/ There is pedestrian risk due to dangerously narrow pavements and air pollution from cars and particularly large HGVs trying to negotiate the crossroads.

/ A traffic movement and design specialist has visited Hawkhurst and established, with the aid of a detailed topographical survey, that a new integrated design may be possible. Junction improvements will over time increase shops footfall and visitors to the village but, because of the level of disruption necessary, may cause some economic damage during construction.

## Improve the Pedestrian Environment

Su	stainability Objective	Appraisal Results					
No	Title		-	?	0	+	++
OI	Housing Need						
02	Health						
03	Social Inclusion						
04	Education						
05	Crime						
06	Service Provision						
07	Efficient Land Use						
08	Pollution						
09	Water/Flood Risk						
10	Biodiversity						
II	Natural/Built Env.						
12	Transport						
13	Waste						
14	Energy						
15	Employment						

#### Comments

/ Several pavements are too narrow for pedestrians to be safe, so cars are used more than is necessary. Improvements would lead to more walking to the village centre.

/ Improving pedestrian routes will encourage more mixing of various demographic groups.

## **Countryside Access**

Su	stainability Objective		Appraisa	l Results		
No	Title	 -	?	0	+	++
OI	Housing Need					
02	Health					
03	Social Inclusion					
04	Education					
05	Crime					
06	Service Provision					
07	Efficient Land Use					
08	Pollution					
09	Water/Flood Risk					
10	Biodiversity					
II	Natural/Built Env.					
12	Transport					
13	Waste					
14	Energy					
15	Employment					

#### Comments

/ Accessible and well signposted paths encourage people to use them with associated improvements to health and well being.

/ Access to the countryside encourages learning about it and wishing to protect it, as already demonstrated by the local primary school.

/ Keeping to well signposted paths will help protect flora and fauna.

/ Use of countryside routes will reduce car usage.

/ Fly-tipping is a risk.

## Walking & Cycling Strategies

Su	stainability Objective		Appraisa	l Results		
No	Title	 -	?	0	+	++
OI	Housing Need					
02	Health					
03	Social Inclusion					
04	Education					
05	Crime					
06	Service Provision					
07	Efficient Land Use					
08	Pollution					
09	Water/Flood Risk					
10	Biodiversity					
II	Natural/Built Env.					
12	Transport					
13	Waste					
14	Energy					
15	Employment					

#### Comments

/ Encouraging walking and cycling is extremely beneficial to health and provides recreational opportunities.

/ This policy also provides alternative access to village services and the village centre reducing car usage and the carbon footprint.

### **Sports Provision**

Su	stainability Objective		Appraisa	l Results		
No	Title	 -	?	0	+	++
OI	Housing Need					
02	Health					
03	Social Inclusion					
04	Education					
05	Crime					
06	Service Provision					
07	Efficient Land Use					
08	Pollution					
09	Water/Flood Risk					
10	Biodiversity					
II	Natural/Built Env.					
12	Transport					
13	Waste					
14	Energy					
15	Employment					

#### Comments

/ This policy clearly identifies the King George V Playing Fields as Hawkhurst's sports hub aiming to enhancing the existing sports provision.

/ This enables local groups to form and collocate their recreational activities encouraging social interaction.

/ Extending the existing pavilion makes efficient use of this existing but restricted sports site.

/ Installing new changing facilities and modern pitch drainage enables use over an extended period per year.

/ The sports provision increases the potential for healthy living.

/ Upgrading the sports pitches will reduce flooding.

## **New Community Hall**

Su	stainability Objective		Appraisa	l Results		
No	Title	 -	?	0	+	++
OI	Housing Need					
02	Health					
03	Social Inclusion					
04	Education					
05	Crime					
06	Service Provision					
07	Efficient Land Use					
08	Pollution					
09	Water/Flood Risk					
10	Biodiversity					
II	Natural/Built Env.					
12	Transport					
13	Waste					
14	Energy					
15	Employment					

#### Comments

/ Proposed larger facilities will enable a wider range of indoor fitness activities.

/ A larger hall will be able to accommodate big gatherings such as displays and exhibitions including amateur dramatic and choral events.

/ The availability of space will encourage additional local groups to form, mixing demographic classifications.

/ Adult education will be possible locally.

/ A site is being sought in the centre of the village.

#### **New Medical Centre**

Su	stainability Objective		Appraisa	l Results		
No	Title	 -	?	0	+	++
OI	Housing Need					
02	Health					
03	Social Inclusion					
04	Education					
05	Crime					
06	Service Provision					
07	Efficient Land Use					
08	Pollution					
09	Water/Flood Risk					
10	Biodiversity					
II	Natural/Built Env.					
12	Transport					
13	Waste					
14	Energy					
15	Employment					

#### Comments

/ The need for a new medical centre is driven by the two local GP practices and is necessary to avoid loss of GP services in Hawkhurst.

/ Assistance in site selection has been provided.

/ One the current practices is restricted by its location in a listed building.

/ Both current sites will become housing near the village centre.

/ Additional employment is expected.

# Preservation & Enhancement of Community Services

Su	stainability Objective		Appraisa	l Results		
No	Title	 -	?	0	+	++
OI	Housing Need					
02	Health					
03	Social Inclusion					
04	Education					
05	Crime					
06	Service Provision					
07	Efficient Land Use					
08	Pollution					
09	Water/Flood Risk					
10	Biodiversity					
II	Natural/Built Env.					
12	Transport					
13	Waste					
14	Energy					
15	Employment					

#### Comments

/ The employment hub at Gills Green has space to be extended. This site is generally brownfield.

/ An increase in local employment enables poorer families to afford to live in Hawkhurst and potentially reduces poverty overall.

/ Less commuting leads to a lower carbon footprint.





