

## Task A2 Baseline information

TASK A2: SUMMARY OF BASELINE INFORMATION	
SA Objective	Key Baseline Data and Evidence
<p><b>Geology and Biodiversity:</b> Enhancement of biodiversity and geology and improvement of habitat richness</p>	<p>There are two Nature Reserves in the Ashford Borough: Wye and Crundale Downs is a National Nature Reserve and an important area of geological interest in Kent due to its rich fossils and erosional history. There are 21 species of orchids recorded at the reserve.</p> <p>The woodland in Hamstreet is on the escarpment of the old Saxon shoreline, and part of the Saxon Shore Way runs through the wood. Plants such as bluebell, primrose (<i>Primula vulgaris</i>) and wood anemone (<i>Anemone nemorosa</i>) flourish, and plants of open areas such as goldenrod (<i>Solidago virgaurea</i>) and heath cudweed (<i>Gnaphthalium Sylvaticum</i>) colonise the coppiced wood.</p> <p>You can see many breeding birds on the reserve, including treecreeper, spotted flycatcher and redpoll, with nighthale, hawfinch and sparrowhawk often present too. The woods support a large number of rare invertebrates, most notably species living on deadwood and butterflies such as the Duke of Burgundy fritillary.</p> <p>There are 13 Sites of Special Scientific Interest in the borough of Ashford, totalling an estimated area of 1,335 hectares. These sites are designated as protected areas for their biological or geological interest. 33.6% of land designated as a SSSI within the Ashford Borough is found to be in favourable condition. Five woodlands sites are SSSIs most notably Hamstreet Woods, and Orlestone Forest are the largest SSSIs in the Borough and supports populations of scarce butterflies and moths.</p> <p>There are 68 sites within the Ashford Borough that have been identified by the Kent Wildlife Trust as Sites of Nature Conservation Interest having important county wide ecological value. There is 8.8 hectares of Local Nature reserve designated per 1,000 population in the Borough. The largest Local Nature Reserve is at Hothfield Common which extends to over 58 hectares and contains Kent's last four valley bogs and one of the few remaining fragments of open heath with patches of acid grassland.</p> <p>The Kent BAP identifies species and habitats that are of particular significance. Specific site level information for Biodiversity in Kent can be obtained from the Kent and Medway Biological Record Centre.</p> <p>BAP Priority Species and habitats in the Ashford Borough include: Otter, Water Vole, White-clawed Crayfish: unpolluted and unsilted river, with bank-side vegetation. Dormouse: Hazel coppice and other well managed woodland with multiple food sources. Nighthale: Dense scrub and coppice. Great Crested Newt: Ponds, ditches with floating sweet grass and surrounding vegetative cover but without fish. Pearl Bordered Fritillary: Woodland Clearings and neutral grassland. Serotine Bat: Old buildings and tree holes</p>

for nesting and unimproved grassland for feeding grounds. Early Gentian Late Spider Orchid: Chalk Grassland.

Key habitats occurring in and around Ashford. The protection of these nationally or regionally significant habitats is important. (A Charter for Ashford's Wildlife, Kent Wildlife Trust, July 2004).

- Acid grassland - Significant acid grassland areas occur within a short distance of the current urban area. The most important areas acid grassland are at Hothfield Common, acid bog, mire and heath, and at Hatch Park. Both sites are SSSIs and account for 70% of the acid grassland in the Borough', (Nature Conservation Strategy, February 2006).
- Grazing marsh - 'The areas of calcareous grassland around Ashford are found on the section of the North Downs that cross the north east of the Borough, most notably over the steep scarp slopes of the Downs overlooking Wye and Crundale. The Wye and Crundale Downs SSSIs holds little over half the calcareous grassland occurring in the Borough', (Nature Conservation Strategy, February 2006). Other areas of grazing marsh remain within the Ashford floodplain, most significantly at South Willesborough Dykes.
- Heathland - 'Lowland heath is now very scarce. It is a national BAP priority habitat and a Habitats Directive Priority Habitat. In the Ashford Borough the last fragments of lowland heath remaining in Kent are in the Hothfield and Hatch Park SSSI', (Nature Conservation Strategy, February 2006).
- Neutral grassland - Some small areas of unimproved neutral grassland remain on low lying and seasonally flooded area within the floorplain of the Stour and its tributaries to the south and east of Ashford.
- Reedbed - There is potential to create new areas in association with flood risk management.
- Rivers - 'The only river in the Borough to be designated SSSI is the River Beult which starts at Hadman's Bridge, Smarden. It is of national importance as it is one of the few clay rivers in England, which retains a characteristic flora and fauna. The Great Stour and East Stour rivers converge in the centre of Ashford and with several tributaries are associated with large areas of flood plain in and around the town,' (Nature Conservation Strategy, February 2006).
- Standing open water - Small ponds are characteristic of the Low Weald landscape, and occur within the Stour floodplain.
- Woodland - A high proportion of the Borough's woodland is over 400 years old and classified as ancient woodland. Five woodland sites are SSSIs and many more are SNCIs, most notably are the Ham Street Woods SSSI and Orlestone Forest the largest SSSI in the Borough, (Nature Conservation Strategy, February 2006).

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<p><b>Flood Risk:</b> To reduce the risk and vulnerability of flooding and protect the capacity and integrity of flood storage areas</p>	<p>Ashford is located in the upper part of the Stour Catchment. Five main rivers run through the town and the underlying clay. Two detention reservoirs exist at Ruckinge and Whitewater.</p> <p>The Great Stour, rises on the permeable Lower Greensand and receives a greater proportion of its flow from chalk springs at the foot of the Downs. Average rainfall varies over the catchment and averages 750mm around the upper Stour, but is higher on the top of the North Downs upstream of Ashford.</p> <p>The River Stour, which flows through the middle of Ashford, suffers from low flows in the summer months, where large areas around the town, are prone to flooding.</p> <p>In 2006/07 The Environment Agency advised against developing on three sites within the Ashford Borough. None of these sites were granted planning permission.</p>
<p><b>Air:</b> To improve atmospheric integrity and air quality</p>	<p>There are no Air Quality Management Areas in the Ashford Borough.</p> <p>Ashford School Site (2004/05)</p> <p>PM10 Annual Mean 27ugm<sup>-3</sup> (29ugm<sup>-3</sup> 2003)</p> <p>Nitrogen Dioxide Annual Mean 25ugm<sup>-3</sup> (36ugm<sup>-3</sup> 2003/04)</p>
<p><b>Landscape:</b> Maintain and enhance the quality of Ashford's landscape</p>	<p>National designations in the Ashford Borough apply to two Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (the Kent Downs and High Weald), two National Nature Reserves (Hamstreet Woods and Wye Downs) and 13 Sites of Special Scientific Interest. In addition, there are 5 Special Landscape Areas within the Borough: North Downs, High Weald, Greensand Ridge, Low Weald and Old Romney Shoreline and 68 Sites of Nature Conservation Interest of County-wide importance, (<i>Ashford Borough Local Plan, 2000</i>).</p> <p>There are eight sites registered on the English Heritage register of Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest, these include Eastwell Park; Godington Park; Godmersham Park; Great Maytham Hall, Rolvenden Hatch Park, Nr. Ashford; Hole Park, Rolvenden; Olanthigh, Wye; Withersdene Hall gardens, Wye. There are 32 others identified by Ashford Borough Council as Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest at local level.</p> <p>The Kent Historic Landscape Characterisation is an assessment designed to enhance the current landscape characterisation of Kent and forms parts of English Heritages programme of assistance to Local Authorities in the production of Historic Landscape Character Assessments.</p> <p>There are 30 Scheduled Ancient Monuments listed as buildings that are considered by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport and English Heritage to be important enough to be worth protecting</p>

	<p>under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act (1979), including the Royal Military Canal (part F to N).</p> <p>There are 13 Sites of Special Scientific Interest in the borough of Ashford, totalling an estimated area of 1,335 hectares. These sites are designated as protected areas for their biological or geological interest. 33.6% of land designated as a SSSI within the Ashford Borough is found to be in favourable condition.</p> <p>Wye and Crundale Downs are internationally important area and designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC). These sites are one of the best areas in the UK of semi-natural dry grasslands and scrubland facies on calcareous substrates.</p>
<p><b>Climate Change:</b> To stabilise climate change through the reduction of emissions, and withstand the unavoidable consequences.</p>	<p>Domestic emissions per capita for Ashford (2004) - 2.6 tonnes Co2</p> <p>Total emissions per capita for Ashford (2004) - 9.4 tonnes Co2 (includes Industrial and Commercial, Road Transport, Land use Change and Forestry).</p> <p>Average annual domestic consumption of gas in kWh for Ashford (2004) - 18,992kWh</p> <p>Average annual domestic consumption of electricity in kWh for Ashford (2004) - 5,002kWh</p> <p>Daily domestic water use (per capita consumption, litres) for Ashford (2004) - 171 litres</p> <p><b>Co2 Emissions</b></p> <p>Carbon Dioxide contributed 85% of the UK's total greenhouse gas emissions in 2004, which have fallen by 5.6% between 1990 and 2004.</p> <p>Annual emissions of Co2 fell by 5.6% between 1990 and 2004.</p> <p>Ashford figures are: 2002/03 - 5.40%, 2003/04 - 3.43%, 2004/05 - 2.49%</p> <p><b>Recycling</b></p> <p>Ashford 2001/02 - 9.18%, 2002/03 - 12.42%, 2003/04 - 14.63%, 2004/05 - 14.42%</p> <p><b>Ashford's Carbon Footprint</b></p>

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	<p>Ashford's baseline ecological footprint today is 5.99gha per capita, it needs to have decreased by 47% by 2031 to meet 'One Planet' targets by 2050. In a best case scenario Ashford may decrease its footprint by 17% to 4.96gha per capita. Ashford's carbon footprint is 13.15 tonnes per capita, it needs to have decreased by 54% in 2031 to be in line with an 80% reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by 2050. In a best case scenario Ashford may decrease its footprint by 26% to 9.78 tonnes per capita. (<i>Ashford's Footprint - Now and in the Future, 2008</i>).</p>
<p><b>Water:</b> To protect and enhance of ground and surface waters and improve quality.</p>	<p><b>Water Quality</b></p> <p>Chemical water quality in Ashford: 2004 Good (16%), Fair (54%), Poor (29%) and Bad (0%).</p> <p>Biological Water Quality in Ashford: 2004 Good (87%), Fair (13%), Poor (0%) and Bad (0%).</p> <p>Phosphate Levels in Ashford: 2004 87% High</p> <p>Nitrate Levels in Ashford: 2004 64% High</p> <p><b>Groundwater Quality</b></p> <p>Nearly all Ashford's water supply is from the ground. Springs maintain the flow and quality of the Stour. The Ashford Water Cycle Strategy aims to Policy E2 aims to protect groundwater from over-abstraction and contamination through better land management and drainage, preventing high risk activities in vulnerable areas, and reduce the harmful pumping from groundwater.</p> <p>'The Environment Agency has identified two 'Source Protection Zones' in the north of Ashford that are currently covered by Groundwater Regulations. The Regulations give the Environment Agency powers to prohibit or control activities that could threaten groundwater quality; potential threats include 'development' and 'use of land', (<i>Integrated Water Management Study, August 2005</i>).</p> <p><b>Surface Water Quality</b></p> <p>'The River Ecosystem (RE) Classification Scheme takes account of European Directives such as the Freshwater Fish Directive and the Urban Waste Water treatment Directive. The River Ecosystem Class ranges from RE1 that is the highest quality to RE5 that is the lowest quality. The majority of the Great Stour and East Stour achieved an RE2 classification, downstream only achieved RE3 due to deterioration in water quality primarily as a result of the discharge from Bybrook WWTW', (<i>Integrated Water Management Study, August 2005</i>).</p>

	<p><b>Bybrook Wastewater Treatment Works</b> The Ashford sewer system delivers flows to Bybrook WWTW which is located on the south bank of the Great Stour on the north east edge of the town, immediately to the north east of the M20. Bybrook WWTW receives and treats flows with a population equivalent (PE) of 160,000, of which approximately 75,000 PE is industrial (mainly food processing) input. The maximum consented dry weather flow is 18,000 Ml/d, but there is general agreement between Southern Water Services and the Agency that this figure is now regularly exceeded (but not by how much).</p> <p>The current quality consent (all as 95 percentiles) is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Suspended solids 30/30 mg/l (summer/winter);</li> <li>○ BOD 15/20 mg/l;</li> <li>○ Ammonia 5 mg/l (summer only)</li> <li>○ Phosphorous 1 mg/l (rolling average) The WWTW generally achieves its quality consent', (<i>Integrated Water Management Study, August 2005</i>).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Places:</b> To promote thriving mixed-use development of a high design quality, with an appropriate 'sense of place'.</p>	<p>There are a number of high quality public facilities within the Borough including the Julie Rose Athletics Stadium, Tenterden Leisure Centre, Ashford Mini Soccer Centre, Indoor Bowls Centre, Ashford Mini Soccer Centre, Indoor Bowls Centre, the Skate and BMX Park and Courtside multi-use games facilities. Other strengths within the town include McArthur Glen retail outlet, AMF bowling alley, SK8Side Youth Facility, Swanton House BME centre, and a multiplex cinema. There are several quality green spaces also within the town including Victoria Park and North and South Park.</p> <p>There are also a number of visitor attractions throughout the Borough, the majority of them are run by the voluntary sector including the Kent and ex Railway, The Rear Breeds Centre at Woodchurch, Willesborough Windmill, Ashford and Tenterden Museums, and the Stour Valley Arts set in Kings Wood (<i>Ashford Cultural Strategy 2004-2011</i>).</p> <p>Amount of existing public recreation, sports, children's play, leisure, cultural, school and adult education, youth, health, public service and community facilities lost (unless satisfactory replacement facilities are provided) and gained as a result of new development. In 2006/07 there were 3 gains and 2 losses, which included the addition of an Environmental Centre, with visitor facilities, cafe, offices, multi-use (education) rooms, workshop and a classroom at Singleton. Two school sites also benefitted from development, including a new sports hall and new buildings. There was the loss of two disused allotment sites.</p>

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<p><b>Housing:</b> To ensure that everyone has access to a good quality sustainability constructed affordable home that meets their needs</p>	<p>In 2006/07 there were 100 affordable housing completions. This accounts for 28% of the total housing completions (359) in 2006/07. Target of 1,400 affordable housing dwellings for the period 2006-2011.</p> <p>House Prices (2006)</p> <p>Average price in the Ashford Borough £223,001</p> <p>Average weekly full-time earnings £423.90 in 2005</p> <p>In 2006/07 the number and location of planning permissions granted for dwelling sizes was: (r = rural, u = urban).</p> <p>1 bedrooms - 13 r, 96 u</p> <p>2 bedrooms - 66 r, 180 u</p> <p>3 bedrooms - 92 r, 123 u</p> <p>4 bedrooms - 45 r, 16 u</p> <p>&gt;4 bedrooms - 4 r, 1 u</p>
<p><b>Quality of Life:</b> To reduce the amount and fear of crime and anti-social behaviour and encourage healthy lifestyles.</p>	<p><b>Crime</b></p> <p>Number burglaries per 1,000 household (2001);</p> <p>Ashford 8.7%, South East 12.3%,</p> <p>Violent offences in a public place per 1,000 population (2001);</p> <p>Ashford 7.1%, South East 9.1%,</p> <p>Number of vehicle crimes per 1,000 population (2001)</p> <p>Ashford 8.8%, South East 13.5%</p> <p><b>Health</b></p> <p>(% of resident population in each classification of health group - April 2001)</p>

	<p>General Health: Good 70.2% Ashford; 71.5% South East</p> <p>General Health: Fairly Good 22.6% Ashford; 21.4% South East</p> <p>General Health: Not Good 7.2 Ashford; 7.1% South East</p> <p>People with a limiting long term illness: 16.1% Ashford, 15.5% South East</p> <p>People of working age with a long term illness: 11.8% Ashford, 10.6% South East</p> <p>Households with one or more people with a long term illness: 31.4% Ashford, 29.4% South East</p> <p><b>Quality of Life</b></p> <p>MORI Survey (2001)</p> <p>85% of residents rate their quality of life in the area as very good or fairly good</p> <p>85% of residents are very satisfied or fairly satisfied with their neighbourhood</p> <p>The most important factors in making somewhere a good place to live are: health services (38%), public safety/low crime levels (37%), the areas being free from vandalism/graffiti/damage to property (36%) and facilities for teenagers (31%).</p>
<p><b>Heritage:</b> Conserve and enhance sites of heritage and conservation importance</p>	<p>There are over 3,000 Listed Buildings within the Borough of Ashford and 43 Conservation Areas.</p>
<p><b>Access to Services:</b> To ensure that all groups of the population have access to the health, education, leisure and recreational services which are required in terms of provision and access, to reduce social exclusion.</p>	<p>Index of Multiple Deprivation 2004 Rankings (1=most deprived)</p> <p>National rank: 225 (out of 354 districts in England)</p> <p>Regional rank: 26 (out of 67 districts in the South East)</p> <p>County rank: (8 out of 12 districts in Kent (excluding Medway))</p> <p><b>Education and Skills</b></p>

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<p>Qualified Manpower Persons (2001)</p> <p>All people aged 16-74 ; 73,012 (100%)</p> <p>No qualification; 19,999 (27.4%)</p> <p>Highest qualifications: level 1; 14,082 (19.3%)</p> <p>Highest qualifications: level 2; 15,414 (21.1%)</p> <p>Highest qualifications: level 3; 5,609 (7.7%)</p> <p>Highest qualifications: level 4/5 12,458 (17.1%)</p> <p>Other qualifications/level unknown: 5,449 (7.5%)</p> <p><b>Social Class and Economic Position (2001)</b></p> <p>Large employers and high managerial occupations; 35,826 (100%)</p> <p>Higher professional occupations; 1,897 (5.3%)</p> <p>Lower managerial and professional occupations; 7,071 (19.7%)</p> <p>Intermediate occupations; 1,585 (4.4%)</p> <p>Small employers and own account workers; 4,752 (13.3%)</p> <p>Lower supervisory and technical occupations; 4,249 (11.9%)</p> <p>Semi-routine occupations; 2,755 (7.7%)</p> <p>Routine sales occupations; 3,713 (10.4%)</p> <p>Never worked; 412 (1.2%)</p> <p>Long term unemployed; 266 (0.7%)</p> <p>Full-time student; 1,886 (5.3%)</p>	
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	<p>Not classifiable for other reasons; 4,600 (12.8%)</p> <p>The 2006 Mid-Year Population Estimate for the Ashford Borough was 111,200. 5% of the population come from black and ethnic minority communities.</p> <p>Some local green spaces and walking routes are listed below:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Ashford Community woodland</li> <li>○ Ashford Green Corridor and Nature Reserve</li> <li>○ Cuckoo Woods</li> <li>○ Hamstreet Woods National Nature Reserve</li> <li>○ Hothfield Common</li> <li>○ Kent Downs</li> <li>○ King's Wood</li> <li>○ Parkwood Picnic Site</li> <li>○ The Warren· Wye National Nature Reserve</li> </ul> <p>The borough is well served for leisure facilities ranging from gyms and health clubs to pools and spas. The three leisure centres within the borough are The Stour Centre, Julie Rose Stadium and Tenterden Leisure Centre.</p> <p>There is one public hospital with the borough, the William Harvey Hospital is located in Ashford.</p>
<p><b>Land use:</b> To make the most efficient use of land and the use of previously development land and buildings and reduce Greenfield land use.</p>	<p>In 2006/07 there were 108 new and converted dwellings built on previously developed land, which is 30% of the 359 total net additional dwellings.</p> <p>Percentage of new dwellings completed at: (2006/07)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Less than 30 dwellings per hectare (13%)</li> <li>ii. Between 30 and 50 dwellings per hectare (68%)</li> <li>iii. Above 50 dwellings per hectare (19%)</li> </ul>
<p><b>Resources:</b> To encourage the use of local renewable resources and the provision</p>	<p>The following indicators will be monitored as part of the Sustainable Design and Construction SPD and will form part of the SA baseline once data becomes available.</p> <p>Percentage of new homes meeting the relevant Code for Sustainable Homes as set out in Policy CS10.</p>

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<p>of decentralised sustainable energy within the Borough</p>	<p>Percentage of new non-residential buildings meeting the appropriate BREEAM standard and credits as set out in Policy CS10.</p> <p>Reduction in average household water consumption (over existing consumption levels) in new developments.</p> <p>Percentage of Carbon Dioxide Emissions reduced from new developments (major) for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. CS3 Town Centre and CS4 Brownfield Urban Sites</li> <li>2. CS6 Urban Extensions and CS4 Greenfield Urban Sites</li> <li>3. CS6 Tenterden, the Villages and CS7 The Countryside</li> <li>4. Existing and refurbishment</li> </ol> <p>Renewable energy capacity installed within the Borough by type (MW) (2007) - Thermal heating: 4.6 kWth: Co2 Displaced: 0.65 tonnes / year (Appledore Solar Project).</p>
<p><b>Waste:</b> To deliver waste reduction, reuse, recycling and recovery over the disposal of waste.</p>	<p>Percentage of to tonnage of household waste arisings which have been recycled = 15.66% (2007).</p> <p>Percentage of tonnage of household waste arisings which have been sent for composting = 6.02% (2007).</p>
<p><b>Balance:</b> To reach a balance between employment and housing growth, with high and stable levels of income</p> <p><b>Employment:</b> To generate a significant number of new jobs in accessible locations in Ashford</p>	<p>Kent County Council data shows that in 2004, there were 29,000 economically active males and 24,100 females, giving a total of 53,100 economically active people within the Borough.</p> <p>According to the 2004 Annual Business Inquiry, the largest employment sector in Ashford is Distribution, Hotels and restaurants (29.4% of industries, compared with 24.9% in 1995). This is followed by Public Administration, Education and Health (24.9%, up from 23.7% in 1995); Banking, Finance and Insurance (15.0%, up from 14.9% in 1995); and Manufacturing (11.7%, down from 13.1% in 1995). The Primary Industries and Transport and Communications sectors has also shrunk between 1995 and 2004, whilst Construction grew from 2.8% to 6.5%.</p> <p>Employee job numbers 37,869 in 1996 have seen an increase of 20% over the last nine years to 47,300 employee jobs in 2005.</p> <p>Latest estimates have show that 2,700 additional jobs have been created between 2004 and 2005.</p>

	<p>Unemployment has been generally falling in Ashford for several years. In February 2008, unemployment was at 1.3% residential based, this is down substantially from a high of 7.7% in 1993.</p> <p>In 2004, 70.7% (3,493) of Ashford firms were very small operations (14 employees), followed by 14.6% with 5-10 people employed, and 48 companies (1%) employing 100 or more people.</p>									
<p><b>Vitality:</b> To maintain and enhance the vitality and viability of village and town centres.</p> <p><b>Variety:</b> To promote economic diversity, growth and self sufficiency</p>	<p>Amount of high quality agricultural land (Grade 1, 2 and 3) lost to development (ha). In 2006/07 the number of planning applications granted on agricultural land; Grade 1 (Major 0, Minor 2); Grade 2 (Major 6, Minor 28); Grade 3 (Major 31, Minor 170).</p> <p>Amount of existing tourism facilities lost (unless satisfactory replacement facilities are provided) and new tourism facilities gained as a result of new development. In 2006/07 there were 6 gains, this included the provision of a number of holiday lets, providing a further 11 bedrooms throughout the Borough. Plus the provision of leisure facilities and a new pool at one of Ashford's premier hotels. There were no losses.</p>									
<p><b>Travel:</b> To facilitate modal shift and improve access to green spaces.</p>	<p>Annual average peak hour traffic flow on principal roads = 52,213 (Ashford Cordon Survey 2006).</p> <p>Cycling in Ashford = 832 (2006).</p>									
<p><b>Transport:</b> reduce the proportion and length of journeys made by car, and promote more sustainable modes of transport (including public)</p>	<p>Amount of new residential development within 30 minutes public transport time of: a GP, a hospital, a primary school, a secondary school, areas of employment, and a major retail centre = 27.6% in 2006/07.</p> <p>Although the Borough does have a good selection of cycle routes Kent Highways have commissioned Sustrans to undertake a series of land negotiations in order to fill gaps in the Ashford cycle network (<a href="http://www.sustrans.org.uk">www.sustrans.org.uk</a>).</p> <p>There is approximately 1200km of Public Rights of Way in Ashford, which accounts for approximately 18% of the total network for Kent. In 2004/05 the percentage of total length of footpaths and other rights of way, which were easy to use by members of the public, was 66%, (KCC, Access Development Team).</p> <p>Distance travelled to work based on total population of Ashford in 2001 (48,872)</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="1197 268 1396 1736"> <thead> <tr> <th>Distance Travelled to work</th> <th>Numbers of people travelling from home to work</th> <th>% of how local population travelled to work</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Works mainly at or from home</td> <td>5541</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Less than 2km</td> <td>9998</td> <td>20.5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Distance Travelled to work	Numbers of people travelling from home to work	% of how local population travelled to work	Works mainly at or from home	5541	11	Less than 2km	9998	20.5
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Works mainly at or from home	5541	11								
Less than 2km	9998	20.5								

2km to less than 5km	9288	19
5km to less than 10km	4731	10
10km to less than 20km	5117	10.5
20km to less than 30km	3832	7.8
30km to less than 40km	2035	4
40km to less than 60km	1235	2.5
60km and over	4115	8.4
No fixed place of work	2813	6
Working outside the UK	147	0.3

(Source: UK National Statistics 2001 Census)

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## TASK A2 : Collecting Baseline Information

<b>Protection of the environment</b>	Kent Habitat Survey	GIS data + report	Kent County Council	2003
	Kent Biodiversity Action Plan	Report	Kent County Council	2001
	Kent Data Book	Report	Kent County Council	2000
	Ashford Landscape Character Study	Report + GIS Data	Ashford Borough Council	2005
	Landscape Assessment of Kent	Report + GIS	Kent	2005
	Ashford Rural Impacts Study	Report, mapping & GIS	Natural England	2006
	Integrated Water Management Study	Report & Mapping	Environment Agency	2005
	Indicative Flood Risk Mapping	GIS	Environment Agency	2004
	Stour Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy	Report & data	Environment Agency	2005
	Strategic Flood Risk Assessment	Report & data	Ashford Borough Council	2006
	River Stour Catchment Flood Management Plan (Draft)	Report & data	Environment Agency	2006
	PPS9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation	Government Report	ODPM	2005
	Kent Landscape Assessment (K-LIS)	Report + mapping	Kent County Council	2004
	PPS: Planning and Climate Change - Supplements to PPS1	Government Report	ODPM	2006
	Updating & Screening Assessment of Air Quality	Report	Ashford Borough Council	2003
	Local Air Quality Review and Assessment (Annual progress Report 2005) - <a href="http://www.kentair.org.uk">www.kentair.org.uk</a>	Report	Ashford Borough Council	2005
	Kent Downs AONB Management Plan	Report	Kent AONB	2004
High Weald AONB Management Plan	Report	High Weald AONB	2004	
Public Health Report	Data	Ashford Primary Care Trust	2004	
<b>Social Progress</b>				

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Ashford Annual Monitoring Report	Report and data	Ashford Borough Council	2006
Kent Housing Statistics	Report	Kent County Council	2001
Annual Skills Review (South East)	Skills Insight	Learning Skills Council	2003/4
Learning & Skills in Kent & Medway (Channel Corridor)	Report & Data	Kent & Medway Learning Skills Council	2002
OMAI Study - Community Infrastructure	Report + Data	Ashford Borough Council	2005
PPS3: Housing	Government Report	ODPM	2005
Housing Needs Survey	Data & Report	Ashford Borough Council	2005
Housing Background Document (Core Strategy)	Data & Report	Ashford Borough Council	2006
Gypsies and Travellers Accommodation Needs Assessment	Data & Report	Ashford Borough Council + partners	2006
National Monuments Record	Map + Data	English Heritage	
Rural Strategy	Report	Ashford Borough Council	2004
PPG15 - Historic Environment and Circular 01/07: Revisions to Principles of selection for Listed Buildings	Government Report	ODPM	1994
Ashford Cultural Strategy	Report	Ashford Borough Council	2006
Renewable Energy Kent	Data	Kent Energy Centre	
Renewable Energy Kent: Resources and Prospects	Data and Report	Kent County Council	2002
PPS22: Renewable Energy	Government Report	ODPM	2004
SEE-Stats- Renewable Energy Installations in the South East	Web interactive map + data	SEE - Stats	2006
UK Sustainable Development Indicators	Data & Report	Sustainable Development Commission	2006
UK Energy Brief	Data	Department for Trade & Industry	2006
Ashford Housing Capacity Study	GIS / Mapinfo	Ashford Borough Council	2005
<b>Prudent use of natural resources</b>			

## Task A2 Baseline information

		Data & Report	Kent County Council	2005
	Kent's Draft Municipal and Solid Waste Baseline Report	Government Report	Kent County Council	2005
	PPS10 - Planning for Sustainable Waste Management	Government Report	ODPM	2005
	Joint Waste Strategy for Kent	Report	Kent County Council	2002
	South East Regional Waste Management Statement	Report	SERTAB	2003
	Waste Statistics	Data	Kent Waste Forum	
	Building a Greener Future: Towards Zero Carbon Development	Government Report	CLG	2006
	Code for Sustainable Homes	Quality Assured Assessment	BRE	2008
	Ashford's Footprint: Now and in the Future	Report	Ashford's Future	2008
<b>Sustainable Economic Growth</b>	Kent Economic Report	Report	Kent County Council	2003
	Kent data bulletins	SP Monitoring Data	Kent County Council	
	Employment Land Monitoring Survey	Data	Kent County Council	2002
	PPS6: Planning for Town Centres	Government Report	ODPM	2004
	Kent & Medway Structure Plan	Report	Kent & Medway Council	2006
	Kent Economic Report	Report	Kent County Council	2003
	Ashford Urban Capacity Study	Report, GIS and data	Ashford Borough Council	2006
	Ashford Rural Settlements Housing Capacity Study	Report, GIS and data	Ashford Borough Council	2005
	Ashford Annual Monitoring Report	Report & Data	Ashford Borough Council	2006
	PPS7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas	Government Report	ODPM	2004
<b>Transport</b>	Kent and Medway Structure Plan	Regional Report	Kent County Council	2006
	Ashford Employment Land Review	Report	Ashford Borough Council	2008
	The Future of Transport - a network for (DfT)	Government Report	ODPM	2004
	Local Transport Plan for Kent 2006 - 2011	Report	Kent County Council	2005

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	Ashford Transport Strategy	Report	Ashford's Future	2006
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