

ENVIRONMENT

Appendix 6

MARKET TOWNS WORKSHEETS

ADVICE ON PREPARING A 'SNAPSHOT' AND COMPLETING THE WORKSHEETS

The market town healthcheck consists of questions that cover all aspects affecting peoples' quality of life in a market town and its surrounding countryside. It starts with a factual 'snapshot' of the market town and continues with worksheets covering the main topic areas: environment, economy, social and community issues, transport and accessibility. Full information about how to establish a community partnership, which is needed to carry out a healthcheck, is given in the Healthcheck Handbook.

'Snapshot' of the town and surrounding countryside

The purpose of this exercise is to provide a 'snapshot' of the town and surrounding countryside which will help answer the questions in the worksheets. Factual information about existing services and facilities will provide a background that can be balanced with the community's aspirations (which will emerge from the worksheets). The basic information can be obtained from published sources, reports and other studies compiled by the district council and other organizations. Advice on existing data sources and ways to carry out other surveys is given in the Data Sources and Survey Methods Directory. Additional guidance is given with each worksheet about methods and sources of information.

'SNAPSHOT'

This list will help to record the basic facts about the market town and surrounding countryside.

Make a note of the sources of information and add any additional comments and facts that are important. Where change over time is asked for, define a time period such as a year, except where another timescale is specified.

ENVIRONMENT Snapshot	Answer / summary of data
National Park	South Downs
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty	East Hants
Heritage Coast	n/a
Number of Conservation Areas	1 (Town Centre)
Number of RAMSAR sites (international bird conservation areas)	Nil
Number of special protection areas	Nil
Number of special areas of conservation	Nil
Number of National Nature Reserves	Nil
Number of Local Nature Reserves	1 (The Moors)
Number of Sites of Special Scientific Interest	2 (The Moors & Galleydown Copse)
Number of sites of importance for nature conservation	11

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Number of listed buildings/scheduled ancient monuments	125 & 2 – B W Palace & 2 Bowl Barrows north of Hoe Farm
Number of footpaths	46
Number of bridleways	6
Number of National Trails	Nil
Number of cycle-paths	Nil
Number of byways open to all traffic	1 (Pondside Line)

TRANSPORT AND ACCESSIBILITY snapshot	Answer / summary of data
Number of bus stations	Nil
Number of train stations	Nil
Number of coach parks	Nil
Percentage of households without a car	12.7% (Winch 15.7%) (England 26.8%)
Number of short-stay car parking spaces in the town	96 (Cap Park) +12 (High St), +88 (Roads) +56 (Budgens)
Number of long-stay car parking spaces in the town	63
Number of cycle paths	Nil
Journey times by car and public transport to nearest large town or city	Fareham – Car 25 minutes, Bus 31 minutes
Bus route services from villages to train stations	Winchester, Southampton, Eastleigh, Botley, Fareham, Portsmouth, Petersfield
Bus routes/services serving the town and surrounding countryside	Waltham Chase, Swanmore, Wickham, Colden Common, Fair Oak,
Number of disabled car parking spaces in the town	4 (Official spaces in car parks) 22 (excluding Ridgemedede, Rareridge etc)

Section 1.01 Answering the worksheets

The worksheets have been designed to act as a practical checklist which allows communities to express their views on the town and its surrounding countryside. They are intended to be as objective as possible and will reflect the extent of community aspirations, concerns and priorities. They are not meant to be prescriptive or onerous - they are merely guides to establishing information about the area. What is most important is that the evaluation of the worksheets reflects people's aspirations, concerns and priorities. The results should be drawn together in a vision for the market town and surrounding countryside and will form the basis for an action plan.

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The worksheets are individual sheets for each topic area. They can be distributed to individuals and groups in the community. They can be printed out and completed by hand. Or they can be completed and saved on computer; if you do this you will find it easier to adapt the worksheets to your needs and expand the answer boxes as much as is necessary. You should adapt the questions to local needs and can add your own questions to address your particular issues.

Basic information is likely to be available from published sources, reports and other studies. The district or unitary council may have already undertaken studies on one or more of the main issues, and may be able to provide assistance to working groups. In some instances, new surveys may be necessary. Advice on existing information and data sources, and on survey methods, ranging from traffic counts to townscape appraisals, is given in the Data Sources and Survey Methods Directory.

The overall emphasis, however, is on the community's aspirations for the town and its surrounding countryside. It is this which will help form the vision. It is important to secure a broad and representative understanding of the issues and concerns of the community as a whole.

The healthcheck is designed to join up economic, social and environmental matters and should not focus on one issue at the expense of others. The topics covered by the Worksheets are

Environment

- EN1 Character & vitality of the town
- EN2 The town & the wider countryside
- EN3 The environment & quality of Life

Transport and accessibility

- T1 Ease of travel to and from the local areas
- T2 Ease of access to services
- T3 Ease of movement around the town

Each worksheet has:

- A short definition of the task and an introduction to the task.
- Preliminary or "fact-finding" questions. The questions are written into a table that has three columns headed:
 - "starting points for information": this lists some sources from which you might get information to answer each question
 - "Information you need": this is where the questions are listed: some questions have cross-references to other worksheet topics
 - "Information: a blank column where the answers to the questions can be written

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- Concluding or analytical questions. The information you get by answering the preliminary questions will enable you to answer these "So what...?" questions. This section of the worksheet is where the implications of the answers to the preliminary questions get drawn out. It can also be used to help to start to make connections between the conclusions from different worksheets. The section is a table with 3 major headings:
 - "How well does the information show....?". In this column will be listed the key themes that the preliminary questions provide information about. As themes from one worksheet are likely to be common to others, it will be possible to use these shared themes to draw conclusions from the whole set of worksheets.
 - "Write your answers here, based on the information you have gathered". This column is where a summary of the answers to the questions can be written in.
 - "Conclusion". This section is split into 6 sub-headings: It's a fact; Strength; Weakness; Opportunity; Threat; More info needed. These columns only require ticking.

This technique will make it easy to complete a SWOT analysis based on the whole set of worksheets. It also flags up where the need to plug gaps in information can be written in to the Action Plan. Section 3 of the Healthcheck Handbook gives more information about SWOT analysis.

In summary, the process for getting answers to worksheet questions is:

1. Establish what information is available: each worksheet has suggestions about where to look
2. Work out where there are gaps in the information you need
3. Find out what are the sources that could fill the information gaps
4. Agree who will have responsibility for completing the worksheets

Set a timetable for completing the worksheets

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WORKSHEET EN1: CHARACTER AND VITALITY OF THE TOWN

Task: to find out what aspects of the town and its hinterland give it character and vitality, and to describe the quality of these features.

1: Introduction to the task

Most market towns and their surrounding countryside contain environmental and historic features that help give the town a special character. Some of these may be well managed and in good repair; others may be neglected or in poor repair. Your task should cover both the built and the natural environment. You should also consider what activities are being undertaken by local groups to improve the environment and try to build on these activities. In so doing:

- Use the Local Plan and/or Town Design Statement for existing information and plans
- Try to assess what is distinctive about the town's environment (both natural and built)
- Think to the future and consider any concerns about wider environmental issues which may affect the town

If there is not enough information available, you could carry out a survey of the town to fill the gaps. A map of the distinctive areas may be a useful way to get a full picture.

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2; Getting the following information will help you decide what is special about the environment of the area

Section 1.02 Sub-section 1: Description of the environmental features of the area																
Starting points for information	Information you will need	Answers and notes														
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps or aerial photographs • Local knowledge 	<p>Q 1 Where is the town situated within the local landscape?</p> <p><i>For example, is the town in a valley, in the open countryside, or alongside a river?</i></p>	At the edge of the South Downs (AONB) and the Hamble Valley														
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps or aerial photographs • Local survey 	<p>Q 2 What are the distinctive features that define the limits of the town?</p> <p>(a) For example, are there historic city walls or a river or bypass?</p> <p>(Worksheets S5 Q6 and S6 Q6 also refer to environmental features and local distinctiveness).</p>	None														
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local survey • District Council (ask for: Conservation Areas, Local Plan, Design Statement, Tree Preservation Orders) 	<p>Q 3 Landmarks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Where are the town's natural environmental landmarks? (for example, groups of trees, parkland, and nature areas) Are they protected or well maintained? <p>(Worksheets S5 Q6 and S6 Q6 also refer to environmental features and local distinctiveness).</p>	<table> <tbody> <tr> <td>1) North Pond & Surround,</td> <td>Prot – No, Mnt – Not good</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2) South Pond & Surround</td> <td>Prot – No, Mnt - Good</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3) The Moors Nature Reserve</td> <td>Prot – Yes, Mnt – Not Good</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4) Claylands Nature Reserve</td> <td>Prot – Yes, Mnt – Not Good</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5) Galley Down</td> <td>Prot - Yes, Mnt - Good</td> </tr> <tr> <td>6) Runneydown Copse</td> <td>Prot - Yes, Mnt – Good</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7) Dundridge Meadow</td> <td>Prot – Yes, Mnt - Good</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	1) North Pond & Surround,	Prot – No, Mnt – Not good	2) South Pond & Surround	Prot – No, Mnt - Good	3) The Moors Nature Reserve	Prot – Yes, Mnt – Not Good	4) Claylands Nature Reserve	Prot – Yes, Mnt – Not Good	5) Galley Down	Prot - Yes, Mnt - Good	6) Runneydown Copse	Prot - Yes, Mnt – Good	7) Dundridge Meadow	Prot – Yes, Mnt - Good
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6) Runneydown Copse	Prot - Yes, Mnt – Good															
7) Dundridge Meadow	Prot – Yes, Mnt - Good															

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Starting points for information	Information you will need	Answers and notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Wildlife Trust • Local Biodiversity Action Plan 	<p>Q 4 Biodiversity:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What areas are important for local biodiversity? b. What measures are in place to protect or enhance them? <p><i>Consider, for example, bats, great crested newts, badgers, rare plants, insects or birds on the red list, or specific habitats.</i></p>	<p>Bishop's Waltham Palace grounds North Pond & Surround, South Pond & Surround The Moors Nature Reserve Claylands Nature Reserve Galley Down Runneydown Copse Dundridge Meadow Bats, Great Crested Newts, Badgers</p> <p>Seek to protect areas from development and to encourage / improve through environment friendly policies.</p>

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Sub-section 2: Built features of the town		
Starting points for information	Information you will need	Answers and notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps • Aerial photographs • Local knowledge 	<p>Q 5</p> <p>What is the shape and density of the town (that is, are buildings clustered together, dispersed or a mixture)?</p> <p>(Worksheets EC6 Q1; EC7 Q18; S2, S3 Q11; S5 Q8 and S6 Q1& 3 also refer to the built environment).</p>	<p>Centre – Conservation Area, North – Newtown etc – generally older housing estates, South – generally more recent housing estates</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Council (ask for: Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, Local Plans) • Town Design Statement • Local history group • Tourist Information Office 	<p>Q 6</p> <p>Where are the town's distinctive built landmarks and conservation areas, and are they in good condition?</p> <p>(Worksheet S6 Q6 also refers to local distinctiveness. Worksheets EC6 Q1; EC7 Q18; S2, S3 Q11; S5 Q8 and S6 Q1& 3 also refer to the built environment).</p>	<p>The Palace - House & Ruins - Good</p> <p>St Peters Church - Good</p> <p>Chase Mill – Good</p> <p>The Crown Public House – Moderate</p> <p>Chase Mill – Good</p> <p>The Town Centre – Good</p> <p>The Park Lug - Variable</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Council 	<p>Q 7</p> <p>Development:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. What are the areas where there are rundown or derelict buildings needing repair or restoration? b. What plans are there to revitalise or redevelop these areas/buildings? <p>(Worksheets EC6 Q1; EC7 Q18; S2, S3 Q11; S5 Q8 and S6 Q1& 3 also refer to the built environment. Worksheets EC6 Q1,8,9; S2; S5 Q10 and T1 Q3 also refer to development)</p>	<p>Toll Gate House – No plans</p> <p>Vines (Kebab) Site – Awaiting redevelopment</p> <p>West Hoe Barns – Planning refused</p> <p>Malt Lane Site – Awaiting redevelopment</p> <p>Church Hall – Planning approved</p> <p>Abbey Mill Site – Awaiting Development</p>

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Starting points for information	Information you will need	Answers and notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District Council (ask for Local Plan proposal map) 	<p>Q 8 What is the range of uses of buildings in the town?</p> <p><i>Are they, for example, for shopping, for housing, or used to provide employment?</i></p> <p><i>(Worksheets EC6 Q1; EC7 Q18; S2, S3 Q11; S5 Q8 and S6 Q1& 3 also refer to the built environment)</i></p>	<p>Town Centre Retail Shopping, Housing, Banks, Office Employment, Restaurants, Surgery, Retail Storage, Betting.</p> <p>Surrounding Built Up Areas Primarily residential + 2 schools (Junior & Infant) + 1 Industrial site (Claylands)</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local survey Town Design Statements 	<p>Q 9 Are the main routes into the town, including those from train and bus stations, attractive and in good condition?</p>	<p>The roads are within an attractive landscape but are poorly maintained</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local survey Town Design Statements 	<p>Q 10 Are the main pedestrian routes between car parks and the town centre attractive, well maintained, well lit, and safe to use (for example, with security CCTV cameras in use) both day and night?</p> <p><i>(Worksheets EC7 Q13,14 and T1;T2 & T3 also refer to pedestrian access)</i></p>	<p>The Town Centre car park is not attractive (The Social Club & Wheelie Bins detract) The alleys are attractive, well maintained and lit. Lower Lane car park is not attractive (Tarmac & Walls) but roads to town centre are lit though not well maintained.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local survey District Council Town Design Statements 	<p>Q 11 Are street fitting and fixtures in the town well located and in good condition?</p> <p><i>Look, for example, for cracked pavements, vandalized phone boxes, graffiti-covered walls, and overflowing or insufficient waste bins.</i></p> <p><i>(Worksheets EC6 Q1; EC7 Q18; S2, S3 Q11; S5 Q8 and S6 Q1& 3 also refer to the built environment. Worksheets EC7 Q10,17,18; S3 Q7,11 also refer to environmental quality)</i></p>	<p>In general, they are good. Pavements outside town centre are in poor condition and sometimes dangerous, sometimes there is no pedestrian path. Hoe Road telephone boxes vandalised. Surplus wheelie bins outside some properties, especially in town centre. Crown Roundabout requires repair work in places.</p>

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Starting points for information	Information you will need	Answers and notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local survey • Town Design Statements 	<p>Q 12 Which areas of the town are over-cluttered with signs, street furniture, advertising hoardings, etc?</p> <p>(Worksheets EC6 Q1; EC7 Q18; S2, S3 Q11; S5 Q8 and S6 Q1& 3 also refer to the built environment. WorksheetsEC7 Q10,17,18; S3 Q7,11 also refer to environmental quality)</p>	<p>Estate Agent signs left in place too long. Advertising “A” Boards obstructing walkways in town centre. Fly posting on fence in car park is unsightly</p>

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Sub-section 3: Environmental issues for the town		
Starting points for information	Information you will need	Answers and notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local survey District Council (ask for Local Plan and Town Design Statements) 	<p>Q 13</p> <p>The town's environment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What are the environmental issues facing the town? What plans are there to deal with them? <p><i>Look, for example, at flooding, air and noise pollution, etc.</i></p> <p>(Worksheets EC7 Q10,17,18; S3 Q7,11 also refer to environmental quality)</p>	<p>a) Flooding at bottom of Victoria Road off Winchester Road. Noise pollution from aeroplanes using Southampton Airport and Upham Airfield overhead.</p> <p>b) None known</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local survey District Council (ask for Local Plan and Town Design Statements)- 	<p>Q 14</p> <p>Brown field land:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What brown field land is available for building? Is this available land being considered in planning decisions? <p>(Worksheets EC7 Q10, 17,18; S3 Q7,11 also refer to environmental quality. Worksheets EC6 Q1,8,9; S2; S5 Q10 and T1 Q3 also refer to development)</p>	<p>a) Large Gardens, Garage sites. (See WCC's Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment for more details)</p> <p>b) Abbey Mill, Vines site, Malt Lane site, Lower Lane Council Depot</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District Council conservation officer Town Design Statement 	<p>Q 15</p> <p>What townscape or heritage initiatives are there?</p> <p><i>Examples may include: Historic Economic Regeneration Scheme, Local Heritage Initiatives, and Conservation Areas.</i></p> <p>(Worksheets EC6 Q1; EC7 Q18; S2, S3 Q11; S5 Q8 and S6 Q1& 3 also refer to the built environment)</p>	<p>Conservation Area – Town Centre</p> <p>There was a benefit from an HCC "Country Towns Initiative" improving the Town Centre & making it safer for pedestrians</p>

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3: This part is called a SWOT analysis, where you identify Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats. Once you have the information, use this table to show the Strengths and Weaknesses in the environmental character and condition of the area. Also flag up where there are Opportunities to improve things or where there might be Threats in the future. The conclusions give the basis for a summary that can go forward to the Healthcheck Report.

You need to consider what the information you have gathered tells you in the light of these questions:	Write your answers here. Base them on the information you have gathered:	Conclusion					
		It's a Fact	Strength	Weakness	Opportunity	Threat	Need more info
Does the town make the most of its natural environmental features? If there are opportunities for improvements to areas, what/where are they?	In general, yes, although there are some weaknesses such as the North Pond and its environment.		√	√	√		√
Does the town have vitality and character, and does it keep its distinctive buildings and streets in good repair and in use? If not, what could be improved?	Yes it does. The buildings are well looked after but the roads, and especially the pavements, are in very poor condition.		√	√	√		
Are there any major environmental concerns being addressed and planned for? Are there any gaps?	No plans known. Roadside litter, especially outside the town centre is bad, as is bin emptying.			√	√		√

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WORKSHEET EN2: THE TOWN & THE WIDER COUNTRYSIDE

Task: to record the quality of the town's surrounding countryside, how it is changing and the links it has with the town

1: Introduction to the task

Market towns and their surrounding countryside are linked both visually and physically. Most of the practical links between the town and its surrounding countryside (hinterland) are based on the town's traditional role as marketplace, shopping centre and the source of necessary local services for those living in the area. It is important for market towns to appreciate the changes happening in the countryside and to be able to adjust their services and facilities to meet changing needs. During this task try to:

- Identify the important present and past features that link the residents of town and countryside residents and their what they do for a living
- Assess the impact of management practices on the quality of the countryside
- Where appropriate make links to Worksheet T2: Accessibility of services

If your County Council has not already carried out a landscape assessment of the surrounding countryside, you could map your own findings to help people understand the character of the surrounding countryside.

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2: Getting the following information will help you define the environmental links between the town and countryside

Sub-section 1: Links between town and countryside		
Starting points for information	Information you will need	Answers and notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maps or aerial photographs • Local survey 	<p>Q 1 What is the location and impact of any natural or man-made features such as rivers, canals, roads or railway lines that physically or visually link the town and country?</p> <p>(Worksheets EC6 Q1; EC7 Q18; S2, S3 Q11; S5 Q8 and S6 Q1& 3 also refer to the built environment. Worksheets S5 Q6; S6 Q5 also refer to environmental features)</p>	<p>Road links only – B2177 – Wickham to Winchester B3035 – Botley to Corhampton</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local survey 	<p>Q 2 Are there unique design elements found in both the town and the surrounding countryside?</p> <p><i>Look, for example, at distinctive local house types, local architectural detailing and use of local materials.</i></p> <p>(Worksheets EC6 Q1; EC7 Q18; S2, S3 Q11; S5 Q8 and S6 Q1& 3 also refer to the built environment. Worksheet S6 Q5 also refers to local distinctiveness)</p>	<p>Medieval Market Town – Town Centre listed buildings</p> <p>Newtown – Victorian housing</p> <p>There are many examples of the late Victorian / Edwardian housing using local bricks and tiles from Claylands</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local survey • Local Tourist Board • Maps 	<p>Q 3 What are the memorable views either from the town to the countryside or from the countryside to the town, and where can they be seen from?</p> <p>(Worksheet S6 Q5 also refers to local distinctiveness)</p>	<p>From Botley approach looking North From South Downs ridge From St Peters Church tower From paths to north of Town</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local knowledge Local History Group Local Tourist Board Library 	<p>Q 4 What historic commercial links such as market halls, a corn exchange, mills, wharves, market squares between the town and country are still evident?</p> <p>(Worksheets EC6 Q1; EC7 Q18; S2, S3 Q11; S5 Q8 and S6 Q1&3 also refer to the built environment. Worksheet S6 Q5 also refers to local distinctiveness)</p>	<p>Market Square, Gunners Bank building, Chase Mill, Abbey Mill, The Crown.</p>
<p>Local survey</p>	<p>Q 5 Does the character of the surrounding countryside become less distinct the closer it gets to the town edge?</p> <p>(Worksheets S5 Q6; S6 Q5 also refer to environmental features. Worksheet S6 Q5 also refers to local distinctiveness)</p>	<p>No – Chalk Downs land to North East, Small woodlands & hedgerows</p>

Sub-section 2: Countryside landscape character		
Starting points for information	Information you will need	Answers and notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County Council (ask for landscape character assessment) 	<p>Q 6 What are the unique characteristics of the local countryside?</p> <p><i>Look, for example, at farmed land, heath or moor land, open, small fields with hedgerows or dry stone walls, and traditional settlements.</i></p> <p>(Worksheets S5 Q6; S6 Q5 also refer to environmental features. Worksheet S6 Q5 also refers to local distinctiveness)</p>	<p>Clay Plain with an enclosure landscape</p>

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Starting points for information	Information you will need	Answers and notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District Council (ask for Local Plan) County Council English Nature Local Wildlife Trust 	<p>Q 7 What areas are covered by national, regional or local landscape, conservation or wildlife designations such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Parks Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) RAMSAR Special Protection Areas Special Areas of Conservation National Nature Reserves (NNR) Local Nature Reserves (LNR) Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation <p>(Worksheet EC7 Q10,17,18; S3 Q7,11 also refer to environmental quality)</p>	<p>South Downs</p> <p>East Hants</p> <p>The Moors The Moors, Galleydown Copse 11 in total</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District Council (ask for: Local Plans, Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, archaeologically important areas, Historic Parks and Gardens) English Heritage 	<p>Q 8 Areas of historic importance:</p> <p>a. What areas of historic importance have concentrations of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Listed Buildings Conservation Areas historic parkland Scheduled Ancient Monuments (SAM) Areas of Archaeological Importance <p>b. What other areas of historic importance are there?</p> <p>(Worksheets EC6 Q1; EC7 Q18; S2, S3 Q11; S5 Q8 and S6 Q1& 3 also refer to the built environment. Worksheets S5 Q6; S6 Q5 also refer to environmental features)</p>	<p>Numerous The central core of the Town. Park Lug and Palace Grounds Palace Ruins & 2 Barrows All</p> <p>Railway Path, Claylands</p>

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Sub-section 3: Countryside landscape quality, use & management		
Starting points for information	Information you will need	Answers and notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> County Council Dept for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA). (Ask regional office) 	<p>Q 9 Land:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What are the proportions of agricultural land at Grade 1, 2 or 3a? Where are they? 	???
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DEFRA for current schemes) Environment Agency County Council 	<p>Q 10 What areas of the countryside are being managed through national agri-environment schemes? Current schemes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Countryside Stewardship Scheme Environmentally Sensitive Areas Nitrate Sensitive Areas Habitat Scheme Moor land Scheme Organic Aid Scheme Countryside Access Scheme <p>(Worksheet EC7 Q10,17,18; S3 Q7,11 also refer to environmental quality)</p>	???
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internet (local community network) Library Local Wildlife Trust British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) 	<p>Q 11 Groups:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> How do community and voluntary groups participate in the management of the local countryside? How do they contribute to the towns and surrounding countryside's conservation? <p>(Worksheets EC2 Q5; EC3 Q10; S4; S6 also refer to community involvement)</p>	Hampshire Conservation Volunteers, BTCV, Woodland Trust, Friends of Waltham's Wildlife Hampshire Wildlife Trust

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Starting points for information	Information you will need	Answers and notes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Business directory Local knowledge 	<p>Q 12 Is there a horticulture or market gardening industry on the outskirts of the town which supplies the town markets? <i>If yes, identify proportionally how much they do supply.</i></p> <p>(Worksheets EC2 Q2,3; EC5; also refer to land-based industries)</p>	<p>No</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soil Association (look at organic farmers and growers) Linking Environment and Farming (LEAF) 	<p>Q 13 How many local agricultural or horticultural produce businesses are certified organic producers or members of other environmental standards schemes?</p> <p>(Worksheets EC2 Q2,3; EC5; also refer to land-based industries. Worksheets EC7 Q12; S5 Q9 also refer to food)</p>	<p>None known</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> District Council Local Plan 	<p>Q 14 Changes: Are there plans for future major change on the urban edge? What are they and when are they planned for? What landscape impacts might they to have?</p> <p>Look, for example, at community forest land, etc.</p>	<p>SRD Plan</p> <p>LDF Proposals</p> <p>Possibly more Greenfield development on the urban edge</p>

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3: This part is called a SWOT analysis, where you identify Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats. Once you have the information, use this table to show the Strengths and Weaknesses in the links between town and countryside, the landscape character and features around the town. Also flag up where there are Opportunities to improve things or where there might be Threats in the future. The conclusions give the basis for a summary that can go forward to the Healthcheck Report.

You need to consider what the information you have gathered tells you in the light of these questions:	Write your answers here. Base them on the information you have gathered:	Conclusion					
		It's a Fact	Strength	Weakness	Opportunity	Threat	Need more info
Do the town and its surrounding countryside have established, strong links, and are these being maintained? If the links are weaker than they used to be, why is this?	Beeches Hill, Hangers, Dean weak. Commuter town scenario. Horsiculture.			√	√		
Looking at the quality of the surrounding countryside, its sensitive areas and its potential, are any areas in need of support/strengthening?	Protection required for land at the south of the town and local gaps must be maintained					√	√
What are the changes that are happening in the surrounding countryside and how well these are being managed? How can the market town help with these changes to management practices?	Change from farming to Horsiculture					√	
What potential is there to increase the extent of community involvement in the management and conservation of the countryside?	Encouragement to voluntary groups / working parties re clear frontages / streets/ countryside. "Educate the children to educate their parents."				√	√	

ENVIRONMENT

WORKSHEET EN3: THE ENVIRONMENT AND QUALITY OF LIFE

Task: to establish the effects of the quality of the town's and countryside's environment on the quality of life.

1: Introduction to the task

The way people live and work has an impact on the quality of the environment. Many people now want to “do their bit for the environment”, particularly in their own local area. This task will help you to consider:

- *How and where residents can use or support environmentally friendly initiatives*
- *How and where community members interact with their environment for leisure and recreation*
- *Where appropriate make links to Worksheets*
 - *T2: Accessibility of services*
 - *S5: Sport, Leisure and Open Spaces*
 - *T3: Ease of Movement around the Town*

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2: Getting the following information will help you review how environmental quality could be enhanced to improve peoples' quality of life

Sub-section 1: Environmental sustainability		
Starting points for information	Information you need	Information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Council • Local community group • Charity schemes 	<p>Q 1 What opportunities are there for people to understand and become active in reducing or managing waste? Include sustainable waste management such as collection points, facilities and support offered, and consider local schemes to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recycle • re-use • produce bio-gas energy • compost organic waste <p>(Worksheets EC2 Q5; EC3 Q10; S4; S6 also refer to community involvement)</p>	<p>Use of Claylands Road Recycling centre and recycle bins with a fortnightly collection. The Recycling centre is at capacity for much of the time</p> <p>Bottle and clothes banks in the central car park and the Jubilee Hall car park.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Authority 	<p>Q 2 How are energy conservation methods and local renewable energy sources used within the town and the surrounding countryside?</p>	<p>Solar Panels on private housing only Insulation advice available from WCC</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Authority 	<p>Q 3 Low carbon initiatives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What initiatives are in operation for the town to become a low carbon area? How are these initiatives contributing to improved air quality, health and creation of employment opportunities? 	<p>None known</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Authority Planning Dept Local builders 	<p>Q 4 What use is being made of sustainable building materials for new buildings within the town?</p> <p>(Worksheets EC6 Q1; EC7 Q18; S2, S3 Q11; S5 Q8 and S6 Q1& 3 also refer to the built environment)</p>	<p>Mapledean are the only large builders known for consistently showing a concern for blending in with any surrounding buildings.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local survey 	<p>Q 5 Where goods and products from the local countryside are produced, how many of them carry a local Environmental Quality Mark (EQM)?</p> <p>(Worksheets EC7 Q10, 17, 18; S3 Q7, 11 also refer to environmental quality. Worksheets EC2 Q2, 3; EC5; also refer to land-based industries. Worksheets EC7 Q12; S5 Q9 also refer to food)</p>	<p>None known</p>

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Sub-section 2: Quality of life through leisure and recreation		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Authority 	<p>Q 6 Do community open spaces, sites and facilities currently available for informal recreation and amenity meet the needs of the local people?</p> <p>(Worksheets EC7 Q10, 17, 18; S3 Q7, 11 also refer to environmental quality. Worksheet S5 refers to open space. Worksheets EC7 Q13; S5; S6; T3 Q17 also refer to recreation & leisure)</p>	<p>Open space is sufficient but there may be demands for additional facilities to cater for “minority” sports, Netball, Rugby, Basketball etc.</p> <p>Also for a “Park” with flower beds for walking/sitting.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local Authority Local survey Tourist or Visitor Information Centre 	<p>Q 7 What recreation routes for walking and cycling are available to local people?</p> <p>(i) (Worksheet EC7 Q13,14;T1 Q5; T2 Q6; T3 also refer to pedestrian access ; Worksheets EC7 Q13; S5; S6; T3 Q17 also refer to recreation & leisure)</p>	<p>46 Footpaths and 6 Bridleways but no Cycle Routes</p> <p>1 Boat</p>

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3: This part is called a SWOT analysis, where you identify Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats. Once you have the information, use this table to show the Strengths and Weaknesses in the ways that contribute to a better environment for all. Also flag up where there are Opportunities to improve things or where there might be Threats in the future. The conclusions give the basis for a summary that can go forward to the Healthcheck Report.

You need to consider what the information you have gathered tells you in the light of these questions:	Write your answers here. Base them on the information you have gathered:	Conclusion					
		It's a Fact	Strength	Weakness	Opportunity	Threat	Need more info
To what extent do people fully consider promoting and supporting environmentally sustainable initiatives? Are there any gaps or opportunities to extend these actions?	An improvement to consideration is currently being seen. Education through the "Community Champions", Junior School re-cycling scheme. B W I B, B W Society.		√		√		
What improvements could be made in amenities such as open spaces, sites, routes and facilities for informal recreation that enhance the quality of life for local people be made? Are there any potential open spaces or sites that could be developed?	Circular walks around the town, cycle routes, extend Railway path. Provide a botanic park. Public seating.		√		√		