

# HARROW'S GREEN BELT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Appendix 1

## DRAFT CONSULTATION REPORT

### 1.0 INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Harrow's Green Belt

Harrow's Green Belt covers around 11 square kilometres (1088 hectares), equivalent to eight Hyde Parks and about one fifth of the Borough's total area. Located at the northern end of the Borough, the Green Belt countryside separates Harrow from the Hertfordshire towns. It also provides an important topographical landmark on the outer edge of the London Basin, with the ridge landform affording views to and from the Surrey Hills and the North Downs. The Green Belt area is bordered by Harrow's urban area to the South, Hertfordshire to the North West, Hillingdon to the West, and Barnet to the North East.

The benefits of the Green Belt include opportunities for recreation, sports, education, food production, and biodiversity. The Green Belt also provides links to the wider countryside, a gathering ground for water supplies, and a 'green lung', which contributes to improved air quality and helps to combat climate change.

As with many areas at London's urban fringe, however, Harrow's Green Belt has and continues to face a variety of pressures. These include: redevelopment or 'major developed sites'; road and rail development; the legacy of mineral extraction and waste disposal; agricultural decline; and incremental development and land use change.

#### 1.2 Green Belt Management Strategy

In 2004 Harrow Council commissioned Land Use Consultants to produce a Green Belt Management Strategy (GBMS). The Strategy's overall aims are to:

- Provide a framework to guide Harrow's future decisions on the use and management of the area
- Meet the recreational needs of Harrow's residents and visitors
- Make Harrow a more attractive place in which to live and work, and for visitors and wildlife.

The production of the strategy involved researching a number of topics pertinent to the Green Belt. This took the form of primary surveys, in the case of landscape and ecology, and background research, in the case of history and policy context of the site. A two-stage consultation process was also adopted to engage with the local community. The first stage involved a questionnaire, which aimed to gather further information on the Green Belt and find out what the public's aspirations are for the area. The second stage used two public exhibitions to inform the residents of Harrow about the benefits of their Green Belt, to obtain feedback on options for its future management, and to gain the wider public's opinions on draft management proposals and improvements.

## **2.0 CONTEXT AND KEY ISSUES**

### **2.1 Current Uses and Management Arrangements**

Although predominately open land Harrow's Green Belt is a multi functional area with a diversity of land uses.

Agriculture represents the most common land use in the study area covering 41%, two-thirds of which is tenanted land owned by the council. The second most common use of land is residential, covering 14% of the study area. The remaining areas of the Green Belt include open space, playing fields, cemeteries etc

### **2.2 Demography of Harrow**

Harrow's population has been steadily growing since the mid-1990's, with projections indicating that the population will continue to rise.

More than one third of the borough is made up of minority ethnic groups and these are mainly concentrated in the south of Harrow. The Green Belt Management Strategy should take account of the ethnic diversity of Harrow's population, including opportunities for culturally inclusive events.

### **2.3 Policy Context**

A number of policy documents relate to Harrow's Green Belt. These include examples of national, regional and local policy, relating to the countryside, nature conservation and open space, but perhaps most important of these is PPG2 which deals with Green Belts.

The key national policy on Green Belts (PPG 2) indicates that the principal purposes of Green Belts relate to preventing sprawl.

In addition to the formal purposes, PPG 2 indicates that land designated as Green Belt also has a role to play meeting a number of positive objectives including:

- *Providing opportunities for access to the open countryside for the urban population*
- *Providing opportunities for outdoor sport and outdoor recreation near urban*
- *Retaining attractive landscapes, and enhancing landscapes, near to where people live*
- *Securing nature conservation interest*
- *Retaining land in agricultural, forestry and related use.*

Both the London Plan and the Harrow Unitary Development Plan (UDP) reiterate PPG 2's policies. The London Plan emphasizes that where areas of the London Green Belt are declining or poor in quality, steps should be taken to improve these areas through reviewing the requirements of the area and identifying actions that will facilitate improvement. Similarly, Harrow's UDP notes that the Green Belt will remain '*primarily open in character and free from building development*' whilst highlighting the importance of maintaining the rural character of the Green Belt, and cites outdoor recreation as a key purpose of the Green Belt.

In addition to various strategic documents, Harrow Council has produced a number of locally strategic documents, which aim to provide a strategic approach to community development in the borough. Current strategies include the Harrow Community Strategy (2004), the Harrow Cultural Strategy (2003-2008) and the New Harrow Project (2002).

The Harrow Cultural Strategy (2003 – 2008) was developed by the Harrow Partnership and Harrow Council. The overall objectives of the strategy are to:

- Help improve the quality of life
- Promote the conditions for a culturally inclusive Harrow
- Stimulate the cultural economy and its contribution to making Harrow a vibrant and exciting place

- Promote Harrow's cultural assets – people, buildings, spaces and achievements

The Cultural Strategy promotes the following specific initiatives that are relevant to the Green Belt Management Strategy:

- Leisure facilities in parks
- Art in public places

The GBMS can help meet a number of the objectives of all three documents by improving education, improving open spaces, protecting biodiversity and promoting ecologically-friendly policies, promoting Harrow's cultural assets and improving the accessibility of Harrow's recreation resource, which in turn aids the general health and well-being of the borough.

## 2.4 Historical Overview

The study area contains a wealth of heritage interest including historic sites, buildings and landscapes. These

- Seven Scheduled Ancient Monuments (e.g. Grim's Ditch)
- Five Conservation Areas
- Two landscapes recorded on the English Heritage Register of Historic Parks and Gardens (e.g. Bentley Priory Open Space) Inventory.

The influence of human history upon the built and natural environment, and landscape of the study area, provides opportunities for management and interpretation of these heritage features. Effective interpretation of this heritage interest could attract visitors to the area, as well as enhancing local heritage awareness and sense of place.

## 2.5 Landscape Character Assessment

Landscape Character Assessment (LCA) is used to identify key landscape features of importance and to help suggest management objectives. Landscape character types (generic areas of common character) were identified through consideration of the physical and cultural influences affecting the study area. This revealed six landscape character types, which were then sub-divided into individual landscape character areas. The main issues arising from the Landscape Character Assessment in terms of the natural and built environment are outlined below.

### **2.5.1 Natural Environment**

- A lack of traditional management and an increase in invasive non-native species has adversely affected the condition of the study area's woodlands.
- Areas of common land, especially around the edges, are under-managed and degraded.

- Ponds are in a declining condition and lacking in wetland vegetation.
- Most heathland has been lost.
- Semi-improved and unimproved grassland suffers in places from inappropriate management.
- Lack of public access and poor visual amenity in many areas, particularly woodland and agricultural landscapes.
- Hedgerows are in a declining condition.

### **2.5.2 Built Environment**

- Derelict, neglected and temporary buildings detract from the quality of the landscape.
- Various roads dissecting the study area interrupt the tranquility of the site.
- Lack of security has resulted in graffiti and vandalism of parkland and street-scene furniture e.g. benches, bus stops etc.
- Poor signage makes the extent of public footpaths unclear.
- The poor condition of some of the fence boundaries and gateways across the area lowers the quality of the landscape
- Suburban influence as a result of ornamental planting around properties
- Visibility of industrial and other urban structures detracts from the rural qualities of the area.

## **2.6 Biodiversity Assessment**

The main areas of importance in the study area include the biological SSSI at Bentley Priory Open Space, several Sites of Nature Conservation Interest, and the eight sites of ancient woodland. In addition to these habitats the Green Belt provides a number of other habitats and sites important to nature conservation. The assessment highlighted a number of key issues that will need to be addressed by the GBMS. These are listed below:

- **Bentley Priory Open Space SSSI condition-** At present this SSSI is in an unfavourable condition because the unimproved and semi-improved

grasslands on the site are being under managed. It is the council's responsibility, under the CROW Act 2000, to bring the site into a favourable condition by 2010. It would be good to look at implementing appropriate management as soon as possible to meet this goal and maintain this habitat.

- **UKBAP Habitats-** A number of UKBAP habitats exist in small amounts on the Harrow Green Belt. These habitats ideally should be conserved and enhanced into the surrounding areas to increase the study area's biodiversity value.

- **Ancient Woodland-** The Green Belt contains eight sites of ancient woodland. These need to be brought into good woodland management to maintain their biodiversity. Both Cloisters Wood and Pear Wood require particular attention.

- **Grassland and Heathland Habitats-** All unimproved and semi-improved grassland habitats should be conserved and enhanced. Where possible their habitats should be extended and appropriate management will be required.

- **Hedgerows-** The hedgerows on the Harrow Green Belt are slowly deteriorating and becoming gappy as traditional methods of management disappear. Many of the hedgerows will require conserving, restocking and managing in order to protect their ecological benefits as habitats and wildlife corridors

- **Harrow Biodiversity Action Plan-** The London Borough of Harrow does not have a Biodiversity Action Plan. Without it the Borough's most important species are under threat from both direct and indirect impacts and risk being lost altogether. It would be good to look at producing a Biodiversity Action Plan for Harrow.

- **Designated Sites**- All designated sites should be protected and their features conserved and enhanced.

## 2.7 Agricultural

As the dominant land use in the Green Belt, the agricultural holdings have an important role to play in the area's future of the Green Belt. The study concentrated on the council owned farms, all of which are pastoral in nature, most of which are solely used as hay pasture. The privately owned farms chose not to participate in the study.

Key agricultural issues that require consideration in the Green Belt Management Strategy are:

- Farms in the Green Belt have potential to benefit from the Single Farm Payment scheme, providing that land is maintained in good quality agriculturally and environmentally. They could also benefit economically and ecologically from environmental stewardship schemes.
- Actions proposed for agricultural holdings in the Green Belt ideally should reflect those suggested in DEFRA's Strategy for Sustainable Farming and Food. Consideration should also be given to the role of Harrow's farmland within the London Food Strategy.
- Any suggested action should reflect the Harrow Unitary Development Plan of protecting existing farmland as a means of maintaining the rural character of the area.
- The agricultural quality of the land within the Green Belt is low, and where graded, is Grade 3b. This limits the lands suitability for most agricultural uses, particularly arable and intensive grazing.
- The area has a history of 'horsiculture' and equine land uses remain the most viable future for the farmland.

## 2.8 Hydrology

Harrow's Green Belt falls within two catchment areas, the Colne and the North London Catchments. The substrate of the area is largely London Clay, overlaid by more permeable brown soils. As such the area is slow draining and easily waterlogged during the wetter months. The River Pinn is the largest river, but several other streams begin in the area. There are also several areas of standing water, the largest being Summerhouse Lake in Bentley Priory Open Space. The Green Belt provides three key natural functions.

These functions are listed below:

- A gathering ground for water
- Slowing run off and the speed of rivers
- Adding ecological value

## 2.9 Recreation And Tourism

The Green Belt provides opportunities for both formal and informal recreation. Golf courses, sports grounds and horse riding make up the formal recreational provision, whereas informal recreation, which often includes walking, cycling, ornithology etc, usually relies on public open space and well kept rights of way.

A recent research report on Harrow's Sport, Recreation and Open Space identified a lack of signage along public rights of way and poor condition of facilities around sites of public open space.

The tourism sites within the Green Belt are limited to Grim's Dyke Hotel and the nearby Old Redding Viewpoint. Limited awareness of Harrow's Green Belt combined with inadequate provision of visitor facilities and inappropriate management of potential attractions are to blame for perceived low levels of tourism.

## 2.10 Transport

A number of roads as well as one railway line cross the Harrow Green Belt. These provide several transport options for reaching the Green Belt. Many of the bus routes to the study area run every 20 or 30 minutes, but can be less frequent at weekends. There are also several cycle routes through the study area, although these seem to be limited to the western and central parts. The Green Belt is also within walking distance from Stanmore underground station and Headstone Lane and Hatch End railway stations.

## 2.10 Consultation Findings

The consultation involved a two-stage process involving questionnaires and exhibitions. The questionnaires were sent to key groups involved in the Green Belt. They used the 'Quality of Life' method to identify the key features or 'benefits' of the study area, and then explored people's views on the benefits in terms of importance, quantity and quality.

The exhibitions aimed to inform the residents of Harrow about the benefits of their Green Belt, to obtain feedback on options for its future management, and to gain the wider public's opinions on draft management proposals and improvements. Most of the consultees from the exhibitions were from the South (approximately 35%) and West (35%) of the Borough, with a moderate number from the Northern (20%) wards, and a few (10%) from the east of the Borough. Almost half of those consultees were from minority ethnic groups. The majority of these were Asian and British Asian, who represented about a third of the residents consulted.

There were also several representatives of the Afro-Caribbean/African community. The remaining 50% of the consulted were white and of either British or other European origin.

The consultation process identified a number of important considerations with respect to the future management of the Green Belt. These are listed below:

- Separation of London from Hertfordshire, and provision of opportunities for recreation, biodiversity, landscape, and education are perceived to be the most important benefits of the Green Belt.
- Agriculture and rural space have limited support as potential Green Belt uses, and traditional agriculture was perceived to be unviable in some cases, with diversification to other rural land uses suggested as an alternative.
- The potential conflict between visitor access and biodiversity value / open character of the area needs to be considered.
- The potential of the Green Belt to provide improved quality of life and health benefits needs to be highlighted
- Sustainable transport options such as walking, cycling and horse riding to and around the Green Belt should be encouraged for benefit of public health and environment.
- Green Belt should be managed as a whole as well as on a site-specific basis, and sites should be managed for multi-functionality.
- Potential for low-key tourist attractions to provide additional income for area.

### 3.0 STRATEGY AND MANAGEMENT

The following vision, strategic objectives and other proposals were developed in the light of surveys, background research and consultation. The vision outlines the priorities for which the Green Belt should be managed: environment, education and health.

#### 3.1 Living Parks Vision

Green Spaces are living and breathing areas that are constantly evolving.

The living parks concept is about bringing parks and open spaces to people and encouraging the use of these green spaces as community focal points. Through designing and developing our green spaces as Living Parks we aim to change the culture of Harrow's green spaces to creating green spaces as community owned facilities, which meets the needs and aspirations of all our different societies in Harrow.

#### 3.2 Green Belt Vision

***'To make Harrow's Green Belt more attractive and accessible for people and wildlife and maximise the environmental, educational, and health benefits by managing this strategic open space at London's northern fringe.'***

#### 3.3 Strategic Objectives and Actions

To implement Harrow's vision for the Green Belt, ten Strategic Objectives have been defined. These address the main benefits of the Green Belt as identified through the consultation process, and through consideration of relevant national, regional and local policies. These strategic objectives will be implemented through a range of actions.

The term Green Spaces refers to borough-wide open space, including Harrow's parks outside of the Green Belt area.

The term Green Belt refers to the specific open spaces in the north of the borough that are identified and protected under the Harrow Unitary Development Plan.

### **1. Green Spaces Policy:**

To help meet the nationally and regionally defined purposes and objectives of Open Space through providing positive management of the land and making Harrow a more attractive and well designed green borough.

### **2. Informal Recreation Provision:**

To maintain, improve and increase the provision of public open space and create public rights of way for able-bodied and disabled users by linking together the communities of Harrow through new strategic routes

### **3. Formal Recreation Provision:**

To maintain and seek to improve provision of open space for formal recreation, including equestrian uses

**4. Visitor and Interpretation Facilities:** To increase the 'offer' of the Green Belt through the provision of environmental education, interpretation and visitor facilities

**5. Conserving and Enhancing Biodiversity:** To conserve and enhance the biodiversity of the land within the Green Belt

**6. Conserving and Enhancing the Landscape:** To conserve and enhance landscape character, key landscape features and the strategic view to and from Harrow Weald Ridge

**7. Cultural Heritage:** To conserve, enhance and improve interpretation of historic features, areas and buildings

**8. Agriculture:** To support farming activity in the area, and maintain current use of allotments

**9. Water Environment:** To conserve and enhance the environment and quality of rivers, streams and water bodies and prevent flooding downstream

**10. Burial Space:** To help address the anticipated shortfall in burial space within Harrow

## **GREEN BELT MANAGEMENT STRATEGY SCHEDULE**

Ten Strategic Objectives have been defined to address the main benefits of the Green Belt as identified through the consultation process, and through consideration of relevant national, regional and local policies.

### Ten Strategic Objectives

- Green Spaces Policy
- Informal Recreation Provision
- Formal Recreation Provision
- Visitor and Interpretation Facilities
- Conserving and Enhancing Biodiversity
- Conserving and Enhancing Landscape
- Cultural Heritage
- Agriculture
- Water Environment
- Burial Space

*These strategic objectives have been associated with a range of indicative actions, which have been prioritised in terms of the finite resources available.*

### Priority Categories (subject to availability of resources)

- 1 = 1<sup>st</sup> aspiration to achieve
- 2 = 2<sup>nd</sup> aspiration to achieve
- 3 = 3<sup>rd</sup> aspiration to achieve

## GREEN SPACES POLICY

To help meet the nationally and regionally defined purposes and objectives of Open Space through providing positive management of the land and making Harrow a more attractive and well designed green borough.

Green Spaces Policy Objectives	Actions	Priority	Description/Position
To ensure all green belt management regimes and projects embrace the concept of “Living Parks”	Link with Tourism and Public Relations to create a Living Parks brand for all parks and open spaces in the Borough.	1	<p>Green Spaces are living and breathing areas that are constantly evolving.</p> <p>The living parks concept is about bringing parks and open spaces to people and encouraging the use of these green spaces as community focal points. Through developing our green spaces as Living Parks we aim to change the culture of green spaces to being every residents right to use the space as their own and developing green spaces as community owned facilities.</p>
To ensure co-ordinated actions are undertaken for all improvements and maintenance throughout Harrow’s green spaces	To appoint a Green Space Manager and a Biodiversity Officer	1	
	Produce and implement costed maintenance and improvement plans for all Council owned Green Belt sites, informed by landscape and horticulture experts and Land Use Consultants research and surveys, for all green belt areas	1	Improvement and maintenance plans will ensure that appropriate arrangements are in place to protect the environment, biodiversity and access paths and ensure a high quality leisure environment

<b>Green Spaces Policy Objectives</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Description/Position</b>
	Undertake a business case on the value and need for the Green Belt Management Strategy to be converted to a Supplementary Planning Document	2	A supplementary planning document could be used to provide further detail to the policies and plans in the Green Belt Management Strategy

## **INFORMAL RECREATION PROVISION**

*To maintain, improve and increase the provision of public open space and create public rights of way for able-bodied and disabled users by linking together the communities of Harrow through new strategic routes*

<b>Informal Recreation Provision Objectives</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Description/Position</b>
Undertake and develop a "Walking Plan" for the borough, which identifies, promotes and protects green chains and right of ways and increases the accessibility of the Green Belt	Identify and assess the condition and accessibility of existing footpaths and pathways throughout the borough	1	
	Promote existing green belt walking routes in the borough through Harrow Council's website and produced brochures	2	
	Carry out a feasibility study to open up the Belmont Walk and improve the corridor for informal recreation by enhancing lighting, safety and security	3	
	Implement a new right of way in Harrow Weald Common that does not require walking on the Old Redding Road and links the footpath at Banksfield Cottage to the eastern part of Harrow Weald Common	3	

Informal Recreation Provision Objectives	Actions	Priority	Description/Position
	Introduce new permissive footpaths from the Shia Mosque at Springbok House to the Country Park extension	3	
Improve the pedestrian and cycling links throughout the borough to the green belt to increase people's awareness of the informal recreation opportunities available in the Green Belt.	Install new themed and consistent information boards at the new Country Park car park's – Brockley Hill and Dennis Lane	1	The car parks are due to be completed in September 2005
	Develop an access plan for Stanmore Country Park	1	The access plan will include the location of informational and directional signage and a marketing plan for the Country Park
	Investigate gate options and required locations for Disability Discrimination Act compliant access into Bentley Priory Wooded Slopes	1	
	<p>Introduce clear and consistent Living Parks themed signage through the areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Stanmore Wooded Slopes</li> <li>- Pinnerwood Bushey Pastures</li> <li>- Copse Farm Pastures</li> <li>- Brockleyhill Pastures</li> <li>- Pinner Park Pastures</li> <li>- Priory Pastures</li> <li>- Bentley Priory Estates</li> <li>- Harrow Weald Slopes</li> </ul>	1	

Informal Recreation Provision Objectives	Actions	Priority	Description/Position
	Enhance the gateway's of the Brockley Hill and Dennis Lane gateways in line with the rural character of the Green Belt and the Living Parks concept	2	
	Install gates at Bentley Priory Wooded Slopes that allow prams and wheelchairs into the area whilst excluding motorbike access	2	To be undertaken on completion of the investigation on gate options and required locations for DDA compliant access into Bentley Priory Wooded Slopes
	Undertake a feasibility study to look at the options of linking Pinner to Harrow Weald Common and Stanmore	2	
	Carry out a feasibility study to improve pedestrian and cycle access between Pinner Park and Copse Farm pastures	2	

## FORMAL RECREATION PROVISION

To maintain and seek to improve provision of open space for formal recreation, including equestrian uses.

Actions to Meet the Strategic Objectives	Action	Priority	Description/Position
To develop equestrianism in the Green Belt	Resurface and improve the fencing at the Stanmore Common bridleway to reduce the impact on conservation areas.	2	
	Undertaking a feasibility study on developing a riding school in the borough to include location, management, partners and a business case	2	
	Extend the Stanmore Common bridleway network	3	
	Increase and extend the bridleway provision around Watling and Grove Farm	3	
	Look into the opportunity to provide a permissive bridleway through the Grims Dyke Farm	3	

To develop and support formal sport opportunities in the Green Belt	Maintain playing fields and amenity areas for public use at established sites throughout the green belt	1	
	Maintain access through the BAE site to the fishing ponds to allow ongoing access by anglers	2	
	Advocate the improvement of the quality of the rugby and cricket clubs pavilions	3	Harrow Rugby Club and the Harrow Cricket club privately owns the pavilions
	Investigate the value of developing an indoor sports area and spectator seating at Roger Bannister Sports Centre	3	

## VISITOR AND INTERPRETATION FACILITIES

To increase the 'offer' of the Green Belt through the provision of environmental education, interpretation and visitor facilities and promote the use of the countryside and visitor attractions within the Green Belt

Visitor and Interpretation Facilities Objectives	Actions	Priority	Description/Position
To extend Stanmore Country Park into Wood Farm	Negotiate an agreement with CP Holdings on the surrender of a section of Wood Farm to Harrow Council for use as an extension to Stanmore Country Park	1	By extending the Country Park into Wood Farm this select area will be protected from future housing development. This will involve negotiating the Wood Farm lease with CP Holdings and removing the barriers between Stanmore Country Park and Wood Farm. This project also includes establishing a view point and information site on Wood Farm
	Seek to secure car parking and interpretation boards for the Country Park at Wood Farm, together with financial contribution towards visitor facilities either at new Brockley hill car park or Wood Farm	2	To be negotiated with CP Holdings on the extension of Stanmore Country Park into Wood Farm
Develop and enhance education opportunities throughout the Green Belt	Work with the local schools to develop an education pack for Bentley Priory Wooded Slopes	1	
	Assess and develop a business case on the potential use of disused buildings on Stanmore Wooded Slopes for education and volunteer services	2	

	Restore the old toilet buildings on Warren Lane (Stanmore Common) to an information point and toilets	3	There are currently no public conveniences in Stanmore Common or the near vicinity. The building is in sound condition and has 2 accompanying porta cabins, which are in poor condition. However, these could contribute to the total footprint if the Council wishes to build new toilet facilities on site.
	Explore the suitability of developing an environmental centre, evaluating the proposed locations against the 2004 Ground works criteria	3	
Encourage greater use of the pathways through Stanmore Wooded Slopes and Bentley Priory Wooded Slopes	Install seating along major footpaths and viewpoints in Stanmore Wooded Slopes and Bentley Priory Wooded Slopes	2	
Renovate the 'Old Redding' car park and amenity areas	Resurface, install seating, locate an information point, improve the visibility and safety of the access into the car park	2	
	Negotiate a partnership arrangement with the neighbouring establishment to contribute to the cost of the renovation	2	
Improve the public transport access between the South and North of the Borough to improve public access	Undertake a feasibility study for a bus route running from the South to North of the Borough	3	To include costing of possible routes and comparison with similar actions in other Boroughs

## CONSERVING AND ENHANCING BIODIVERSITY

To conserve and enhance the biodiversity of the land within the Green Belt

<b>Conserving and Enhancing Biodiversity Objectives</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Description/Position Statement</b>
Prepare a Biodiversity Action Plan for the Borough	Commission the development and production of Biodiversity Action Plan for the Borough	1	A Local Biodiversity Action Plan is a mechanism, which seeks to ensure that nationally, and locally, important species and habitats are conserved and enhanced in a given area through focused local action
Undertake traffic calming at Harrow Weald Slopes to minimise traffic speeds and increase tranquillity	Carry out a feasibility study to introduce traffic calming at Harrow Weald Slopes	3	

## CONSERVING AND ENHANCING THE LANDSCAPE

To conserve and enhance landscape character, key landscape features and the strategic view to and from Harrow Weald Ridge

<b>Conserving and Enhancing the Landscape Objectives</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Description/Position</b>
Ensure all Green Belt sites have a management plan in place and are costed and implemented	Develop management plans for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Harrow Weald Common</li> <li>- Bentley Priory Wooded Slopes</li> <li>- Pinner Wood</li> <li>- Stanmore Common</li> <li>- Pinner Park Pastures</li> <li>- Woodlands – secondary and ancient woodland sites</li> </ul>	2	To include conservation plans, maintenance plans, marketing and promotion and biodiversity actions
	Clear 30% of secondary woodland and the areas of bracken scrub from Stanmore Common to reintroduce acid grassland and heath land habitat to create a wood/heath glade	2	Potential School Project/Voluntary Project
	Carry out an invertebrate survey on the Bentley Priory Wooded Slope Site	2	Completed in the Biodiversity Action Plan

	Conserve the ecology of Stanmore Common from the adverse impacts of proposed development at the former BAE site and RNOH.	2	
	Restore the historic extent of Cloister Wood	3	
Reduce and prosecute fly-tippers	Install CCTV at the lay-bys on the Heathbourne Road to catch and prosecute fly-tippers.	3	Any monies from prosecutors and fines should go towards the management of Stanmore Common
Protect terrestrial and aquatic habitats from the polluting effects of road run-off and road gritting	Introduce Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems along the roads bordering Stanmore Common	3	

## CULTURAL HERITAGE

To conserve, enhance and improve interpretation of historic features, areas and buildings

<b>Actions to Meet the Strategic Objectives</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Provide information boards at Grims Dyke to interpret the Scheduled Monument and the Registered Park and Garden	Locate and install information boards at Grims Dyke Open Space	1	
To produce a Bentley Priory Master Plan	Develop a Bentley Priory Master Plan	1	Bentley Priory is a valuable component of Harrow's sense of place. The development of a master plan will be used as a base for an expression of interest document to clearly convey to the RAF, Harrow Council's intentions to preserve the historic significance of this site

## AGRICULTURE

To support farming activity in the area, and maintain current use of allotments

Agriculture Objectives	Actions	Priority	Description/Position
Investigate the future use and management of the land at Copse Farm	Undertake a feasibility study on the future use of Copse Farm	2	
Consider the demand for more allotment space in the surrounding wards	Investigate the potential of accommodating additional allotments at Pinnerwood-Bushey Pastures	3	
Explore possible diversification options for agricultural land within the Green Belt	Conduct a feasibility study for the creation of a school farm in the Green Belt	3	

## WATER ENVIRONMENT

To conserve and enhance the environment and quality of rivers, streams and water bodies and prevent flooding downstream

<b>Water Objectives</b>	<b>Environment</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Conserve and enhance Little Brewers and Great Brewers Pond		Carry out a species audit and produce a Pond Management Plan for Little Brewers and Great Brewers Pond	2	To be included within the Biodiversity Action Plan
Consider the implementation of licensed fishing in the Green Belt		Undertake a business case study on the benefits and value of licensing fishing at Summer House Lake, Little Brewers Pond and Great Brewers Pond	3	

## BURIAL SPACE

To help address the anticipated shortfall in burial space within Harrow

<b>Burial Space Objectives</b>	<b>Actions</b>	<b>Priority</b>	<b>Description/Position</b>
Explore burial space options within the Green Belt to compensate for the borough's space deficiency	Undertake a feasibility study on potential burial sites in the Green Belt	3	