

and pollution levels. This can be enhanced if the electricity to power them comes from renewable sources.

- 7.36 Development should therefore provide the facilities to enable the residents, workers and visitors to the area to use electric motor vehicles by installing charging points. This includes public parking as well as private residential parking.

POLICY GOD11 : ELECTRIC VEHICLE INFRASTRUCTURE

Where vehicle spaces are provided to support development, *where practicable*, the associated provision of charging points for electric vehicles (both on-street and off-street) that can be used by the occupiers of residences and business premises in the Godalming and Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan area will be encouraged.

Other Sustainable Transport Actions

- 7.37 There are a number of other important actions which do not necessarily require planning policy to enable them to happen but are an important part of the overall transport strategy for Godalming and Farncombe. These are:
- Undertake a study which looks at the potential for increasing the road space available for pedestrians, cyclists and buses through the use of, for example, filtered permeability, shared spaces and dedicated bus lanes.
 - Explore the possibility of park-and-ride bus provision, particularly to mitigate the potential impacts on Godalming and Farncombe of increased traffic created by strategic development at Dunsfold Park and Milford. This should look at a number of route options including from Brighton Road to Godalming railway station.
 - Lobby for more active enforcement of poor parking, i.e. parking that blocks pavements.

8 ENVIRONMENT

Land

- 8.1 A home to live in is clearly the first and most vital consideration for everyone. Beyond this, most people wish their home to be set within an attractive and healthy environment. 'Green space' is not just good to look at, it provides room for outside leisure. Plants and trees contribute to air and water quality and we have a duty to manage our environment for the benefit of the flora and fauna that we share it with, some of which is found nowhere else in Surrey. A good environment helps to keep us healthy, both physically and mentally.
- 8.2 In a town such as Godalming, it is difficult to find space for all that the community wants to achieve and this will become increasingly apparent as the population rises over the plan period.



The unique Lammas Lands in the heart of Godalming, a quintessential flood plain

- 8.3 The following examples illustrate key issues that should be addressed under the theme of 'green space':

Landscape – aesthetics vs. habitat vs. utility

- 8.4 We have an inbuilt sense of what looks neat and tidy. We tend to like roadside verges mown, woodland cleared of dead branches and open land free from brambles, nettles and ragwort. However, this is rarely the best management plan for nature. Setting aside land for nature reduces the space available for more utilitarian uses and there can be an indirect cost associated with managing land for its aesthetic or environmental benefit.

Leisure – formal vs. informal

- 8.5 There is a limit to the amount of land that that can be set aside for outdoor recreation, i.e. parks, play areas and playing fields. Many popular sports demand a significant amount of space and it is increasingly difficult to satisfy this demand in Godalming and Farncombe. Nevertheless, these activities provide great benefit and must be accommodated as far as possible but it is recognised that informal, outdoor leisure is also important to health and well-being and a balance must be struck between the provision of formal and informal recreation space.

Wildlife - protection vs. access

- 8.6 Sometimes conservation requires protection measures, e.g. for ground nesting birds at breeding time. However, freedom to access and observe is fundamental to the process of education that leads people to value nature and so seek to protect it. Green space is also attractive for its own sake. If a green corridor is created along which wildlife can move, it will almost certainly be attractive for people to walk or cycle along too.
- 8.7 Fortunately, by providing attractive green routes for people, they can be guided away from the spaces set aside for nature. Some areas have stayed green precisely because they are 'public'. Here, well surfaced and well aligned paths can direct footfall and considered planting and wetland features can obviate the need to secure areas with fencing.

Green corridors

- 8.8 A green corridor is a strip of land that provides sufficient habitat to support wildlife and its movement along it. A continuous hedgerow, footpath, verge, riverbank or railway embankment can be valuable in this respect but wider strips are more likely to provide a variety of habitats and hence be more effective. Other green spaces such as playing fields, parks, cemeteries or allotments can also contribute to green corridors since they generally provide wildlife habitats.
- 8.9 Green corridors serve an important function in towns, namely to:
- break up the mass of the built environment
 - reinforce the essentially wooded nature of the area
 - support flora and fauna and enable migration between existing open spaces and into town
 - provide local havens for recreational enjoyment
 - create potential routes for non-motorised access between residential areas and local facilities, alleviating pressure on roads and parking and hence improving air quality and public health.
- 8.10 The primary reason for identifying green corridors is so that they can be protected and managed to improve their benefit for wildlife. However, this does not imply that green corridors will be exclusively set aside for this purpose. Some green corridors are suited to human recreational access and/or can provide space for 'green routes' for non-motorised transport. While it may seem counter intuitive to improve human access to green corridors, the public often enjoys right of access already and well considered routes provided with quality paths can manage footfall away from areas that are sensitive for wildlife.
- 8.11 Small interruptions to continuity are expected, e.g.
- Roads or other transport routes
 - Isolated buildings with surrounding gardens or farmland
 - Narrow bands of buildings likely to be subject to redevelopment.

Where continuity is interrupted, wildlife tunnels or bridges, suitable planting (to mitigate the presence of isolated buildings) and appropriately aligned and planted green space can mitigate any detrimental impacts on wildlife.

- 8.12 The fact that the countryside comes right into the town is one of Godalming and Farncombe's key attractions. The Wey Valley contributes significant landscape value to the town and provides a 'green corridor', bringing the natural environment to its very heart. This area is already very strongly protected against development which allows the existing green corridor to thrive.

8.13 The green corridors within the Godalming and Farncombe Neighbourhood Area are listed in Table 8.1 below and indicated on the map in Figure 8.1.

Table 8.1: Green Corridors in Godalming and Farncombe

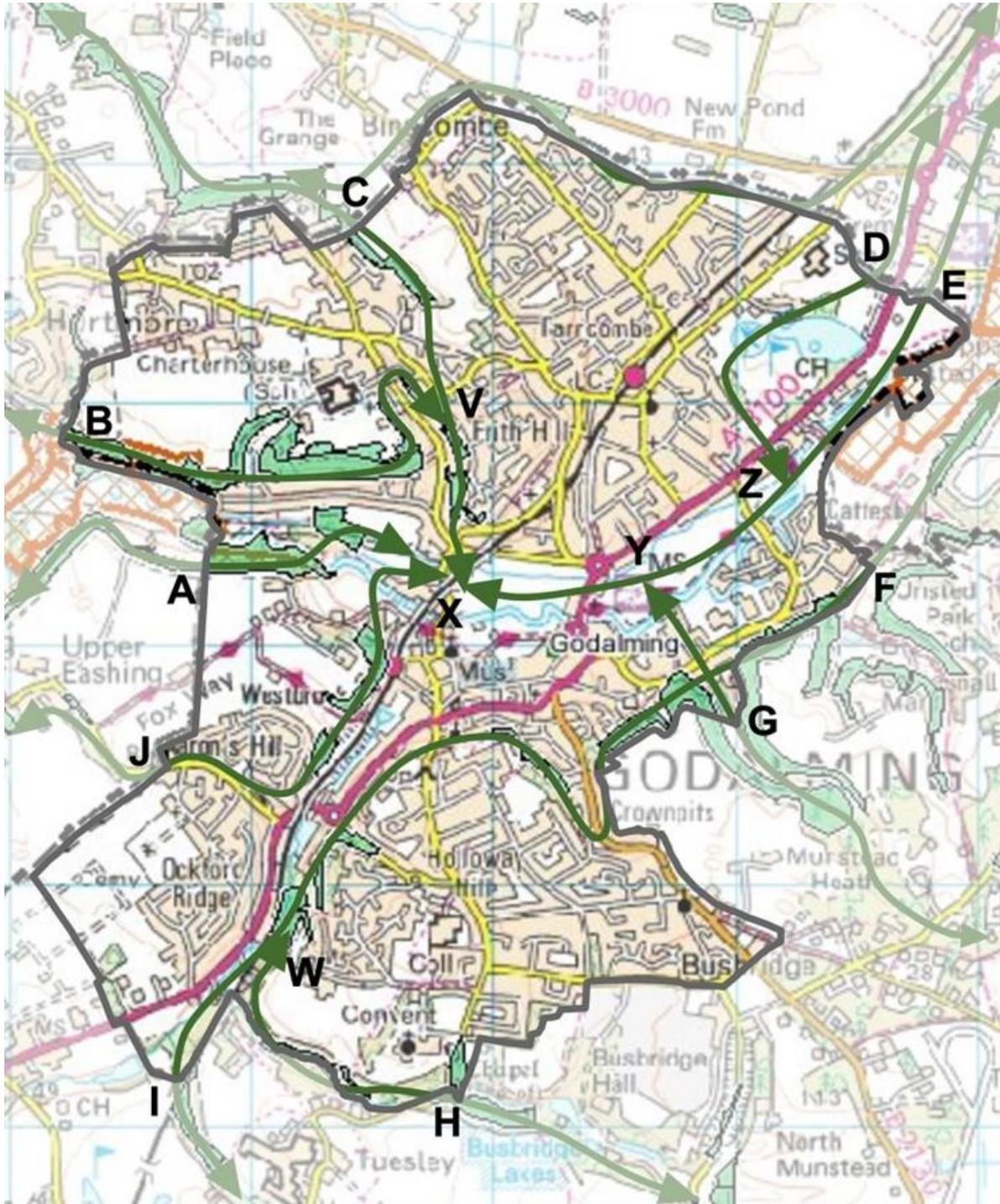
Map Reference (see Fig 8.1)	Description	Notes
A-X-E	The River Wey Valley	The principal and most obvious corridor following the course of the River Wey. Many areas are accessible to the public and a number of foot/bridal paths are in evidence. It is generally flat and well suited to improvements as a green route for walking and cycling.
B-V	Hillsides - Peperharow Road	Largely ancient woodland linking a site of special scientific interest (SSSI) in the west to the Charterhouse hillside in the east.
C-V-X	Hillsides- Mark Way and Charterhouse	Areas of woodland managed by Surrey Wildlife Trust with adjoining farmland linking woodland and open farmland in the north to the Charterhouse hillside and the Wey Valley.
D-Z	Broadwater Park	The fringes of Broadwater Park that are not intensively managed for sport.
F-I	Hillsides – Southern slopes	Ancient woodland covering large stretches of the southern valley slopes.
G-Y	Munstead Heath link to the Wey Valley	Open farmland approaches close to the town boundary and the Wey Valley. Opportunities may arise to make this more contiguous during any redevelopment near Catteshall Lane.
H-W	Busbridge Lakes	A mixture of woodland and water linking to the Ock Valley
J-X	Aaron’s Hill and Ock Valley	The wooded slopes of Aaron’s Hill and Westbrook overlooking the Ock Valley.

8.14 The green corridors shown in Figure 8.1 are represented by green arrows. Ancient Woodland has been shaded green and Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) are hatched orange. It is important to note how the green corridors link these together.

8.15 The existing tracts of woodland help to identify corridors. Surrey Wildlife Trust notes that the inclusion of multiple habitats within a corridor strengthens its value and most of the green corridors in Godalming and Farncombe embrace multiple habitats. The Wey Valley green corridor, in particular, brings together woodland, grassland and river over much of its length. Busbridge Lakes and the Ock Valley combine woodland with river/lake. The hillsides to the north combine woodland and grassland. Only on the hillsides to the south, in those sections close to the town, does existing development constrain habitat to woodland and gardens. Indeed, it is important to note that the areas defined as the ‘Godalming Hillsides’ and ‘Areas of Strategic Visual Importance’ correspond and link with the identified green corridors.

8.16 Future development must recognise these corridors and safeguard their integrity. It should seek to improve their quality where opportunities exist. Whilst the area outside the built-up area is well protected, it is also important to maintain and enhance Godalming and Farncombe’s semi-rural character within the built-up areas.

Figure 8.1: Green Corridors in Godalming and Farncombe



8.17 This does not mean that development cannot occur along the green corridor. Rather, good design of individual buildings and of neighbourhood scale green and open spaces, including private gardens, can help to ensure that many of the species that are in Godalming and Farncombe can not only survive but thrive. This is crucially in line with the national planning guidance for achieving net biodiversity gain through all new development (NPPF, 2016). Examples include:

- Designing houses and neighbourhood scale green and blue features so that there is space for wildlife. For example, at the individual building scale, creating artificial nests sited in places

away from windows and doors can create vital new roosting sites to support populations of birds.



Hedgehog friendly fencing

- Boundaries between dwellings can be made hedgehog friendly by including pre-cut holes for hedgehogs to more effectively move across neighbourhoods to forage.
- New planting schemes can support bees and other pollinators by including nectar-rich plants; and tenants in new housing developments can be encouraged to adopt a wildlife-friendly approach to gardening through inclusion of educational literature in 'home-information' packs.
- Veteran trees should also be incorporated into landscaping in new developments and protected from damage by fencing or provision of circular hedging. This can make a very attractive feature and focal point for a public open space.

8.18 Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) can be designed and managed to include soft, green landscaping features and wetland habitats, providing opportunities to enjoy wildlife close to where people live. Information about the multi-benefits of SuDS can be included in 'home information' packs in new development, or in on-site interpretation in open and green spaces, to encourage understanding and engage community members in supporting its long term management.

POLICY GOD12: GREEN CORRIDORS

In order to achieve net biodiversity gain across Godalming and Farncombe, development will be expected to preserve and enhance the wildlife corridors identified on the Policies Map. In particular, new development proposals should incorporate provision for local wildlife to thrive.

Godalming Hillsides

- 8.19 The Godalming Hillsides have been identified and specifically protected by Waverley Local Plan policy. The Wey Valley runs through the heart of the town and the valley sides, rising steeply on either side, are prominent and highly visible across the town. Waverley Local Plan Part 1, Policy RE3, retained policy BE5 from the Local Plan 2002, recognises this and makes clear that development here will not be acceptable unless it would not diminish the wooded appearance of the hillside and result in a loss of tree cover to the detriment of the area and the character and setting of the town. Local Plan Part 1 Policy RE3 retains the policy with the boundaries reviewed as part of the development of the Local Plan Part 2.
- 8.20 The protection of the Godalming Hillsides is important to the community and therefore the retention of a policy in the Local Plan is strongly supported. As such, it is not necessary to provide a Godalming and Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan policy covering this matter. However, the existing policy only addresses the wooded appearance of the area. It is equally important to maintain the overall character and setting of the hillsides and the town in general that development at the highest points on the hillsides does not significantly encroach on the existing skyline. Given the higher level of sensitivity of development on the skyline of the Hillsides, this has specifically been identified in the policy.

POLICY GOD13: GODALMING AND FARNCOMBE SKYLINE

In addition to the requirements of Waverley Local Plan Policy RE3 (Landscape Character, section v. Godalming Hillsides) which provides protection for Godalming's tree-lined hillsides and recognises their importance to the character and setting of Godalming and Farncombe, development is expected to preserve the profile of the skyline and ensure that any new buildings along the skyline are not unduly prominent.

Water

- 8.21 Reducing the amount of water we use both domestically and commercially in turn reduces the amount of waste water that needs to be treated. The amount of water extracted from our rivers will also be reduced which will help to protect the wildlife that lives in our rivers and wetlands.
- 8.22 Equally, the use of recycled water is important where this is possible, e.g. for flushing toilets. Whilst the requirements for energy efficiency are dealt with by Building Regulations, it is important to encourage innovation and for development to go beyond the minimum requirements to deliver buildings that enable effective recycling of water for use.

POLICY GOD14: WATER RECYCLING

Development proposals that incorporate measures which enable the use of recycled water in residential and commercial properties will be encouraged.

Air

- 8.23 Air pollution is becoming one of the main health threats facing the UK. Specifically it comprises greenhouse gases (such as carbon dioxide (CO₂) and ozone (O₃) and local air pollution. The most important regulated gas for legal purposes in ambient air is NO₂. One of the main causes is vehicles and congestion which means engines idle and air pollution becomes concentrated in those locations.
- 8.24 Air pollution in parts of the Godalming and Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan Area is significant and potentially worsening. There is an existing Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) along Flambard Way and part of Ockford Road.
- 8.25 The most recent Waverley Updating and Screening Assessment¹⁹ report determined that exceedances of the national air quality objectives were likely for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) at the following sites:
- Flambard Way, Godalming, in proximity to the junction with Brighton Road/Wharf Street
 - Holloway Hill, Godalming, in proximity to the junction with Flambard Way
- 8.26 In addition, local monitoring undertaken through a programme being run in 2017 by Friends of the Earth identified that there were high levels of air pollution further out of the town along Meadow, at a key pinchpoint close to Bridge Road. This showed a nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) reading higher than the 40 micrograms per cubic metre (ug/m³) mean annual limit for monitoring undertaken in January 2017.
- 8.27 This means that support for sustainable development must include a stringent approach to development which might increase the already unlawful levels of air pollution. In formulating its policy on air pollution, the plan has had regard to all relevant national policies and expert opinion used to inform another emerging Godalming and Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan.
- 8.28 There are some relatively simple solutions which can help to minimise the impacts of air pollution. Healthy trees of appropriate species in the right locations absorb NO₂ and particulates and can reduce air temperature during hot summer months, reducing ozone and other pollutants. To ensure the best effect is achieved and to protect from disease, a mixture of tree species is needed, with the species chosen based on their Urban Tree Air Quality Score (UTAQS). Trees should be located wherever an appropriate space is found, with particular focus in and around areas of poor air quality and high pollution, or areas where air quality is at risk of deteriorating.
- 8.29 Care must be taken when choosing the location of tree planting, so as not to decrease airflow, or trap pollutants and therefore reduce air quality. Avenues of trees alongside high buildings can be counterproductive, locations should be found near to polluted area(s), but with open space around.

¹⁹ Waverley Borough Council: *2015 Updating and Screening Assessment for Waverley Borough Council In fulfilment of Part IV of the Environment Act 1995 Local Air Quality Management – dated May 2015*

POLICY GOD15: HEALTHY AIR

- A. Development should not damage the health of the air by increasing emissions of harmful pollutants to it. Such pollutants include: greenhouse gases; those considered by the United Nations to cause adverse impacts to the natural environment; and particles and gases considered by the World Health Organisation (WHO) to be harmful to human health. Any proposal that results in a significant increase in air pollution will only be justified in exceptional circumstances.**
- B. Development should comply at least with all minimum EU or UK environmental requirements in relation to air pollutants whichever is the more stringent.**
- C. All development is encouraged to be at least 'air quality neutral' and should not cause or contribute to worsening air quality. For major developments (as defined by the Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) Order (England) 2010 [(Wales) 2012) this may most appropriately be demonstrated through an air quality assessment, and if necessary, proposed mitigation measures.**
- D. Development is encouraged to use tree planting as a way of minimising the impacts of air pollution. Proposals that are accompanied by a tree planting strategy which demonstrates that healthy trees of appropriate species will be planted in locations where their ability to absorb nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and particulates is greatest, will be encouraged.**
- E. Mitigation proposals for developments in excess of 50 dwellings or 5000m² will be required to include the provision of Electric Vehicle Charging Points (EVPs) in line with Policy GOD 11 and Waverley Borough Council's 2016 Air Quality Annual Status Report (ASR) – 2018 Reissue**

9 COMMUNITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE

- 9.1 A number of key issues were raised relating to community and infrastructure provision within the Godalming and Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan area. This related to arts and culture, crime, education, health provision, social activities (including sport) and the resilience of utility provision covering communications (broadband coverage) and the security of electricity and gas supplies.

Health Provision

- 9.2 The responses to the Godalming and Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan household questionnaire indicated that the majority of residents considered access to local primary health provision to be 'easy'. However, a number of residents identified a difficulty in getting timely appointments with doctors and the lack of NHS dentists in the town.
- 9.3 In addition, physical access to surgeries was identified as an issue, with insufficient parking at doctors' surgeries raised, as well as limited public transport serving the surgeries. Binscombe Surgery is served once per hour by the number 46 bus and the Mill Practice is served by two bus routes, the numbers 42 and 72²⁰, which provide services every 90 minutes to two hours.
- 9.4 The Mill Medical Practice increased the number of GPs in 2016 and has scope to expand, although its parking provision remains limited. However, despite the issues of parking at The Mill, in its latest published annual report (2014) despite 49% of responders stating that they found parking at the surgery sometimes or always difficult, only 29% stated that they would find it useful if transport was available to bring them to the surgery. Responses also indicated that 77% were aware of the nearby public car park.
- 9.5 Binscombe Medical practice is considered by the senior partner as having reached capacity. Moreover, the practice has stated a desire to relocate to a much larger, purpose-built, environmentally sustainable medical facility within the current practice area. The practice owners would envisage this facility offering additional services to the local community including upgraded pharmacy and physiotherapy in addition to outpatient facilities for the Royal Surrey Hospital consultants to provide community-based clinics. Agreement to this, in principle, has already been established with the Hospital.
- 9.6 No specific sites are identified within the Godalming and Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan for the provision of additional medical facilities. However, if the Guildford and Waverley Clinical Commissioning Group, identifies a clear need for new provision or the expansion of existing facilities, then this will be supported. What will be important is to establish an appropriate balance of parking provision at the surgeries and encouraging patients to travel to the surgeries either on foot, by bicycle or on public transport.

²⁰ The number 72 route was introduced after the survey was undertaken

POLICY GOD16: HEALTHCARE PROVISION

- A. The provision of new or expanded healthcare facilities to serve the community of Godalming and Farncombe will be encouraged. Ideally this should deliver facilities to enable a range of services to be provided on site, including outpatient services, a pharmacy and NHS dental services.**
- B. The provision of any new medical facilities should be in an accessible location to the existing residential community it serves. This should be well served by existing public transport services and maximise the potential for access on foot and by bicycle.**

Community Infrastructure

- 9.7 The Godalming and Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan household questionnaire sought to establish residents' satisfaction with the range of provision of community facilities. What was notable was that teenagers, families and those with disabilities all had satisfaction rates ranging from 60% to just 32%. Moreover, the quality of provision for teenagers and those with disabilities was considered to be poor.
- 9.8 The provision of public services and facilities in the urban environment has a significant impact on the quality of life that residents and others enjoy. Good quality local public services, including education and training opportunities, health care and community facilities, are identified as one of the key elements for a Sustainable Communities Plan connected with crime reduction and community safety²¹.
- 9.9 Godalming has been identified as Waverley's second highest need area in terms of tackling issues relating to deprivation, including crime. Godalming Central Ockford ward is where the needs are most acute; for example, it includes the highest percentage of mental health conditions among various households with 11 to 24-year-olds²².

Existing Provision for Children and Young People

- 9.10 There are a number of facilities in Godalming which have a relevance for young people, ranging from organised clubs and activities to recreation grounds and open spaces. Some have very limited appeal, for example, the two community centres offer dance classes on a weekly basis, and one gives a home to the local junior drama group, but as they are commercially run facilities, the onus is upon them to take bookings rather than provide community facilities.
- 9.11 Godalming is home to an Air Training Corps, a Canoe Club, Scouts and a Junior Drama Group. Each of these organisations offers weekly activity to groups of around 40 to 45 children, with more emphasis on the summer months. The town has no local authority-run youth groups.
- 9.12 There are no public agency supported youth or children's activities in Godalming and Farncombe - all provision has to be paid for, which is not possible for many poorer families in the community.

²¹ Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (2004) *Safer Places - The Planning System and Crime Prevention*

²² Surrey Community Youth Work Services (2015) *Waverley Youth Work Needs Assessment*

- 9.13 In developing its play area strategy²³, Waverley Borough Council has identified seven wards that fall below the borough average for both equipped play provision and the Fields-in-Trust standard for informal play space. These include Godalming Binscombe and Godalming Charterhouse. Also, Godalming Holloway is identified as having significantly less than average play provision.
- 9.14 Godalming Town has eight play areas. Of these, seven offer good facilities for toddlers and small children, in well-kept and modern playgrounds, suitably enclosed and reasonably accessible. In some cases, they are accessed across grass, but this is easily negotiated with a pushchair. The eighth play area has no facilities for small children.
- 9.15 The provision for older children is mixed. Four of the sites - Broadwater Park, Holloway Hill, Aarons Hill and The Burys - provide football pitches and usable open spaces. Holloway Hill offers a multi-use game area, a cricket pitch and tennis courts in addition to the football pitch. Aarons Hill and The Burys provide skateboard parks. Canon Bowrings has a basketball hoop.
- 9.16 There is a disparity in the location of play areas throughout the town. Markedly, there are no facilities at all in Charterhouse or the Binscombe end of Farncombe, which correlates with the findings of Waverley Borough Council when developing their play area strategy.
- 9.17 Holloway Hill is provided with a large park in the centre and a small open space with toddlers play area at Crown Pits, on the higher edge of the area, but both these facilities are a long journey for those who live in the southern end of Holloway Hill. Neither facility offers much for teenagers who are not interested in organised sport, the only possible attraction being a zip wire at Holloway Hill. Neither play area is easily accessed, all the facilities being reached across grass.
- 9.18 Aarons Hill offers a large open space, with a children's play area on one site of an accessible path and a skateboard park on the other. Both of these are reached over grass once leaving the path, which limits accessibility. To the south of Aarons Hill, Ockford Ridge provides a small playpark in the centre of the estate.
- 9.19 The Burys, in the centre of Godalming, has a very good and very popular, albeit small, skatepark, next to the Crown Court car park, and so is accessible for spectator purposes.
- 9.20 Godalming is under represented with play areas, having over 16% of the borough's population with under 12% of the borough's play area provision. Of particular note is the total lack of play facilities in the Charterhouse Ward and within the Catteshall area of Godalming. Additionally Long Gore is poorly served with no play areas to the North of Green Lane and in the southern area of the town there are no play facilities between the A3100 and Tuesley Lane including the Pullman Road area.
- 9.21 In summary, young people in the centre of Godalming, Ockford Ridge and Farncombe areas on the A3100 side of the railway line can reasonably access a choice of outdoor play, with those within the main residential areas of Farncombe, including Furze Lane, Green Lane, Long Gore and Northbourne, Binscombe, Frith Hill and Charterhouse, Catteshall and the Pullman Lane area are poorly served and have to travel significantly in order to reach play facilities.
- 9.22 The provision for those with disabilities is mixed, with some smaller children's play areas offering an accessible roundabout or swing, but little else. Most of these playgrounds are accessed over grass, which limits accessibility.

²³ Waverley Borough Council (2015) *Waverley Play Area Strategy 2014-2024*

New and Improved Children's and Youth Provision

- 9.23 New facilities for teenagers and also for younger children are required in Godalming and Farncombe.
- 9.24 Additional play facilities for teenagers should be focussed on, not only in the play parks that only provide for younger children, but also new facilities in the area that have none or very little at present, namely Charterhouse, Farncombe and Ockford Ridge. New children's play areas are also required to serve Farncombe.
- 9.25 Godalming has two skateboard parks – a large skateboard park in Aaron's Hill and the smaller facility by the Wilfrid Noyce Centre in central Godalming. Generally, there is strong support for centrally-located youth facilities such as a new skateboard park located within the Farncombe locality.
- 9.26 New residential development should make such provision on-site to address the needs of the new residents and also to help address existing deficits in provision. Alongside this, developer contributions should be used to refurbish or replace existing facilities that are in need of repair.

POLICY GOD17: PROVISION FOR CHILDREN'S PLAY AND YOUNG PEOPLE

~~A. Where feasible due to the size of development, new residential development should provide new children's play facilities and youth facilities on-site as required by Local Plan Part One Policy LRC1.~~

- A. Residential development in the Charterhouse, Farncombe and Ockford Ridge areas that is above the size thresholds identified in Local Plan Part 1, Policy LRC1 is encouraged to enable the provision of large Locally Equipped Areas for Play (LEAPs) and Multi-Use Games Areas (MUGAs). Where sites are of a sufficient size to enable such provision, development proposals will be expected to:
- a. reserve areas of land of a sufficient size for provision of a LEAP and/ or MUGA; and
 - b. either directly provide the LEAP and/ or MUGA on the reserved area(s) of land or make a financial contribution to its provision on the reserved area(s) of land, either through the Community Infrastructure Levy or a Section 106 agreement as appropriate.
- B. Where appropriate provision can be made by refurbishing or improving existing facilities, the use of developer contributions will be encouraged.
- C. Where existing access to play and youth facilities is across grassed areas, appropriate provision of paths to enable disabled access and access with pushchairs will be encouraged. Such provision should be sensitively located and use materials which minimise the impact on the existing green space.

Education Provision

- 9.27 From the responses received to the Godalming and Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan household questionnaire, it can be seen that whilst the majority are content with the provision for both Early

Years and Childcare and Further Education, a majority do have concerns relating to the provision of both primary and secondary education provision. However, data from the Surrey County Council School Organisation Plan²⁴, which outlines the County Council's strategy for school place provision, does not support residents' perceptions.

- 9.28 Godalming is one of the of the four secondary school planning areas across the borough, with the other three being Farnham & Ash, Cranleigh and Haslemere & Hindhead.
- 9.29 Whilst the reception class school population across Waverley borough increased between 2011 and 2016, it is anticipated that it peaked in year 2016/17 and will reduce until reaching a plateau in 2020/21. The increased requirement has been met across the borough by a mix of permanent planned admission numbers (school expansions) and by the provision of bulge classes (temporary expansion). Within Godalming, one infant school has permanently increased by 10 places and one primary school received a temporary uplift by use of a bulge class, providing an additional 30 reception places.
- 9.30 Surrey County Council anticipates that the secondary school population will continue to expand across the borough over the next seven years. Additional provision for 114 pupils has been provided elsewhere in the borough but is not anticipated to be required for Godalming (at Broadwater and Rodborough School).
- 9.31 The Schools Organisation Plan is considered a live document and is predicated on the known housing growth. Additional large-scale developments could require further provision within Godalming at the secondary school level. The Dunsfold Park strategic allocation falls within the Godalming area.
- 9.32 School provision is the responsibility of Surrey County Council and whilst there might be a desire amongst some residents for further school places, the County Council's data indicates that there are sufficient places within the Godalming and Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan area, albeit possibly not in the schools that those residents wish as a first choice. As at autumn 2017, the County Council has not indicated a need for a new-build school within the Godalming and Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan area.

²⁴ Surrey County Council, *School Organisation Plan (January 2018) School Places in Surrey 2018 - 2017*

10 NON-LAND USE ISSUES

- 10.1 There are a number of issues that have been raised through the process of preparing the Godalming and Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan that are not directly related to land-use matters (although several indirectly relate to the use of land in some form). As such, they are not matters that can be addressed directly by the provision of a planning policy in the Godalming and Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan and are not part of the matters that are examined as part of the Neighbourhood Plan preparation process. However, this is not to say that these community aspirations are not important matters and it is important that a strategy for dealing with these matters is assembled and taken forward. In doing so, this will help to achieve the vision and objectives of the Godalming and Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan.
- 10.2 The issues/community aspirations that have been identified are shown in Table 10.1, along with possible actions. They have been identified through the activities of the respective Godalming and Farncombe Neighbourhood Plan Working Groups.

Table 10.1: Non-land Use Issues to be Addressed

Issue	Possible actions
Improve footpaths and pedestrian safety	Cut back hedges, repair footways and undertake other actions to improve the existing footway network
Increase access for pedestrians, cyclists and buses	Undertake a study which looks at the potential for increasing the road space available for pedestrians, cyclists and buses through the use of, for example, filtered permeability, shared spaces and dedicated bus lanes.
Bus access at railway stations	Engage with bus providers to explore options for improved bus access and stops outside Godalming and Farncombe stations
Godalming Flood Alleviation Scheme	Support the planned Meadow defence and flood gate option as part of the Godalming Flood Alleviation Scheme
Improve flood management	Restore meanders to Hell Ditch
Improve wetland habitats	Create a wetland nature reserve in the Lammas Lands
Improve wetland habitats	Undertake riverbank tree planting and scrub habitat creation using native species in the Westbrook area and designated sections of the Lammas Lands
Protection of habitats	Careful planning and continued management of non-native invasive species such as Himalayan Balsam, Signal Crayfish, American Mink
Creation of habitats	Establish additional habitat to create buffer zones between neighbouring urban areas and the flood meadow thus slowing down the movement of surface water run off while helping remove potential road surface pollutants in the process.
Habitat management	Adopt <i>'The Lammas lands vision and management objectives'</i> by Dr. Day as the basis for a ten-year management plan for the Lammas Lands flood meadows
Water management	Work closely with potable water suppliers to identify and repair leaks

Issue	Possible actions
Water management	Encourage retro-fitting of water conservation measures such as dual flush toilets, water saving shower heads, rainwater harvesting via rainwater harvesting tanks and water butts
Water management	Work with the Environment Agency and water companies to identify and rectify drainage misconnections cost effectively
Habitat management	Develop an ongoing management plan for Broadwater Lake in conjunction with the Environment Agency and Godalming Angling Society. Efforts should concentrate on identifying and finding long term solutions to the wider ongoing pollution, water quality issues that will lead to the restoration of lost habitats and species
Children's Play Areas and Multi Use Games Area	Engage with Waverley Borough Council in the development of its play area strategy to help develop the provision of suitable play facilities in all localities
Skate park	Explore with Waverley Borough Council the opportunities for skate park provision within the Farncombe area
Protecting unlisted buildings of merit	Take forward a Buildings of Local Merit initiative
Street naming and naming of developments to reflect history of Godalming and Farncombe area	Lobby Waverley Borough Council to ensure that its Street Naming and Property Numbering Policy is followed ensure any ward councillor undertakes some consultation with the local community if controversial names are put forward
Identifying and rewarding excellence in design in Godalming and Farncombe	Promote awareness of the Waverley Borough Council and Godalming Trust Design Awards schemes
Repurpose existing buildings	Reflecting the fact that there are many good examples where buildings are no longer needed for their original purpose, have been renovated and a new sustainable use found for them, encourage re-use of buildings rather than demolition
Engaging on design	The Prince's Foundation 'Enquiry by Design' approach for pre-application consultation on major urban extensions should be encouraged for larger developments. Developers should show how they have responded to any feedback they have had to proposals in their application

Issue	Possible actions
Improving the High Street	Much of the existing residential accommodation in the High Street above and behind the shops is in a poor state of repair
Sites for extra care development	Work with landowners to identify suitable sites for extra care provision
Parking for shoppers	Explore potential for time limited, free parking for people wanting to use banks, etc
Improve the vitality of the western end of Godalming town centre	Explore innovative ways to improve footfall. This could include improved signposting or a 'destination occupier' which can bring footfall to Church Street, e.g. The Museum. So an action is to look at this and find innovative way to increase footfall
Tourism	Promote local attractions to encourage tourist visitors to the town
Review quality of hotel provision	Survey the occupancy rates of existing hotels to determine if support should be given (possibly in policy terms) to the additional provision of hotel accommodation

POLICIES MAPS

-  Godalming Neighbourhood Area
-  Settlement boundary
-  Green belt
-  Primary Shopping Area (Policy GOD3)
-  Farncombe Local Centre (Policy GOD4)
-  Godalming Town Centre Area (Policy GOD6)
-  Conservation Areas (Policy GOD7)
-  View from Chalk Road/Bridge Road to Parish Church (Policy GOD8)
-  Movement routes (Policy GOD9)
-  Green corridors (Policy GOD12)
-  Godalming Hillside (Policy GOD13)

