

NEW FOREST DISTRICT - COMMUNITY STRATEGY - BUILT ENVIRONMENT

	Priority Description	Evidence – why is this a priority?	Outcomes	Priority
A	Promote understanding and achievement of high quality design.	Awareness generally fairly low. Overall standard of design in the built environment variable, often not high. Relatively low threshold of acceptance resulting in mediocre design proliferating.	High quality design being the norm not the exception. Well designed places. Strong sense of civic pride.	
B	Identify and protect distinctive, valued local character.	Outside designated areas which benefit from statutory protection, widespread concern that locally valued character is being eroded through inadequate care and attention to design issues, particularly in suburban areas where pressure for development is high.	Valued local character and identity given greater weight in decision-making. Residential environments where people feel at home in their neighbourhood. Strong sense of place and civic pride. Value of green spaces and biodiversity fully recognized. Solid evidence available to support promotion of quality in design of the built environment throughout the district.	
C	Reduce carbon footprint of new development.	Overriding imperative to contribute positively to global, national and regional drive to address climate change by substantially reducing carbon emissions.	More low-carbon and zero-carbon development. More efficient use of natural resources. Widespread acceptance of renewable energy technology.	
D	Increase quality and quantity of public space.	Overall deficiencies in quantity, quality and accessibility have been identified. Well designed, flexible and adaptable public spaces needed and have identifiable health and social benefits.	Appealing, multi-functional and plentiful public spaces accessible to and well-used by all sectors of the community. Good opportunities for outdoor leisure, recreational and social interaction.	

E	Encourage creation of safe and healthy places.	Essential to quality of life. Safe and healthy places encourage greater sense of community pride and cohesion.	Safe healthy places for people to work, live and spend leisure time in resulting in an increased sense of community well-being.	
F	Make town centres more attractive.	Well designed attractive town centres needed to support economic regeneration and growth. High quality environments attract a good range of facilities.	Thriving, diverse, economically buoyant towns attracting increased investment and producing an increased social well-being in citizens and visitors.	
G	Increase awareness of the historic environment.	This is a finite resource and there is evidence of neglect. A number of Listed Buildings are currently 'at risk'. Need for stronger community ties and sense of pride in the locality.	A healthy historic environment with no buildings or structures in the high risk categories. Communities with a good understanding and awareness of their cultural heritage and the significance of the buildings and landscape around them.	
H	Facilitate wider use of sustainable transport modes through design of buildings and spaces.	Despite promotion of sustainable modes of transport in various policies, lack of rigorous and considered application in design of buildings and spaces restricts practical delivery of desired outcomes.	Good facilities in buildings and places to accommodate the needs of those using alternative modes of transport resulting in an increased use of such modes to the benefit of the environment and community health.	