

SOCIAL AND COMMUNITY WORKSHEETS

This section contains the following worksheets:

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WORKSHEET S6
CULTURE AND HERITAGE

These should be answered along with the worksheets in the environmental, economic and transport sections. Advice on answering the worksheets is provided in the Healthcheck Handbook.

Contact details for all national and regional organisations mentioned in these worksheets can be found in the Directory of Contacts.

**WORKSHEET S1
POPULATION**

These questions seek to define the population profile of the town and surrounding countryside. This assessment and particularly the baseline data collected will be important for many of the other assessments contained in these worksheets. Much of the information required to answer these questions will have been collected for the 'snapshot'.

CORE QUESTIONS

S1.1	What proportion of the total population live in the town as compared to the hinterland? (Compare the total population with that for the town and hinterland separately). The information is available from the Census of Population.	East Grinstead population (N/E/S/W wards) = 25700 (1998) Hinterland population (wards of Turners Hill, West Hoathly, Copthorne & Worth, Crawley Down, Forest Row, Hartfield, Felbridge, Lingfield & Crowhurst) = 28400 (1998) 48% of the total population live in the town.
S1.2	What proportion of the population is of retirement age i.e. over 65/60? (Compare number of people over 65/60 with the total population of the area and then compare with regional and national averages.) The information is available from the Census of Population. Identify whether there is a high proportion of elderly people.	19% in Mid-Sussex in 2001, for women 60 or over, men 65 or over. This is the same percentage as for the four wards in East Grinstead for both genders aged 60 or above. In the town's hinterland, the average percentage is slightly higher.
S1.3	What proportion of the population is under 16? (Compare number of children under 16 with the total population of the area and then compare with regional and national averages.) The information is available from the Census of Population. Identify whether there is high or low proportion of young people.	21% of the population of the town was aged under 16 in 1998. This is the same as for the hinterland. This is about the same as the percentage for Mid-Sussex in 2001.
S1.4	What proportion of the population have professional and managerial jobs? (Compare the ratio of the above groups as a proportion of the total number of people employed and then compare with the regional and national averages.) The information is available from the Census of Population. Identify whether there is a high or low proportion of professional and managerial workers.	27% of employees in West Sussex between March 2001 and Feb 2002 had professional or managerial jobs.

S1.5	<p>What proportion of the population have semi-skilled manual and unskilled jobs? (Compare the ratio of the above groups as a proportion of the total number of workers and compare with the regional and national averages). The information is available from the Census of Population or employment surveys.</p> <p>Identify whether there is a high or low proportion of semi-skilled and manual workers.</p>	<p>18% of employees in West Sussex between March 2001 and Feb 2002 had semi-skilled or unskilled jobs.</p>
S1.6	<p>What proportion of total households are single parent households? (Compare the ratio of single parent households as a proportion of the total number of households and then compare against the regional and national averages.) The information is available from the Census of Population.</p> <p>Identify if there is a high or low proportion of single parent households.</p>	<p>EG has a higher number single parent households than most communities in West Sussex, but the average number of children per household is about average for the county.</p>
S1.7	<p>What proportion of total households are elderly people living alone? (Compare the ratio of elderly people living alone as a proportion of the total number of households and compare with the regional and national averages.) The information is available from the Census of Population.</p> <p>Identify if there are a significant number of elderly people living alone.</p>	<p>EG has an average of 22% of the households in the wards being those of elderly people (living alone. This is approximately the same as for the rest of the district, but there are disparities within even the town itself (eg in EG East 25% of the households are 85+ ages women living alone, but in EG North the proportion is 64%).</p>
S1.8	<p>Has the population of the town and hinterland grown or declined in the last ten years? (Compare population levels from the 1981 and 1991 Census). The information is available from the Censuses of Population for 1981 and 1991. Note that there were some ward boundary changes between the 1981 and 1991 Censuses. The 2001 Census will provide up to date information.</p> <p>Identify whether the population of the area is growing or in decline</p>	<p>The town has increased very slightly in population in the last ten years, with little change in the hinterland.</p> <p>No significant changes identified.</p>

WORKSHEET S2 HOUSING

These questions are aimed at finding out the basic data required to evaluate the housing situation in the town and surrounding countryside. Cross reference this to Worksheet S1 on population.

If there is not sufficient information available to answer the questions, it may be possible to work with the district council to do an up-to-date housing needs assessment. Guidance on housing needs assessment is given in Data Sources and Survey Methods.

CORE QUESTIONS

S2.1	What types of houses/flats are currently available? (Identify the types of properties by type e.g. one-bed flat or four-bed detached cottage that are on the market) Contact local estate agents to get a general feel for the local housing market and contact the District Council and Local Housing Associations about their own housing stock. Identify how many and what types of housing are available	Houses normally available are 3 or 4 bed with a number of these being converted to single bed sit. No figures for numbers at present.
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<p>S2.2</p>	<p>How much and what types of new housing is being planned in your area? (Identify areas where new housing is planned and note the number and type of housing). Information on planned housing can be found in the Local Plan and is shown on the proposals map. For further information contact the District Council planning department.</p> <p>Identify where and how much new housing is being planned.</p>	<p>All new housing will be on Brownfield sites. Greenfield will be discouraged these will be considered shortly with Local Plan revision. The present Local Plan estimates a total of 172 dwellings. Amongst those projected, ? or in the pipeline are – the old Gas Works 35 units with 30% affordable, Lawn Tennis Club 40 dwellings, Railway Approach 28 flats for the elderly, Orchard Way 12 flats, Stone Quarry Woods 35 dwellings with 40% affordable, Fairfield Road 52 units for the over 65s, Neale House 62 units for the elderly. West of East Grinstead a minimum of 2000 mixed development by 2016.</p>
<p>S2.3</p>	<p>Is existing local housing in good condition? (Identify areas where housing is in poor condition e.g. problems with damp, lack of central heating, external and structural problems, level of disrepair). Information can be obtained from the District Council who are likely to have undertaken a housing condition survey.</p> <p>Identify areas in need of maintenance and restoration.</p>	<p>Pockets of unfitness in the rented sector with lack of facilities and means of escape. Lack of financial ability for those on low income to maintain their property or to support energy efficiency. Mid Sussex is to deliver a new policy for renewal assistance in 2003.</p>
<p>S2.4</p>	<p>Is local housing affordable? (Compare local income levels with average house prices and rent levels). The District Council may have undertaken their own survey of house prices and incomes. Alternatively, information on gross weekly earnings is available from the New Earnings Survey, published by the Office for National Statistics (www.statistics.gov.uk/PartE). Average house prices and rent levels can be ascertained from local estate agents.</p> <p>Identify if local people can afford to live in the area.</p>	<p>Local housing is not affordable. Average price of houses in the area is £178,000 needing an income of £59,000 for a mortgage. Typical rent for 1 bed flat is £500/month.</p>

<p>S2.5</p>	<p>Is homelessness a problem in the area? (Compare local homeless levels with regional and national averages). Local levels of homelessness are compiled by the District Council for the Housing Investment Programme. At the national level Statutory Homelessness Statistics are collated by the Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions.</p> <p>Identify whether homelessness levels are significant.</p>	<p>There are an estimated 665 on the homeless register. Register priority No1 is physical disability, No2 is mental health, No3 is learning disability.</p>
<p>S2.6</p>	<p>Do local people have priority in accessing affordable housing? (Look at the allocation rules for Council waiting lists and the nomination agreements between the Council and the Housing Associations). The information is held by the District Council housing department and by Housing Associations.</p> <p>Identify if there is local priority for affordable housing.</p>	<p>Local people do not have any priority, social reasons only. The priority for affordable housing is on the District Council's agenda for 2003/2004.</p>
<p>S2.7</p>	<p>Is sufficient specialist housing being made available for the elderly? (Compare demand for specialist housing with current and planned provision). Information can be obtained from the District Council and Housing Associations.</p> <p>Identify if there if there is a need to supply more specialist housing for the elderly.</p>	<p>The population is estimated to increase by 3.6% between 1996-2006. The largest increase will be in the over 60s and 68% is expected to consist of single person households. More specialised accommodation for intermediate care as we now have at Dart Court and proposed development in Fairfield Road for the frail elderly. In March 2003 there will be a register of housing suitable for people with disabilities.</p>

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS

<p>S2.8</p>	<p>Is there a significant level of second home or holiday home ownership locally or in particular areas? (Compare number of second homes/holiday homes with total number of households). This information is available from the Census of Population or from Council Tax records. A second home is where only half the council tax is paid – full council tax is paid at another address.</p> <p>Identify if there is a high number of homes not available to the local population.</p>	<p>There are a few holiday homes to research.</p>
<p>S2.9</p>	<p>Is there a high level of vacancy or empty houses? (Compare vacancy levels with the total number of properties). Information on vacancy levels should be obtainable from the District Council Housing Investment Programme or Housing Needs Surveys.</p> <p>* Includes council houses. Identify if there are opportunities to bring existing housing back into use.</p>	<p>The stock of empty homes will be published with the launch of the empty homes campaign during 2003. There are no council houses in the district. See earlier comments in S2.3 regarding renewal assistance in 2003.</p>
<p>S2.10</p>	<p>Are there opportunities to bring housing in the town centre, e.g. flats over shops, back into use? (Identify number and location of vacant premises over shops). Information can be obtained by doing a quick on-the-ground survey of the town.</p> <p>Identify opportunities to allow people to live in the town centre.</p>	<p>A limited number of flats are over the shops in town, some occupied and other in use as storerooms. Lack of parking is one factor as over the shop is not for the elderly who no longer can drive and really need ground floor units. Conversion of some centrally based office blocks would be a more suitable alternative.</p>

<p>S2.11</p>	<p>Will the planned provision of affordable housing meet local demand? (Compare forecasts of future provision of affordable housing with the waiting lists). Contact District Council and Housing Associations.</p> <p>Identify any under provision of affordable housing.</p>	<p>The provision of affordable housing will not meet local demand. The District Council will deliver about 19 subsidised dwellings for the years 2003-2006. They will also launch an empty homes campaign to bring the average of 5% uprated properties back into use where they have been empty for more than 6 months during the period 2003-2006. With about 650 on the housing register with only 139 lettings per year there is obviously a shortfall mostly for affordable reasons.</p>
<p>S2.12</p>	<p>Where there is poor quality housing, is this being addressed by improvement/investment programmes? (Compare the results of the housing condition survey with known housing improvement/investment schemes). Information on housing conditions and housing improvement programmes can be obtained from the District Council.</p> <p>Identify areas of private housing that are not being addressed.</p>	<p>The programme for dealing with poor quality housing has been covered in earlier comments.</p>

WORKSHEET S3 HEALTH AND PUBLIC SAFETY

These questions are aimed at assessing the health and public safety aspects of the town and surrounding countryside. Accessibility issues are addressed in Worksheet T2.

There are two main areas where new information may be needed: a fear of crime survey and an audit of the quality of the local environment. The local community should identify areas that have problems in terms of vandalism, unlit areas, litter and graffiti. Guidance on undertaking a fear of crime survey is given in Data Sources and Survey Methods.

CORE QUESTIONS

S3.1	<p>Do the ambulance, police and fire services meet their own response time targets? (Identify areas where the emergency services are experiencing difficulties in meeting their own response times). Contact the emergency services.</p> <p>Identify any shortfalls in services and check whether any future planned changes to service provision will improve response times.</p>	Yes (that is 75% calls in up to 8 minutes)
S3.2	<p>Does the number of doctors and dentists meet the appropriate standards? (Identify the number of doctors and dentists compared with total population and compare with threshold levels). Contact the local health authority who will have a register of doctors and dentists in the area and will hold information about the target level.</p> <p>Identify any shortfalls and check whether any future planned changes to service provision will increase/decrease access to doctors and dentists.</p>	East Grinstead is well service for NHS dentists, compared to other towns of the same size. There are 4 practices accepting all categories of NHS patient (adult, children, exempt), and another accepting NHS children. There is also a specialist orthodontic practice.

<p>S3.3</p>	<p>Are local mortality rates for heart disease, stroke, cancer, suicide and accidents high? (Compare the local health authority statistics with the regional and national averages). Contact the local health authority who has access to local, regional and national statistics. Identify where rates exceed the averages and ask whether future health service provision is being targeted in these areas.</p>	<p>Mid-Sussex is average among the local authorities for coronary heart disease (1997-99). Very high mortality rate for all stroke victims in Mid-Sussex, above the average for the South East, and England and Wales (1997-99). Mortality from all cancers is slightly lower than in other local authorities except Horsham for men, and is the lowest in all local authorities for women (1997-99). Mid-Sussex has a significantly lower level of mortality from accidents than all other authorities.</p>
<p>S3.4</p>	<p>How easy is it for residents to get access to non-emergency hospital services as a user or visitor? (Identify where these services are, the distances involved and whether they can be accessed by public transport). Information can be obtained from the Local Health Authority and transport surveys using mapping and timetables. Identify where hospital services are difficult to access.</p>	<p>The maximum wait for a routine out-patient referral is 21 weeks.</p>
<p>S3.5</p>	<p>Are there adequate specialist clinics and out patient clinics available locally e.g. family planning, drugs and drink advice? (Identify what services are available and where). Information can be obtained from the Local Health Authority. Identify any gaps or under-provision in services</p>	<p>Family planning clinics are provided in a range of locations designed to be accessible.</p>
<p>S3.6</p>	<p>Is there adequate social and health care services available in the home (e.g. community nurses, health visitors, home helps etc)? (Identify number of people who are in need of, but are not recipients of, social and health care services). Information can be obtained from the Local Health Authority and County Council social services department. Identify under provision of services to vulnerable sections of the community.</p>	<p>The Locality Implementation Plan for Mid Sussex is being undertaken by a joint Health and Social Services Strategy Group and includes increases in preventive and rehabilitative community support and intensive home care/ home nursing schemes.</p> <p>Mid Sussex district has the highest amount of residents over 65s who receive <u>more than</u> 10 hours a week home day-care, in the county. The number is slightly above average for over 18-64 year olds, and slightly under the average for those two groups receiving <u>less than</u> 10 hours per week.</p>

<p>S3.7</p>	<p>Is there a high incidence of crime? (Find out the local incidence of crime for the following types of crimes; shop theft, burglaries, personal assault, criminal damage, car theft and theft from vehicles and compare with the regional and national rates). Contact the local police authority who has access to local, regional and national statistics. Identify where there are problems, both in terms of geographical areas and in the types of crime prevalent. Identify if future policing strategies will address these.</p>	<p>Violence against the person per 1,000 of the population in Mid-Sussex is the lowest in West Sussex. Robberies increased following the trend for West Sussex. Theft of a motor vehicle is lower than the area average, but theft from a vehicle is higher.</p>
<p>S3.8</p>	<p>Are there any crime prevention measures in place? (Identify areas covered by CCTV, community policing and neighbourhood watch). Contact the District Council and local police authority who should hold all this information.</p> <p>Identify any areas that would benefit from the introduction of crime prevention measures.</p>	<p>There is a CCTV scheme running in the town covering most of the town centre, there is a Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRPs), and in the district's Crime and Safety Strategy for 2002-2005 they implement new Area Community Safety Groups which will be focused on different safety issues depending on the needs of the communities they cover. Re-organisation of the Police has not changed the number of officers per area.</p>
<p>S3.9</p>	<p>Do background levels of noise, air quality and water quality meet or exceed national standards? (Compare local levels for noise, water and air quality with the national standards). The District Council environmental health department and the Environment Agency undertake regular monitoring and should hold information about background levels and be able to identify any black spots where national standards are exceeded. Identify pollution black spots.</p>	<p>Mid-Sussex District Council has completed a review and assessment of local air quality as required by the Environment Act 1995 Part IV, and found "it was not necessary for Mid-Sussex District Council to declare any Air Quality Management Areas" (Mid Sussex Community Profile, 2002).</p>

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS

<p>S3.10</p>	<p>Do the local health clinics, doctors and dentists operate mobile service units? (Identify what mobile services there are and which areas they cover). Contact local health authority.</p> <p>Identify areas covered by mobile units. Identify if there are any planned improvements to increase the coverage by mobile units.</p>	<p>No mobile dentist services.</p>
<p>S3.11</p>	<p>Is the fear of crime significantly worse than actual crime rates? (Compare the results of the fear of crime survey with the crime statistics). Local crime statistics are available from the local police authority. To identify fear of crime in the local community it may be possible to undertake a fear of crime survey.</p> <p>Identify any mismatch and look at where the District Council or local police authority is trying to address safety issues e.g. future plans for CCTV, maintenance of street lighting, increasing number of police officers on the street.</p>	<p>“Mid Sussex has one of the lowest rates of recorded crime in the country. Despite being a relatively low crime area residents express serious concerns about crime and disorder in their neighbourhood”. (A Community Safety Strategy for Mid Sussex 2002-2005)</p>
<p>S3.12</p>	<p>Is there visible evidence of vandalism, unlit streets, litter or graffiti? (Identify areas which feel unsafe and/or neglected). The information can be collected by a quick local survey.</p> <p>Identify areas that need improvement.</p>	<p>The Community Safety Strategy suggests possible initiatives for the Area Community Safety Groups, such as:</p> <p>“Reviewing street layout, the position of street furniture and the provision of street lighting to reduce cover for criminal damage/vandalism” and “Extending the use of CCTV”</p> <p>Also, See EN 1.12</p>

WORKSHEET S4
LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

These questions are aimed at finding out about the level of community involvement in local decision-making and activity in both the town and surrounding countryside.

If there is not sufficient information available to answer the questions it may be possible to undertake an audit of facilities and find out about the work of community groups in the area. If there is a community liaison or development worker in the area, they will be a useful source of information.

CORE QUESTIONS

<p>S4.1</p>	<p>Do local residents have direct access to the District or County Council in the town? (Identify where the nearest offices are, whether there are Council information points for example in the library, town hall and whether local councillors hold surgeries for local people to attend). Contact the District and County Councils and individual councillors.</p> <p>Identify how easy it is to access information about Council services.</p>	<p>Access to the District or County Council is through the Help Point in the library which also serves local Town and Parish Councils. Councillors hold a surgery in the Library monthly.</p> <p>All information is available from the Help Point by telephone or visit.</p>
<p>S4.2</p>	<p>Are a large number of local people involved in community activities? (Identify the number and range of community groups and their membership levels and compare with total population). Information on population will have been collected for the 'snapshot' and local community groups can provide information about their membership.</p> <p>Identify the level of community involvement.</p>	<p>There are about 82 local groups of various interest in the town and also a large demand for volunteers. Most groups find it difficult to get a full quota of volunteers and a number serve more than one or two organisations.</p> <p>East Grinstead is well served by the community in the shape of local interest and social groups.</p>

<p>S4.3</p>	<p>Do local people have an interest in national and local politics? (Identify the level of voter turnout at local and national elections and compare with the national average). Information is held by the District Council electoral services department.</p> <p>Identify level of local political involvement.</p>	<p>Local people in common with elsewhere have some apathy towards politics and mostly only take an interest with major issues which affect them directly.</p> <p>In Mid Sussex there was a 39% of electorate voting in the 1995 district council elections.</p>
<p>S4.4</p>	<p>Is there somebody who can help develop community involvement? (Identify if there is a dedicated local authority or rural community council officer responsible for co-ordinating or building capacity for community involvement). Contact the District Council or local Rural Community Council.</p> <p>Identify if there is assistance that local communities can draw on.</p>	<p>Local authorities employ community development officers and also local organisations act as a focus for town events. One individual in the form of the Town Clerk acts as a catalyst for the general wellbeing of the town.</p> <p>Local communities can draw on assistance from some officers on the District, town councillors or from umbrella organisations either locally, district or elsewhere.</p> <p>Key issue - There are about 82 local groups of various sorts in the town, and although there is community development support from various agencies, there is no dedicated body or person tasked with pulling together community efforts and developing capacity</p>
<p>S4.5</p>	<p>Have community groups been influential in developing policies or strategies? (Identify where local people have been involved in preparing Village Design Statements, Supplementary Planning Guidance, or delivering local services). Contact the District Council and local community groups.</p> <p>Identify which groups or individuals have been involved in successful community based initiatives and the level of experience the community has of being involved in the local decision-making process.</p>	<p>Local groups have not been involved in local strategies which is not to say that they would not if approached.</p> <p>The town council was responsible for delivering the Chequer Mead Centre.</p> <p>Community Groups are now starting to get involved in a new Local Strategic Partnership which is being formed, and a “Community Plan” which is under preparation for the wider area of Mid Sussex.</p>

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS

<p>S4.6</p>	<p>Is the local community well represented on committees? (Identify where there are local community representatives present on partnership committees, council committees or sub-committees).</p> <p>Identify where community representation is already successfully deployed.</p>	<p>The town council has representatives on most major local communities or trusts.</p> <p>Community representation is deployed on CVS, CAB, Age Concern, Chamber of Commerce, Furnihelp, Access Group, Chequer Mead Theatre, East Court Steering Group, Careers Group, Pensioners Assoc, Christmas Lights, Christmas Shopping Day, Police Community Forum, Wallis Centre Management, Churches Together, East Grinstead in Bloom.</p>
<p>S4.7</p>	<p>Are there any active neighborhood forums, residents or tenants associations? Contact the District Council, County Council and Local Housing Associations.</p> <p>Identify the level of community involvement in managing decisions about the management of their own environment.</p>	<p>There are a number of residents assoc. such as the High Street, Imberhorne Residents, and obviously others which we have not yet researched.</p> <p>The community have very little involvement in managing their environment.</p>
<p>S4.8</p>	<p>Have local people had the experience of being actively involved in community development? (Identify whether the local authority or a public service provider has undertaken a community consultation programme in the last three years). The District Council will know what consultation programmes they have run.</p> <p>Identify the level of experience people have of being involved in local decision-making.</p>	<p>This is the first exercise which has asked the local community to help with an in-depth study of the town.</p> <p>The level of experience is difficult to quantify, there must be some which will emerge from Health Check.</p>

WORKSHEET S5
SPORT, LEISURE AND OPEN SPACE

These questions are aimed at finding out the basic data on the use and quality of sport and leisure facilities and open space, in both the town and the surrounding countryside.

There are two possible areas of new data collection that could provide useful: surveys of people who use sports and leisure facilities and an open space character assessment. Members of the community can be involved in undertaking attitude surveys to find out what people like best or dislike most about an area of open space and whether sports and leisure facilities are of a high quality and meet local demands, for example. Sport and leisure clubs will be an important source of information and local schools, youth groups or the Groundwork Trust, for example, might be interested in undertaking a survey of what people like/dislike about an area of open space. Guidance on undertaking open space character assessments is given in Data Sources and Survey Methods.

CORE QUESTIONS

<p>S5.2</p>	<p>Is there any unmet demand for specific sports or leisure facilities? (Use results of the user surveys and attitude surveys to highlight problems). Individual sport group and facilities' managers will have a good idea of whether current facilities meet needs.</p> <p>Identify any shortfalls and check whether any future planned changes will increase/decrease provision of these.</p>	<p>The town is definitely lacking sufficient high quality indoor sports halls / facilities. This is certainly affecting school clubs and local clubs such as Basketball groups.</p> <p>With continually wet winters, the town would also benefit from an all weather synthetic facility, which could be used for football and rugby training for example.</p> <p>Another area in which East Grinstead fails to meet demand relates to adequate sporting opportunities for disabled people. Despite the fact that facilities such as the Imberhorne based Athletics track, the rugby club and the Sports club are geared up to facilitate people with disabilities, little is actively done to help them pursue their interests. Better facilities, greater levels of transport and more sports specific clubs would help address this shortfall.</p> <p>It has been suggested that the town would also benefit from another public swimming pool or an extension to the existing one.</p>
<p>S5.3</p>	<p>Are local open spaces of a high quality? (Identify where the areas of open space are and find out what people like about the areas of open space, which are the most popular and attractive, how well used are they and what facilities they contain). Use the results of the open space character assessment.</p> <p>Identify areas for improvement and areas of value/quality that require continued maintenance and or protection.</p>	<p>See EN 2.2</p>

<p>S5.4</p>	<p>Are there any known threats of loss of open space or closure of facilities due to either development proposals or reduction in budgets? (Identify any facilities or areas of open space under threat). Look at development proposals in the Local Plan, current planning applications and contact private sector sports and leisure providers and the District Council to determine their future plans.</p> <p>Identify future threats to sports and leisure facilities and provision of local open space.</p>	<p>The Local Plan specifically states that it will protect existing areas of open space in the town.</p>
<p>S5.5</p>	<p>Are there adequate opportunities to pursue outdoor sporting activities? (Identify where people can go walking, horse riding, hire bikes, go rock climbing or use outdoor activity centres). Most of this information will be local knowledge or alternative sources are the Yellow Pages or Local Tourist Board. Rights of way information is held by the County Council.</p> <p>Identify any shortfalls in facilities.</p>	<p>Despite the fact that there are a variety of opportunities for the residents of East Grinstead to pursue outdoor sporting activities, it would be inaccurate to say that improvements or additions would not still be of benefit to the town (i.e to facilitate social regeneration and tourism).</p> <p>Amongst the Outdoor facilities include:</p> <p>Deers Leap Park at Saint Hill, which offers a brilliant opportunity for people to hire and ride mountain bikes on a specially designed track or on offsite routes. The park also offers safe and varied walks and opportunities for orienteering.</p> <p>Hindleap Warren and Blacklands Farm also offer great outdoor sporting activities, such as climbing, abseiling, archery and kayaking.</p> <p>There are also areas to go horse riding on such as the Worth Way and on designated tracks around the Forest.</p> <p>In order to help meet demands of the young in the area of outdoor pursuits, MSDC built specially designed skate ramps at East Court and King Georges field. Devised by the young people, they are frequently in use for bladers, skate boarders and BMX riders.</p>
<p>S5.6</p>	<p>Do many people have to travel outside the town to take part in certain sports? (Location at where sports groups are based). Local sports groups will know this information.</p> <p>Identify which sporting activities are not catered for in the town.</p>	<p>Generally, most 'mainstream' clubs are able to pursue their sporting activities in and around the town.</p> <p>However, one example where athletes have had to travel out of East Grinstead to receive the required coaching, refers to elite disabled athletes. Trips down to Horsham and Brighton were endured to ensure their training needs were met. The completion of the Imberhorne athletics project should now mean that the town has the facility, but we still need the expertise. It is also known that Basketball clubs are struggling to comply with all of their fixtures due to constraints on available court time as a result of insufficient high standard indoor facilities.</p>

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS

<p>S5.7</p>	<p>What proportion of the eligible local population belongs to a sports or leisure club? (Compare membership of sports groups with the total population in appropriate age groups of the area). Contact local sports clubs and sport and leisure facilities' managers.</p> <p>Identify the level of community involvement in sport and leisure activities.</p>	<p>As an estimate the figure would probably not exceed more than 15-20%.</p> <p>This is only an estimate. I will try and obtain a more accurate figure once I've had an opportunity to extract the membership figures from the relevant and more prominent clubs.</p>
<p>S5.8</p>	<p>Are there any residential areas which are over 400 metres from an area of open space? (Identify residential areas that are not close to areas of open space). Open space is usually shown on the Local Plan proposals map and this can be used to measure distances to residential areas. Alternatively, the District Council may have undertaken an Open Space Assessment. Identify residential areas which do not have easy access to open space.</p>	<p>The town is surrounded by countryside and has several meadows and parks within the town, so it is unlikely that any residential areas are far from an area of open space.</p>
<p>S5.9</p>	<p>Does the provision of open space meet the National Playing Fields Association Standard of 2.4 hectares per 1000 population? (Compare area of formally designated open space with the NPFA standard). The District Council should have information about open space in the town and whether it meets the national standard. Identify any shortfall in provision.</p>	<p>“Outdoor Playing Space - The Council has adopted the NPFA minimum standards for the provision of outdoor playing space and is committed to meeting this provision as far as is practicable. In East Grinstead there is a variety of open space provision including formal sports grounds and playing fields, children's casual play areas and equipped children's playgrounds. Currently 70% of the NPFA standard for outdoor playing space is met at East Grinstead. However, this figure masks wide variations in the level of provision of different types of open space and its location within the town. For example 88% of the NPFA requirement for the provision of children's playgrounds and casual space is satisfied, but only 62% of the standard for formal sports provision. Also, the provision of such playing space varies between wards within the town..” (Mid Sussex Local Plan)</p> <p>These figures are derived from the District Council's detailed survey of outdoor playing space carried out in 2000.</p>

		<p><u>“Children's Playspace</u> As indicated above, under the NPFA standard for East Grinstead 88% of the required provision is met, although there are local variations within the town. Three sites are identified for equipped children's playspace - two on the Estcots estate and one at Sackville Gardens. No other sites are allocated at this stage but the Council will continue to investigate the feasibility of further provision, having regard to the location and suitability of available sites, in order to secure as wide a distribution of outdoor playing space as possible within the built up area. Land for children's equipped outdoor playing space is identified at the following locations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❑ Estcots Estate, off Court Crescent; ❑ Estcots Estate, off Estcots Drive; and ❑ Sackville Gardens. <p><u>Sports Provision</u> There is currently provision for a range of formal sporting activities in and around East Grinstead. These include, for example, extensive playing fields at East Court and King George's Field, and provision for cricket, rugby and hockey, including a synthetic pitch, at Saint Hill to the southwest of the town. However, the minimum NPFA standard is not met at East Grinstead and research conducted by the Council in the production of the Mid Sussex Playing Pitch Strategy has confirmed a shortfall in playing pitches in the area. Investigations will continue in an attempt to address this shortfall." (From Mid Sussex Local Plan)</p>
<p>S5.10</p>	<p>Which villages have village greens and/or recreation grounds? (Identify villages that do not have communal areas of open space). Most of this information will be local knowledge or an alternative source such as the Parish Council.</p> <p>Identify any shortfalls in access to open space.</p>	<p>Nearly all the villages in the East Grinstead area have at least a village green or recreation area, if not both and additional facilities.</p>

**WORKSHEET S6
CULTURE AND HERITAGE**

These questions are aimed at finding out about the breadth of cultural facilities and activities taking place in the town and surrounding. It may prove useful to map some of the answers.

If there is not sufficient information available to answer the questions, an audit of facilities and the numbers and types of community groups will prove useful. In addition to the physical audit, members of the community can be involved - through attitude surveys - in finding out whether current facilities are of a high quality and meet local demand. Local arts and amenity groups will be an important source of information.

CORE QUESTIONS

<p>S6.1</p>	<p>Does the town have an adequate range of cultural facilities e.g. theatre, cinema, art gallery, museum or library? (Identify where these are available. If not in the town itself, then where is the nearest located). Most of this information will be local knowledge but the Yellow Pages is an alternative source.</p> <p>Identify any obvious shortfalls or facilities.</p>	<p>Theatre 340 seats</p> <p>3 x Function rooms.</p> <p>The King Street cinema has <i>two</i> screens, showing a variety of films. A night-club and a Weatherspoons Pub/restaurant are also on these premises.</p> <p>The library is in West Street opposite a MSDC car park and is open 55 hours a week, including on four evenings until 7.30pm and on Saturdays from 9.30 - 5.00pm. The services are on two floors and there is lift access.</p> <p>The library has a stock of 71,105 items for loan and reference and 12 computers for free public internet access. It has a registered membership of 28,934(70% of target population of 41,520) and was visited by 325,728 people in 2000-2001</p> <p>It has a meetings room, which can house up to 30 people and is used by groups e.g. U3A (University of the Third age) and also for lectures and talks for adults and children.</p> <p>The library also houses:</p> <p><u>Help Point</u> The Help Point provides information on all Town, District and County Council services, as well as information on National Health Trusts.</p> <p><u>Tourist Information</u> Provides information to both visitors and members of the local community</p> <p><u>Careers Office</u>; MSDC Housing Benefit and Housing Advice Surgeries; Council for Voluntary Service-</p> <p><u>Furnihelp and Access Group</u>; <u>East Grinstead Volunteer centre</u> and <u>The Registrar</u> (by appointment)</p> <p><u>Local Councillors also hold surgeries</u> twice a month at the Library</p> <p>At present the town museum housed at East Court and staffed by volunteers the Museum is open two afternoons a week. It is hoped to move the museum to a new building in the centre of the town when funds permit.</p>
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		<p>Three public halls.</p> <p>The Chequer Mead Theatre and Arts Centre offers a wide range of concerts, shows and events, both professional and amateur, for all age groups. A number of local arts groups meet and rehearse at the centre and there are facilities for art exhibitions and conferences. Films are sometimes also shown at Chequer Mead. The centre is situated in De la Warr Road, with adequate parking and excellent facilities for those with disabilities. Chequer Mead has an energetic "Friends" organisation .</p> <p>Lack of revenue funding for the core arts provision</p>
<p>S6.2</p>	<p>Are there regular events which have the potential to draw the whole community together? (Identify the number and type of events e.g. fairs, festivals, carnivals). This information should be local knowledge.</p> <p>Identify opportunities for local people to come together or whether there is a need to develop such an event.</p>	<p>East Grinstead Summer Extravaganza organised by the Rotary Club</p> <p>Christmas Sunday shopping day.</p> <p>Some doubts about the future of the EGE. Development of future large scale community events should be considered.</p>
<p>S6.3</p>	<p>Does the local community have a mechanism to report and comment on local events and issues? (Identify whether there is a local paper, radio station or TV station and where they are based). This information should be local knowledge.</p> <p>Identify opportunities for local people to have a voice or whether there is a need to develop such a mechanism.</p>	<p>Two local papers in East Grinstead: <u>East Grinstead Courier</u> Courier Printing and Publishing Co. Local address: 37 High Street East Grinstead RH19 3AF <u>East Grinstead Observer</u> (part of East Surrey and Sussex Newspapers) Local address: 182 London Road, East Grinstead RH19 IAD</p> <p>Local Radio – Mercury Radio based in Crawley (8 miles), and BBC Southern Counties Radio</p> <p>TV – Meridian Carlton</p> <p>Consideration is being given to establishing a user group at the local theatre Chequer Mead. Chequer Mead has a system in place for getting feedback from users</p>

<p>S6.4</p>	<p>Do town and rural communities have adequate community venues? (Identify where there are community centres, village halls and other venues - both in the town and surrounding villages where local people can come together. Compare the number of venues available in the town and surrounding villages). This information should be local knowledge or contact the Town and Parish Councils.</p> <p>Identify whether the quantity and quality of these facilities is sufficient.</p>	<p>There are 8 community venues for hire in East Grinstead, plus a further 8 church halls</p> <p>Village venues : Ashurstwood-4; Hammerwood- 1; West Hoathly- 1; Felbridge- 1; Forest Row- 3; Crawley Down - 1; Turners Hill -1; Lingfield - 3; (This does not include school premises, which are for hire)</p> <p>There is great demand for all these venues. There is a strong case for additional facilities at Chequer Mead. The Quality of almost all the facilities is reasonable to very good.</p>
<p>S6.5</p>	<p>Does the area have any strong cultural associations such as famous people, events or literary links or any famous products? (Identify any cultural or historic links e.g. Hawarth in Yorkshire is associated with the Brontes, Bridgwater in Somerset is famous for its carnival and processions and Melton Mowbray is known for its pork pies). This should be local knowledge. In addition, local history groups will have a lot of useful information.</p> <p>Identify any cultural associations that make the area distinctive.</p>	<p>Dame Beryl Gray Andy Ripley Richard Schabel Duncan Goodhew David Sheppard</p>
<p>S6.6</p>	<p>Are there strong historic associations with the area? (Identify any important battles that might have taken place, important historic ruins and monuments, historic houses and parkland). Information on national historic sites can be obtained from English Heritage. In addition, the local history society will have a lot of useful information.</p> <p>Identify any strong historic associations with the area.</p>	<p>East Grinstead Meridian East Court Mansion & Park WWII associations: Battle of Britain pilots/Guinea Pig Club/Sackville College /Sir Archibald McIndoe/John Mason Neale St Swithuns Church: East Grinstead Martyrs Historic High Street: Toll House/Old Lock Up/Middle Row</p>

SUPPLEMENTARY QUESTIONS

<p>S6.7</p>	<p>What proportion of the local population is involved in an arts-based community group? (Compare number of people involved in arts groups with the total population). Contact local arts groups.</p> <p>Identify the level of community involvement in the arts.</p>	<p>Not possible to quantify proportion of local population involved in arts based community groups from available data. However, from the local societies' database maintained by the library, there are 49 arts groups divided as follows:</p> <p>Art/Crafts 8/Dance 12/Drama 5/Literary1/Music 15/Photography 3/Children 5 In addition there are a wide variety of arts classes held at the Learning Centre -- 47 in total</p> <p>Art 11(at different levels) Craft 21</p> <p>Dance 8 Photography 6</p> <p>East Grinstead U3A has a variety of study groups including 15, which would be classed as art groups.</p>
<p>S6.8</p>	<p>Do facilities for arts and cultural activities meet the demand of the local arts groups? (Identify where local groups find it difficult to find adequate accommodation.) A survey of these groups may be.</p>	<p>Yes – As far as can be ascertained the facilities are adequate however funding for maintenance of the facilities remains a major issue.</p> <p>No surveys carried out but given the existing numbers of groups, it would appear that there are large numbers of people engaged in arts activities, at least in the town. No data available for the villages.</p>