

Key issues arising from the **State of the Local Environment Report** and plans in place to tackle them.

Data	Issue	Plans in place	Responsibility
Ecological footprint	The city's ecological footprint is high	One Planet Framework programme development	City Sustainability Partnership and BHCC
Changing local climate and projections of further change	Impacts of climate change largely unknown: severe weather events, wetter winters, hotter summers	Adaptation task group to be set up Local Climate Impact Profile with service heads Business Continuity Planning Winter Planning and severe weather warnings Heatwave plan Flooding, drought early warning system from EA	Citywide
CO2 emissions	Slow rate of CO2 reduction	Climate Change Strategy	City Sustainability Partnership and BHCC
Renewable energy	Compare poorly to local authority areas generating the highest levels of energy	Climate Change Strategy	CSP, Energy Working Group and BHCC.
Flooding	Coastal flooding (risk of sea level rise) B&H particularly susceptible to surface flooding, groundwater flooding	Surface Water Management Plan - programme Strategic Flood Risk Assessment Planning Policy Early warning monitoring for groundwater flooding	BHCC, Environment Agency, multi-agency

Air quality: Nitrogen Dioxide	Concentrations of Nitrogen Dioxide continue to exceed national limit values at some roadside locations across the city	Air Quality Management Area Air Quality Strategy Local Transport Plan 3 Fleet Replacement Programme - BHCC	BHCC, Air Quality Partnership
Water supply – demand	SE (incl B&H) considered very vulnerable to short term severe drought events	Water Resources Management Plan Leakage replacement Universal domestic metering target	Southern Water
Ground water status	Overall status of groundwater is 'poor' mainly due to water abstraction. Quality is 'good' but at risk of deterioration	Water Resources Management Plan Downland initiative Biosphere Reserve	Environment Agency Southern Water BHCC
Water consumption	Doesn't compare badly but due to water 'quantity status' this should not be dismissed	Universal metering – Southern Water	Southern Water
Bathing water quality	Central Brighton and Hove lost 'excellent' status in 2010, possibly due to storm discharging. Two blue flags were also lost.	Southern Water Treatment works - March 2013	Southern Water Environment Agency
Wastewater discharge	Wastewater discharge out to sea	Southern Water Treatment works - March 2013	Southern Water
Waste arising, recycling, composting, landfill, energy from waste	Increase in waste arising Decrease in recycling (08/09 – 09/10) Static composting rates Recycling & Composting – lower than national rates	Waste Strategy (review) Food waste trial	BHCC

Food waste	35% of waste households throw away in B&H.	Waste Strategy Food waste collection trial Food Strategy	BHCC Food Partnership
Construction & demolition, commercial & industrial waste	Household waste only makes up 19% of waste stream – amount and destinations are unknown	Site Waste Management Plans Trade waste advisory group – Cityclean	BHCC
Local Nature Reserves and Sites of Nature Conservation Importance	Last assessments of Local Nature Reserves (over 5 years ago) indicated that none were being managed to their full potential. Unknown condition of SNCIs.	Site of Nature Conservation Interest review completed – with a series of recommendations regarding land management. Close working with South Downs National Park. Recruitment of Biosphere Officer and Steering Group in place. Plan for achieving Biosphere Reserve Status done. Biodiversity Action Plan – underway. Sheep grazing programme to preserve chalk grassland. Higher Level Stewardship bid – achieved.	BHCC Natural England SDNP
Open Space and natural green space	According to population estimates, additional open space required to meet recommended standards by 2026. Majority of natural greenspace is located on the edges of the city.	City Plan	BHCC

Allotment demand and provision	High demand for allotments – even though people on waiting list reducing, number remains significant	Food Strategy City Plan	Food Partnership BHCC
Farmland	Majority under intensive agricultural use, limited achievements under the Downland Initiative, and unknown level of stewardship. No intelligence about where produce is taken and if it's local.	Higher Level Stewardship bid – achieved. Management of farmland to be brought in house. Biosphere Reserve Food Strategy	BHCC
Sustainable economy – Green Tourism	9 hotels have green accreditation. Lacking data for sustainable economy and links to state of environment	Eco-tourism Strategy (to be developed)	BHCC Business Forum
Sustainable Transport – electric vehicle charging	28 users registered to electric vehicle charging points (at Dec 2011), 9 charging points .	Local Transport Plan 3	BHCC Transport Partnership