

Hazardous Substances

- 4.50 The Plan area contains a number of sites that contain installations handling or storing notifiable hazardous substances. There are also a number of notifiable high pressure natural gas transmission pipelines.
- 4.51 Hazardous substances are subject to stringent controls under the Planning (Hazardous Substances) Act 1990 which requires hazardous substances consent to be obtained for the use of storage of certain materials. It is equally appropriate to exercise careful planning controls over development involving hazardous substances in order to ensure that installations are kept separate from housing and other sensitive land uses such as schools and hospitals with which they may be incompatible.
- 4.52 In determining whether a risk is unacceptable in considering proposals, account will be taken of the proposed amount, type and location of hazardous substances and the need for special precautions or restrictions to protect future uses of the site or adjoining land. Advice is contained in Annex B of Circular 11/92 which also outlines the issues of risk considered by the Health and Safety Executive in giving advice to Local Planning Authorities. The District Council will take particular account of advice from the Health and Safety Executive in relation to the potential risks involved within the “advised consultation distances” for any individual installation. Development likely to lead to the concentration of people close to existing hazardous installations or storage facilities will be resisted unless it can be shown that there is no special risk.

ENV4 Proposals involving the storage or use of hazardous substances, or developments in the vicinity of sites where hazardous substances are being stored or used, will only be permitted where the District Council is satisfied that:

- 1) There is no unacceptable risk to the public of the natural environment; and**
- 2) Opportunities for the development of land in the vicinity will not be severely restricted.**