

## Site Allocations DPD - Sustainability Threshold Assessment (STA) Matrix

Please note that the STA matrices are in **draft** form. They use the following “traffic light” system to indicate the relative sustainability of sites against a set of indicators:

Red	Absolute sustainability constraints
Orange	Sustainability issues; mitigation considered problematic
Yellow	Possible sustainability issues
Light Green	No sustainability constraints
Dark Green	Development will support sustainable objectives

A methodology to accompany the STA is available on the Council's website at [www.southhams.gov.uk](http://www.southhams.gov.uk) explaining the assessment process and the criteria used, together with a colour key.

### Glossary

ALC	Agricultural Land Classification	Provides a method of assessing the quality of farmland.
AONB	Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty	Areas designated by the Countryside Agency under the national Parks and Access to the Countryside Act 1949 as being of national importance for their natural beauty, including flora, fauna, geology and landscape, which should be conserved and enhanced.
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area	A declared area where a specified pollutant exceeds or is likely to exceed a level set by Government.
CGS	County Geological Site	A site of valuable geological or geomorphological features.
DNP	Dartmoor National Park	An area of moorland including the northern most parishes of South Hams, protected by National Park status.
PDL	Previously Developed Land	Brownfield land. Land which is or was occupied by a permanent structure (excluding agricultural or forestry buildings) (for further details please see PPS3 Housing Annex B).
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest	An area that has been notified as being of special interest under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981, representing the country's very best wildlife and geological sites.
STA	Sustainability Threshold Assessment	A method of site comparison to indicate the relative sustainability of sites.