



Introduction & Contents

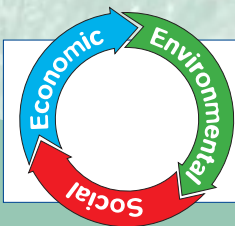
Johannesburg Earth Summit 2002

Highlighting the issues facing sustainable development in the year 2002, the Earth Summit held in Johannesburg, marked the tenth anniversary of the signing of the Rio Declaration in 1992. Leaders from around the globe gathered together to assess progress over the last ten years and look toward policy measures to be taken for the future. The Summit reaffirmed sustainable development as a central element of the international agenda, and gave new impetus to global action to fight poverty and protect the environment.

The Summit emphasised the importance of partnership building between governments, business and civil society, together with further investment into research and development in the field of energy, as well as addressing critical water sanitation issues and the eradication of poverty and disease in African nations. These issues also flowed on to the discussion of the importance of better coherence and co-ordination of policy frameworks and therefore outcomes at the local level. Highlights of the Summit were the announcements that:

- The United Kingdom is doubling its assistance to Africa to £1 billion a year and raising its overall assistance for all countries by 50 per cent.
- The European Union announced that it would increase its development assistance with more than 22 billion euros in the years to 2006 and by more than 9 billion euros annually from 2006 onwards.

The following report is a snapshot of Hertfordshire's environment in relation to our Quality of Life Indicators, to measure how the county fared in light of the assessments of the Johannesburg Summit and our partnership working initiatives to ensure the continual future well being of the county.



A new motif has been included at the top of each chapter to demonstrate the range of **social**, **environmental** and **economic** issues covered by each chapter of the report. The most appropriate issues have been highlighted in each case.

BBC	Borough of Broxbourne
DBC	Dacorum Borough Council
EHDC	East Hertfordshire District Council
HCC	Hertfordshire County Council
HBC	Hertsmere Borough Council
NHDC	North Hertfordshire District Council
SACD	St Albans City and District
SBC	Stevenage Borough Council
TRDC	Three Rivers District Council
WC	Watford Council
WHC	Welwyn Hatfield Council

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