

Sustainability Appraisal and SEA of Draft
Royston Town Centre Strategy
Supplementary Planning Document

**Appendix 2: Review of Plans, Programmes and
Policies**

July 2007

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National Plans, Programmes and Policies

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
ODPM Circular 05/2005 Planning Obligations		Status: Guidance on implementing Government policy	
Source: http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_039133.pdf			
The purpose of the Circular is to lay out Government policy and give advice on how to implement it. It lays out the tests that planning obligations must meet, and gives examples of different ways they can be used. It does not include specific objectives.	None	Plan should confirm to the requirements of the Circular.	In undertaking the SA, it is necessary to understand the legal limits to planning obligations (the five tests described in the document)
Securing the Future - UK Government sustainable development strategy (March 2005)		Status: UK government policy for England and framework for devolved administrations.	
Source: http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/publications/uk-strategy/uk-strategy-2005.htm			
Living Within Environmental Limits Respecting the limits of the planet's environment, resources and biodiversity – to improve our environment and ensure that the natural resources needed for life are unimpaired and remain so for future generations. Ensuring a Strong, Healthy and Just Society Meeting the diverse needs of all people in existing and future communities, promoting personal wellbeing, social cohesion and inclusion, and creating equal opportunity for all. Achieving a Sustainable Economy Building a strong, stable and sustainable economy which provides prosperity and opportunities for all, and in which environmental and social costs fall on those who impose them (polluter pays), and efficient resource use is	Introduces a new set of high-level indicators: the UK Framework Indicators to give an overview of sustainable development and the priority areas in the UK. Consists of a set of 64 indicators (including some still to be developed e.g. well-being index) related to relevant PSA targets and other policies.	Plan should conform to the requirements of the strategy.	Ensure that the key policy requirements are reflected in the SA Framework objectives and appraisal criteria.

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>incentivised. Promoting Good Governance Actively promoting effective, participative systems of governance in all levels of society – engaging people’s creativity, energy, and diversity. Using Sound Science Responsibly Ensuring policy is developed and implemented on the basis of strong scientific evidence, whilst taking into account scientific uncertainty (through the precautionary principle) as well as public attitudes and values.</p>			
<p>Sustainable communities: building for the future (OMDP Feb 2003)</p>		<p>Status: UK Government Action Plan (with financial commitments 2003-2006)</p>	
<p>Source: http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_communities/documents/divisionhomepage/034686.hcsp</p>			
<p>This is an action programme that allocates almost £22bn over a 4-year period to a range of policy areas affecting the sustainability of communities, primarily housing and regeneration. It is intended to mark a step change in actions to tackle community problems. It is divided into 6 themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decent homes, decent places • Low demand and abandonment • A step change in housing supply • Land, countryside and rural communities • Sustainable growth • Reforming the delivery 	<p>The programme is mainly concerned with the allocation of funding rather than the setting of targets, although there are some quantified descriptions of what the funding is intended to achieve. There are no specific indicators proposed, although some of the outcomes will be monitored via BV and CPA indicators with the proposal to develop these to include liveability issues.</p>	<p>The objectives of this programme intimately related to planning issues and should be considered in LDF policies. The theme <i>Reforming the delivery</i> deals directly with changes to the planning system.</p>	<p>The plan identifies some of the key requirements of sustainable communities. The SA should ensure that the relevant issues are covered by the SA objectives.</p>
<p>PPS3: Housing (CLG 2006)</p>			
<p>Source: http://www.odpm.gov.uk/embedded_object.asp?id=1162097</p>			
<p>Strategic housing policy objectives</p> <p>The Government’s key housing policy goal is to ensure that everyone has the</p>	<p>The national annual target is that at least 60% of new housing should be provided on previously developed land</p>	<p>The PPS gives guidance for addressing housing provision in the LDF. With regard to planning</p>	<p>The SA should take account of affordable housing objectives.</p>

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<p>opportunity of living in a decent home, which they can afford, in a community where they want to live. To achieve this, the Government is seeking:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To achieve a wide choice of high quality homes, both affordable and market housing, to address the requirements of the community. - To widen opportunities for home ownership and ensure high quality housing for those who cannot afford market housing, in particular those who are vulnerable or in need. - To improve affordability across the housing market, including by increasing the supply of housing. - To create sustainable, inclusive, mixed communities in all areas, both urban and rural. <p>Planning for housing policy objectives</p> <p>These housing policy objectives provide the context for planning for housing through development plans and planning decisions. The specific outcomes that the planning system should deliver are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - High quality housing that is well-designed and built to a high standard. - A mix of housing, both market and affordable, particularly in terms of tenure and price, to support a wide variety of households in all areas, both urban and rural. - A sufficient quantity of housing taking into account need and demand and seeking to 		<p>obligations, advice on this will be included in the Companion Guide, to be published in the future.</p>	

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>improve choice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Housing developments in suitable locations, which offer a good range of community facilities and with good access to jobs, key services and infrastructure. - A flexible, responsive supply of land – managed in a way that makes efficient and effective use of land, including re-use of previously-developed land, where appropriate. 			
<p>PPG4: Industrial, Commercial Development and Small Firms (2001)</p>		<p>Status: Government policy</p>	
<p>Source: http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_control/documents/contentservertemplate/odpm_index.hcst?n=3386&l=3</p>			
<p>The aim of this policy is to encourage continued economic development that is compatible with governmental environmental objectives. Government policies require economic growth and a high quality environment to be pursued together.</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>	<p>Up-to-date and relevant plans are essential if the development needs of commerce and industry are to be met, and reconciled with demands for other forms of development and for the protection of the environment. Development plans should give industrial and commercial developers and local communities greater certainty about the types of development that will or will not be permitted in a given location.</p> <p>Development plan policies must take account of the locational demands of businesses while seeking to</p>	<p>Ensuring that the economic growth necessary to provide Quality of Life improvements is compatible with environmental constraints is fundamental to UK sustainable development policy.</p> <p>The issues arising are some of the most important factors to be considered in drawing up the SA framework and undertaking the SA.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
		<p>achieve wider objectives in the public interest. They offer the opportunity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • encourage new development in locations which minimise the length and number of trips, especially by motor vehicles; • encourage new development in locations that can be served by more energy efficient modes of transport, particularly for developments likely to have large numbers of employees; • discourage new development where it would be likely to add unacceptably to congestion; • locate development requiring access mainly to local roads away from trunk roads, to avoid unnecessary congestion on roads designed for longer distance movement. • give reference for users that will benefit from increased rail freight in localities close to rail nodes. • ensure that developments that are 	

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		detrimental to amenity or a potential source of pollution should be separated from sensitive land uses.	
PPG13: Transport (2001)		Status: Government policy	
Source:			
<p>Land use planning has a key role in delivering the Governments integrated transport strategy. By shaping the pattern of development and influencing the location, scale, density, design and mix of land uses, planning can help to reduce the need to travel, reduce the length of journeys and make it safer and easier for people to access jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services by public transport, walking, and cycling.</p> <p>The objectives of PPG13 are to integrate planning and transport at the national, regional, strategic and local level to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • promote more sustainable transport choices for both people and for moving freight; • promote accessibility to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services by public transport, walking and cycling, and • reduce the need to travel, especially by car. 	Not applicable	<p>In order to deliver the objectives of PPG13, when preparing development plans and considering planning applications, local authorities should:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. actively manage the pattern of urban growth to make the fullest use of public transport, and focus major generators of travel demand in city, town and district centres and near to major public transport interchanges; 2. locate day to day facilities which need to be near their clients in local centres so that they are accessible by walking and cycling; 3. accommodate housing principally within existing urban areas, planning for increased intensity of development for both housing and other uses 	<p>The issues surrounding access and travel are important considerations for the SA. Effective access to employment, education and services is vital to improving Quality of Life and contributes to social inclusion. But transport, and the infrastructure to support, it has large environmental impacts, including contributing to greenhouse gas emissions.</p> <p>The SA must consider these issues, and in particular</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reducing the need to travel by private car; • Reducing the volume of freight traffic; and • Improving accessibility of key services to local

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
		<p>at locations which are highly accessible by public transport, walking and cycling;</p> <p>4. ensure that development comprising jobs, shopping, leisure and services offers a realistic choice of access by public transport, walking, and cycling, recognising that this may be less achievable in some rural areas;</p> <p>5. in rural areas, locate most development for housing, jobs, shopping, leisure and services in local service centres which are designated in the development plan to act as focal points for housing, transport and other services, and encourage better transport provision in the countryside;</p> <p>6. ensure that strategies in the development and local transport plan complement each other and that consideration of development plan allocations and local transport investment and priorities are</p>	<p>communities</p>

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		<p>closely linked;</p> <p>7. use parking policies, alongside other planning and transport measures, to promote sustainable transport choices and reduce reliance on the car for work and other journeys;</p> <p>8. give priority to people over ease of traffic movement and plan to provide more road space to pedestrians, cyclists and public transport in town centres, local neighbourhoods and other areas with a mixture of land uses;</p> <p>9. ensure that the needs of disabled people as pedestrians, public transport users and motorists - are taken into account in the implementation of planning policies and traffic management schemes, and in the design of individual developments; consider how best to reduce crime and the fear of crime, and seek by the design and layout of developments and areas, to secure</p>	

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		<p>community safety and road safety; and</p> <p>10. protect sites and routes which could be critical in developing infrastructure to widen transport choices for both passenger and freight movements.</p> <p>With regard to planning obligations, the guidance says that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning obligations should be used to achieve improvements to public transport, walking and cycling, were such measures would be likely to influence travel patterns to the site involved, either on their own, or as part of a package of measures. Examples might include improvements to a bus service or cycle route which goes near the site, or pedestrian improvements which make it easier and safer to walk to the site from other developments or from public transport. 	

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PPG15: Planning and the Historic Environment (2001)		Status: Government policy	
Source:			
PPG 15 provides a full statement of Government policies for the identification and protection of historic buildings, conservation areas, and other elements of the historic environment.	Not applicable	<p>Local plans (the LDF) should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • set out more detailed development control policies for an authority's area: they should include both the policies which will apply over the area as a whole, and any policies and proposals which will apply to particular neighbourhoods. • set out clearly the planning authority's policies for the preservation and enhancement of the historic environment in their area, and the factors which will be taken into account in assessing different types of planning application - for example, proposals for the change of use of particular types of historic building or for new development which would affect their setting. • include a strategy for the economic regeneration of 	Conserving the historic environment is important to sustainable development. The District's cultural heritage is an irreplaceable resource. An SEA/ SA objective should aim to protect or enhance the historic environment.

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		rundown areas, and in particular seek to identify the opportunities which the historic fabric of an area can offer as a focus for regeneration. Excessively detailed or inflexible policies concerning individual buildings or groups of buildings should be avoided.	
PPG16: Archaeology and Planning (2001)		Status: Government policy	
Source:			
PPG16 sets out the Secretary of State's policy on archaeological remains on land, and how they should be preserved or recorded both in an urban setting and in the countryside. It gives advice on the handling of archaeological remains and discoveries under the development plan and control systems, including the weight to be given to them in planning decisions and the use of planning conditions.	Not applicable	Development plans should reconcile the need for development with the interests of conservation including archaeology and should include policies for the protection, enhancement and preservation of sites of archaeological interest and of their settings.	In general one of the SEA/ SA objectives should aim to protect or enhance the historic environment, including archaeology.
PPG17: Planning for Sport, Open Space and Recreation (1991)		Status: Government policy	
Source:			
Open spaces, sport and recreation all underpin people's quality of life. Well designed and implemented planning policies for open space, sport and recreation are therefore fundamental to delivering broader Government objectives.	Not applicable	Planning for open spaces should be based on local standards established by the assessment of local needs and an audit of	The objectives of this PPG conform with many sustainability objectives. The SA should ensure that NHDC SDP meets

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<p>These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting an urban renaissance. • supporting a rural renewal. • promotion of social inclusion and community cohesion • health and well being • promoting more sustainable development 		<p>existing provision.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land should not be built on unless an assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space or the buildings and land to be surplus to requirements. • Open space and sports and recreational facilities that are of high quality, or of particular value to a local community, should be recognised and given protection by local authorities through appropriate policies in plans. • Parks, recreation grounds, playing fields and allotments must not be regarded as 'previously developed land', as defined in annex C of PPG3. Even where land does fall within the definition of 'previously-developed', its existing and potential value for recreation and other purposes should be properly assessed before development is 	<p>these requirements.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
		<p>considered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The location of new areas of open space, sports and recreational facilities, should promote objectives including accessibility, regeneration and social inclusion. 	
<p>PPS25 Development and Flood Risk (2006)</p>			
<p>Source: http://www.odpm.gov.uk/embedded_object.asp?id=1162060</p>			
<p>The statement says that local planning authorities (LPAs) should prepare and implement planning strategies that help to deliver sustainable development by:</p> <p>Appraising risk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> identifying land at risk and the degree of risk of flooding from river, sea and other sources in their areas; preparing Regional Flood Risk Appraisals (RFRAs) or Strategic Flood Risk Assessments (SFRAs) as appropriate, as freestanding assessments that contribute to the Sustainability Appraisal 3 of their plans; <p>Managing risk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> framing policies for the location of development which avoid flood risk to people and property where possible, and manage any residual risk, taking account of the impacts of climate change; only permitting development in areas of 		<p>The statement says that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LPAs should prepare LDDs that set out policies for the allocation of sites and the control of development which avoid flood risk to people and property where possible and manage it elsewhere, reflecting the approach to managing flood risk in this PPS and in the RSS for their region. Where climate change is expected to increase flood risk so that some existing development may not be sustainable in the long-term, LPAs should take this into account in the preparation of LDDs, as there may be opportunities to relocate development to more sustainable locations; flood risk should be considered alongside other spatial planning concerns such as transport, housing, economic growth, natural resources, regeneration and the management of other hazards. Policies should recognise the positive contribution that avoidance and management of flood risk can make to the development of 	<p>The SA should ensure that flood risks are adequately considered in the SDP. There is currently no RFRA or SFRA in place.</p>

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<p>flood risk when there are no reasonably available sites in areas of lower flood risk and benefits of the development outweigh the risks from flooding;</p> <p>Reducing risk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • safeguarding land from development that is required for current and future flood management e.g. conveyance and storage of flood water, and flood defences; • reducing flood risk to and from new development through location, layout and design, incorporating sustainable drainage systems (SUDS); • using opportunities offered by new development to reduce the causes and impacts of flooding e.g. surface water management plans; making the most of the benefits of green infrastructure for flood storage, conveyance and SUDS; re-creating functional floodplain; and setting back defences; <p>A partnership approach</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • working effectively with the Environment Agency, other operating authorities and other stakeholders to ensure that best use is made of their expertise and information so that plans are effective and decisions on planning applications can be delivered expeditiously; and • ensuring spatial planning supports flood risk management policies and plans, River Basin Management Plans and emergency planning. 		<p>sustainable communities. They should be integrated effectively with other strategies of material significance.</p>	

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PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Development (ODPM 2005)		Status: Government policy	
Source: http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_035506.hcsp			
Sustainable development is identified as the key principle underlying planning. Planning is charged with addressing sustainable development through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> making suitable land available for development in line with economic, social and environmental objectives to improve people's quality of life; contributing to sustainable economic development; protecting and enhancing the natural and historic environment, the quality and character of the countryside, and existing communities; ensuring high quality development through good and inclusive design, and the efficient use of resources; and, ensuring that development supports existing communities and contributes to the creation of safe, sustainable, liveable and mixed communities with good access to jobs and key services for all members of the community. 	No specific targets	Key policy context.	Ensure that the key policy requirements are reflected in the SA Framework objectives and appraisal criteria.
PPS6: Planning for Town Centres (ODPM 2005)		Status: Government policy	
Source: http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_036805.pdf			
The Government's key objective for town centres is to promote their vitality and viability by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> planning for the growth and development of existing centres; and 	No specific targets	Planning authorities are required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> actively promote growth and manage 	The PPS notes that the Government's wider policy objectives are also relevant, insofar as they

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> promoting and enhancing existing centres, by focusing development in such centres and encouraging a wide range of services in a good environment, accessible to all. <p>These key objectives must also take into account other Government objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> enhancing consumer choice by making provision for a range of shopping, leisure and local services, which allow genuine choice to meet the needs of the entire community, and particularly socially-excluded groups; supporting efficient, competitive and innovative retail, leisure, tourism and other sectors, with improving productivity; and improving accessibility, ensuring that existing or new development is, or will be, accessible and well-served by a choice of means of transport. 		<p>change in town centres;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> define a network and a hierarchy of centres each performing their appropriate role to meet the needs of their catchments; and adopt a proactive, planned approach to planning for town centres, through regional and local planning. <p>Within a regional planning context, local planning authorities should actively plan for growth and manage change in town centres over the period of their development plan documents by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> selecting appropriate existing centres to accommodate the identified need for growth by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> making better use of existing land and buildings, including, where appropriate, redevelopment; where necessary, extending the centre. managing the role and function of existing centres by, for example, promoting 	<p>would not be inconsistent with the key objectives as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to promote social inclusion, ensuring that communities have access to a range of main town centre uses, and that deficiencies in provision in areas with poor access to facilities are remedied; to encourage investment to regenerate deprived areas, creating additional employment opportunities and an improved physical environment; to promote economic growth of regional, sub-regional and local economies; to deliver more sustainable patterns of development, ensuring that locations are fully exploited through high-density, mixed-use development and promoting sustainable transport choices, including reducing the need to travel and providing alternatives

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
		<p>and developing a specialist or new role and encouraging specific types of uses in some centres; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> planning for new centres of an appropriate scale in areas of significant growth or where there are deficiencies in the existing network of centres. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to car use; and to promote high quality and inclusive design, improve the quality of the public realm and open spaces, protect and enhance the architectural and historic heritage of centres, provide a sense of place and a focus for the community and for civic activity and ensure that town centres provide an attractive, accessible and safe environment for businesses, shoppers and residents. <p>The SA should consider potential synergies and conflicts between the range of policy objectives.</p>
<p>PPS7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas (OMDP 2004)</p>		<p>Status: Government policy</p>	
<p>Source: http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_030148.hcsp</p>			
<p>Sets planning policy in the context of Government objectives to:</p> <p>(i) To raise the quality of life and the environment in rural areas through the promotion of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> thriving, inclusive and sustainable rural communities, ensuring people have decent places to live by improving the quality and 	<p>No specific targets.</p>	<p>Within the broader context of the Government's sustainable development policy the PPS suggests: Good quality, carefully-sited accessible development within existing towns and villages</p>	<p>The SA objectives and appraisal should take account of the specific issues affecting rural areas.</p> <p>There are potential conflicts between the aim</p>

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<p>sustainability of local environments and neighbourhoods;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • sustainable economic growth and diversification; • good quality, sustainable development that respects and, where possible, enhances local distinctiveness and the intrinsic qualities of the countryside; and • continued protection of the open countryside for the benefit of all, with the highest level of protection for our most valued landscapes and environmental resources. <p>(ii) To promote more sustainable patterns of development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • focusing most development in, or next to, existing towns and villages; • preventing urban sprawl; • discouraging the development of 'greenfield' land, and, where such land must be used, ensuring it is not used wastefully; • promoting a range of uses to maximise the potential benefits of the countryside fringing urban areas; and • providing appropriate leisure opportunities to enable urban and rural dwellers to enjoy the wider countryside. <p>(iii) Promoting the development of the English regions by improving their economic performance so that all are able to reach their full potential - by developing competitive, diverse and thriving rural enterprise that provides a range of jobs and underpins strong economies.</p> <p>(iv) To promote sustainable, diverse and adaptable agriculture sectors where farming achieves high environmental standards,</p>		<p>should be allowed where it benefits the local economy and/or community (e.g. affordable housing for identified local needs); maintains or enhances the local environment; and does not conflict with other planning policies.</p> <p>Accessibility should be a key consideration in all development decisions. Most developments which are likely to generate large numbers of trips should be located in or next to towns or other service centres that are accessible by public transport, walking and cycling, in line with the policies set out in <i>PPG13, Transport</i>. Decisions on the location of other developments in rural areas should, where possible, give people the greatest opportunity to access them by public transport, walking and cycling, consistent with achieving the primary purpose of the development.</p> <p>New building development in the open countryside away from existing settlements, or outside areas allocated for</p>	<p>of protecting the countryside and economic development required to maintain and enhance thriving rural communities.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>minimising impact on natural resources, and manages valued landscapes and biodiversity; contributes both directly and indirectly to rural economic diversity; is itself competitive and profitable; and provides high quality products that the public wants.</p>		<p>development in development plans, should be strictly controlled; the Government's overall aim is to protect the countryside for the sake of its intrinsic character and beauty, the diversity of its landscapes, heritage and wildlife, the wealth of its natural resources and so it may be enjoyed by all.</p> <p>Priority should be given to the re-use of previously-developed ('brownfield') sites in preference to the development of greenfield sites, except in cases where there are no brownfield sites available, or these brownfield sites perform so poorly in terms of sustainability considerations (for example, in their remoteness from settlements and services) in comparison with greenfield sites.</p> <p>All development in rural areas should be well designed and inclusive, in keeping and scale with its location, and sensitive to the character of the countryside and local distinctiveness.</p>	

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>PPS9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation (ODPM 2005)</p> <p>http://www.odpm.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1143832</p>		<p>Status: Government policy</p>	
<p>Within the context of the Government's vision for conserving and enhancing biological diversity in England set out in <i>Working with the grain of nature: a biodiversity strategy for England</i> the key objectives are:</p> <p>To promote sustainable development - by ensuring that biodiversity is conserved and enhanced as an integral part of economic, social and environmental development, so that policies and decisions about the development and use of land integrate biodiversity with other considerations.</p> <p>To conserve, enhance and restore the diversity of England's wildlife and geology - by sustaining, and where possible improving, the quality and extent of natural habitat and geological and geomorphological sites; the natural physical processes on which they depend; and the populations of naturally occurring species which they support.</p> <p>to contribute to rural renewal and urban renaissance by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - enhancing biodiversity in green spaces and among developments so that they are used by wildlife and valued by people, recognising that healthy functional ecosystems can contribute to a better quality of life and to people's sense of well-being; and - ensuring that developments take account of the role and value of biodiversity in supporting economic diversification and 	<p>No specific targets.</p>	<p>The PPS states that local planning authorities should adhere to the following key principles to ensure that the potential impacts of planning decisions on biodiversity and geological conservation are fully considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Development plan policies and planning decisions should be based upon up-to-date information about the environmental characteristics of their areas. These characteristics should include the relevant biodiversity and geological resources of the area. In reviewing environmental characteristics local authorities should assess the potential to sustain and enhance those resources. (ii) Plan policies and planning decisions should aim to maintain, and enhance, restore or 	<p>Nature conservation is a central tenet of sustainable development. The SA objectives will include an objective to maintain and enhance biodiversity against which to evaluate the degree to which the LDF seeks to protect and enhance biodiversity.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>contributing to a high quality environment.</p>		<p>add to biodiversity and geological conservation interests. In taking decisions, local planning authorities should ensure that appropriate weight is attached to designated sites of international, national and local importance; protected species; and to biodiversity and geological interests within the wider environment.</p> <p>(iii) Plan policies on the form and location of development should take a strategic approach to the conservation, enhancement and restoration of biodiversity and geology, and recognise the contributions that sites, areas and features, both individually and in combination, make to conserving these resources.</p> <p>(iv) Plan policies should promote opportunities</p>	

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
		<p>for the incorporation of beneficial biodiversity and geological features within the design of development.</p> <p>(v) Development proposals where the principal objective is to conserve or enhance biodiversity and geological conservation interests should be permitted.</p> <p>(vi) The aim of planning decisions should be to prevent harm to biodiversity and geological conservation interests. Where granting planning permission would result in significant harm to those interests, local planning authorities will need to be satisfied that the development cannot reasonably be located on any alternative sites that would result in less or no harm. In the absence of any such alternatives, local planning authorities should ensure that, before planning permission is granted,</p>	

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
		<p>adequate mitigation measures are put in place. Where a planning decision would result in significant harm to biodiversity and geological interests which cannot be prevented or adequately mitigated against, appropriate compensation measures should be sought. If that significant harm cannot be prevented, adequately mitigated against, or compensated for, then planning permission should be refused.</p> <p>With respect to Local Development Documents it states that they should:</p> <p>(i) indicate the location of designated sites of importance for biodiversity and geodiversity, making clear distinctions between the hierarchy of international, national, regional and locally designated sites; and</p>	

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
		(ii) identify any areas or sites for the restoration or creation of new priority habitats which contribute to regional targets, and support this restoration or creation through appropriate policies.	
PPS10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management (2005) http://www.odpm.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1143834		Status: Government policy	
<p>The land-use planning system has an important role to play in achieving sustainable waste management. It should meet the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • help deliver sustainable development through driving waste management up the waste hierarchy, addressing waste as a resource and looking to disposal as the last option, but one which must be adequately catered for; • provide a framework in which communities take more responsibility for their own waste, and enable sufficient and timely provision of waste management facilities to meet the needs of their communities; • help implement the national waste strategy, and supporting targets, are consistent with obligations required under European legislation and support and complement other guidance and legal controls such as those set out in the Waste Management Licensing Regulations 1994; • help secure the recovery or disposal of waste 	Not applicable.	<p>The core strategy should set out policies and proposals for waste management in line with the RSS and ensure sufficient opportunities for the provision of waste management facilities in appropriate locations including for waste disposal. The core strategy should both inform and in turn be informed by any relevant municipal waste management strategy.</p> <p>The Planning Obligations SPD should support the provision of waste management facilities.</p>	<p>The SA objectives should include objectives devoted to waste minimisation and appropriate waste management.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>without endangering human health and without harming the environment, and enable waste to be disposed of in one of the nearest appropriate installations;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> reflect the concerns and interests of communities, the needs of waste collection authorities, waste disposal authorities and business, and encourage competitiveness; protect green belts but recognise the particular locational needs of some types of waste management facilities when defining detailed green belt boundaries and, in determining planning applications, that these locational needs, together with the wider environmental and economic benefits of sustainable waste management, are material considerations that should be given significant weight in determining whether proposals should be given planning permission; ensure the design and layout of new development supports sustainable waste management. 			
<p>PPS12: Local Development Frameworks (ODPM September 2004)</p>		<p>Status: Government policy</p>	
<p>Source: http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_031155.hcsp</p>			
<p>This PPS sets out the Government's policy on the preparation of local development documents which will comprise the local development framework. The key aims are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. flexibility. Local planning authorities can respond to changing local circumstances and ensure that spatial plans are prepared and 	<p>No specific targets.</p>	<p>This PPS provides the key policy framework for the plan.</p>	<p>This PPS provides the key policy framework for the SA. Supplementary guidance provides the methodological framework for undertaking the SA.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>reviewed more quickly than development plans under the old system;</p> <p>ii. strengthening community and stakeholder involvement in the development of local communities. Local communities and all stakeholders will be involved from the outset and throughout the preparation of local development documents;</p> <p>iii. front loading. Local planning authorities should take key decisions early in the preparation of local development documents. The aim will be to seek consensus on essential issues early in the preparation of local development documents and so avoid late changes being made;</p> <p>iv. sustainability appraisal. To ensure that local development documents are prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development;</p> <p>v. programme management. The efficient management of the programme for the preparation of a range of local development documents in accordance with the local development scheme; and</p> <p>vi. soundness. Local development documents must be soundly based in terms of their content and the process by which they are produced. They must also be based upon a robust, credible evidence base.</p>			

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
PPS 22: Renewable Energy (ODPM August 2004)		Status: Government policy	
Source: http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_030334.hcsp			
<p>Regional planning bodies and local planning authorities should adhere to the following key principles in their approach to planning for renewable energy:</p> <p>(i) Renewable energy developments should be capable of being accommodated throughout England in locations where the technology is viable and environmental, economic, and social impacts can be addressed satisfactorily.</p> <p>(ii) Regional spatial strategies and local development documents should contain policies designed to promote and encourage, rather than restrict, the development of renewable energy resources. Regional planning bodies and local planning authorities should recognise the full range of renewable energy sources, their differing characteristics, locational requirements and the potential for exploiting them subject to appropriate environmental safeguards.</p> <p>(iii) At the local level, planning authorities should set out the criteria that will be applied in assessing applications for planning permission for renewable energy projects. Planning policies that rule out or place constraints on the development of all, or specific types of, renewable energy technologies should not be included in regional spatial strategies or local development documents without sufficient</p>	<p>No specific targets, but there is a requirement for regional authorities to establish regional targets for renewable energy generation as follows:</p> <p>The Regional Spatial Strategy should include the target for renewable energy capacity in the region, derived from assessments of the region's renewable energy resource potential, and taking into account the regional environmental, economic and social impacts (either positive or negative) that may result from exploitation of that resource potential.</p> <p>Targets should be expressed as the minimum amount of installed capacity for renewable energy in the region, expressed in megawatts, and may also be expressed in terms of the percentage of electricity consumed or supplied.</p> <p>Targets should be set for achievement by 2010 and by 2020. Progress towards achieving these targets should be monitored by regional planning bodies. Targets should be reviewed on a regular basis and revised upwards (if they are met) subject to the region's renewable energy resource potential and the capacity of the environment in the region for further renewable energy developments. The fact that a target has been reached should not be used in itself as a reason for refusing planning permission for further renewable energy projects. (Note the PPS also refers to offshore sources which are not relevant for NHDC)</p>	<p>The plan should consider renewable energy requirements against Regional targets, noting that:</p> <p>Local planning authorities should only allocate specific sites for renewable energy in plans where a developer has already indicated an interest in the site, has confirmed that the site is viable, and that it will be brought forward during the plan period. Planning applications for renewable energy projects should be assessed against specific criteria set out in regional spatial strategies and local development documents. Regional planning bodies and local planning authorities should ensure that such criteria-based policies are consistent with, or reinforced by, policies in plans on other issues against which renewable energy applications could be assessed.</p>	<p>Climate change is one of the most pressing sustainability issues and the SA will include the objective to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including by increasing renewable energy usage. There are potential conflicts with other objectives for some types of renewable energy developments.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>reasoned justification. The Government may intervene in the plan making process where it considers that the constraints being proposed by local authorities are too great or have been poorly justified.</p> <p>(iv) The wider environmental and economic benefits of all proposals for renewable energy projects, whatever their scale, are material considerations that should be given significant weight in determining whether proposals should be granted planning permission.</p> <p>(v) Regional planning bodies and local planning authorities should not make assumptions about the technical and commercial feasibility of renewable energy projects (e.g. identifying generalised locations for development based on mean wind speeds). Technological change can mean that sites currently excluded as locations for particular types of renewable energy development may in future be suitable.</p> <p>(vi) Small-scale projects can provide a limited but valuable contribution to overall outputs of renewable energy and to meeting energy needs both locally and nationally. Planning authorities should not therefore reject planning applications simply because the level of output is small.</p> <p>(vii) Local planning authorities, regional stakeholders and Local Strategic Partnerships should foster community involvement in renewable energy projects³ and seek to promote knowledge of and</p>			

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>greater acceptance by the public of prospective renewable energy developments that are appropriately located. Developers of renewable energy projects should engage in active consultation and discussion with local communities at an early stage in the planning process, and before any planning application is formally submitted.</p> <p>(viii) Development proposals should demonstrate any environmental, economic and social benefits as well as how any environmental and social impacts have been minimised through careful consideration of location, scale, design and other measures.</p>			
<p>Draft Supplement to PPS1 – Planning and Climate Change (December 2006)</p>		<p>Status: Government policy</p>	
<p>Source - http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1505140</p>			
<p>Regional planning bodies and all planning authorities should adhere to the following principles in preparing and delivering spatial strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the planned provision for new development and its spatial distribution should contribute to mitigating climate change through improvements in carbon performance. In turn, planning authorities should prepare local development documents consistent with the regional spatial strategy (RSS); - new development should be located and designed to optimise its carbon performance 	<p>Not applicable</p>	<p>Regional planning bodies, and all planning authorities should prepare and deliver spatial strategies that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - make a full contribution to delivering the Government’s Climate Change Programme and energy policies, and in doing so contribute to global sustainability; - in enabling the provision of new 	<p>The SA/SEA should take account of the effect of all policies on climate change and the ability to deal with the impacts of climate change.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>and limit its likely contribution to carbon emissions. Specifically, substantial new development⁵ should be expected to consider and take into account the potential of decentralised energy supply systems based on renewable and low-carbon energy;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - new development should be located and designed for the climate, and impacts, it is likely to experience over its intended lifetime; - climate change considerations should be integrated into all spatial planning concerns, including transport, housing, economic growth and regeneration, water supply and waste management, and not considered separately; - mitigation and adaptation should not be considered in isolation of each other, and opportunities for their integration in the development of spatial strategies, and their delivery, should be maximised; - sustainability appraisal (incorporating strategic environmental assessment) should be applied so as to shape planning strategies and policies that support the Key Planning Objectives set out in this PPS. Weight should be given to securing benefits which, although not immediately available, would help deliver longer term sustainability; and, - appropriate indicators should be selected and monitored and reported on in regional planning bodies' and planning authorities' annual monitoring reports. Such monitoring should be the basis on which regional planning bodies and planning authorities periodically review and roll forward their planning strategies. Reviews should reflect future updates to the national Climate 		<p>homes, jobs, services and infrastructure and shaping the places where people live and work, secure the highest viable standards of resource and energy efficiency and reduction in carbon emissions;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - deliver patterns of urban growth that help secure the fullest possible use of sustainable transport for moving freight, public transport, cycling and walking; and, overall, reduce the need to travel, especially by car; - secure new development and shape places resilient to the effects of climate change in ways consistent with social cohesion and inclusion; - sustain biodiversity, and in doing so recognise that the distribution of habitats and species will be affected by climate change; - reflect the development needs and interests of communities and 	

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>Change Programme, be sensitive to scientific and technological developments, and be carried out at least every five years, or sooner where there are signs that the spatial strategy in its implementation is insufficiently contributing to the delivery of the Key Planning Objectives set out in this PPS.</p>		<p>enable them to contribute effectively to tackling climate change; and,</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - respond to the concerns of business and encourage competitiveness and technological innovation. 	
<p>Planning for a Sustainable Future – White Paper 2007</p>		<p>Status – Draft Government Policy</p>	
<p>Source - http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1510502</p>			
<p>For the town and country planning system, the White Paper propose to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • produce a more strategic, clearer and more focused national planning policy framework with PPS1 – <i>Delivering Sustainable Development</i> at its heart, to provide the context for plan-making and decision-taking; • publish a new Planning Policy Statement, <i>Planning for Economic Development</i>, which will further reinforce the Government’s commitment set out in PPS1 to promoting a strong, stable and productive economy with access for all to jobs, • improve the effectiveness of the town centre planning policy by replacing the need and impact tests with a new test which has a strong focus on our town centre first policy, 	<p>Not applicable</p>	<p>The White Paper sets out a wide-ranging package of reforms to streamline further the process in the town and country planning system, improve the ability of local authorities to shape their local communities, and ensure that there is a stronger approach to supporting sustainable economic development alongside work to tackle climate change in a way that is integrated with the delivery of other sustainable development objectives.</p> <p>There are no implications for the plan at this time.</p>	<p>There are no implications for the SA at this time.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>and which promotes competition and improves consumer choice, avoiding the unintended effects of the current need test;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • finalise the Planning Policy Statement on climate change and introduce legislation to set out clearly the role of local planning authorities in tackling energy efficiency and climate change; • work with industry to set in place a timetable and action plan to deliver substantial reductions in carbon emissions from new commercial buildings within the next 10 years; • review and wherever possible extend permitted development rights on microgeneration to non residential types of land use including commercial and agricultural development; • place planning at the heart of local government by aligning the Sustainable Community Strategy and the local development framework core strategy. We will also work with the Local Government Association and others to continue building capacity, promoting culture change in planning and we will issue 'place shaping' guidance; • introduce changes to local development frameworks to ensure a more streamlined and tailored process with more flexibility about the number and type of plans, how they are produced and a more meaningful, engaged level of community involvement; 			

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • introduce Planning Performance Agreements, which will help streamline the processing of major applications, and support a properly resourced planning service with changes to planning fees and consult on devolving the setting of planning fees to local authorities; • introduce a new impact approach to householder development which will reduce the number of minor applications whilst protecting the interests of neighbours, the wider community and the environment, and then extend this approach to other types of development; and • streamline the planning application process, reduce the number of applications called in by ministers and introduce a range of measures to substantially improve the appeals process. 			

Regional and Sub-Regional Plans, Programmes and Policies

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>East of England Plan: Draft revision to the RSS for the East of England (Dec 2004), Panel Report (June 2006), Secretary of State's Proposed Changes (Dec 2007)</p>		<p>Status: Draft Regional policy – endorsement of the Draft by the EERA was suspended in Dec 2004, because of lack of Government funding for infrastructure improvements. The Panel issued its recommendations in June 2006 and the Secretary of State's proposed changes were published in December 2006.</p>	
<p>Source: http://www.eera.gov.uk/category.asp?cat=452 http://www.eera.gov.uk/Documents/About%20EERA/Policy/Planning%20and%20Transport/EiP%20Report/2006-06-20%20EoE%20Panel%20Report%20Vol%20I%20PPMv5.pdf</p>			
<p>As proposed by the panel and agreed by the Secretary of State are:</p> <p>Overall Spatial Vision</p> <p>“By 2021 the East of England will be realising its economic potential and providing a high quality of life for its people by meeting their housing needs in sustainable and inclusive communities. At the same time it will reduce its impact on climate change and the environment through savings in energy and water use and by strengthening its stock of</p>	<p>The plan sets targets in respect of its own key objectives and other regional policies. Most key targets are quantified, but some are set as general aims, such as ‘to reduce unemployment’.</p> <p>The plan proposes 61 indicators relating to both specific targets and regional context.</p> <p>The process of developing the plan has been subject to a thorough SA, which includes consideration of 138 indicators, although not all have been quantified in the baseline because of lack of available relevant data.</p>	<p>Provides key regional policy framework for the LDF.</p>	<p>The regional issues and objectives outlined in the plan, and its SA, will inform the development of the LDF SA framework.</p> <p>The indicators proposed in the plan and its SA will inform the indicators to be used for the baseline data for the LDF SA.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>environmental assets.”</p> <p>objectives:</p> <p>Objective 1: To reduce the region’s impact on and exposure to the effects of climate change</p> <p>by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • locating development so as to reduce the need to travel; • effecting a major shift in travel towards public transport, walking and cycling and away from car use; • maximising the energy efficiency of development and promoting renewable energy generation; and • minimising the risk of flooding. <p>Objective 2: To increase housing opportunities for people in the region</p> <p>by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • securing a step change in the delivery of additional housing throughout the region, and • especially in key centres for development and change; and • recognising a priority for the provision of affordable housing to meet identified needs,. <p>Objective 3: To realise the economic potential of the region and its people</p> <p>by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • facilitating the development needed to support the region’s 			

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>business sectors and clusters</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • and improvement of skills and the widening of opportunities in line with the Regional • Economic Strategy; • providing for job growth broadly to match increases in housing and to improve the • alignment between workplaces and homes; • maintaining and strengthening the region's inter-regional connections particularly by • improving connections to economic opportunities in London; and • ensuring adequate and sustainable provision of transport infrastructure. <p>Objective 4: To improve the quality of life for the region's people by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensuring new development fulfils the principles of sustainable communities, providing a well designed living environment adequately supported by social and green infrastructure; • promoting social cohesion by improving access to work, services and other facilities especially for those who are disadvantaged: • maintaining cultural diversity while addressing the distinctive needs of each part of the region; 			

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regeneration and renewal of disadvantaged areas; and • increasing community involvement in the implementation of the strategy at the local level. <p>Objective 5: to improve and conserve the region's environment by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensuring the protection and enhancement of the region's environmental assets, including the built and historic environment, landscape and water; • re-using previously developed land and seeking environmental as well as development gains from the use of previously undeveloped land; • protecting and where appropriate enhancing biodiversity through the protection of habitats and species, and new habitat creation through development; • provision of a network of multi-function greenspace accessible to the region's people; and • minimising the demand and use of water and other natural resources and reducing waste and increasing sustainable management of waste. 			

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
East of England Plan: Sustainability Appraisal Report (November 2004)		Status : Formal report on SEA and SA of East of England Plan commissioned by EERA	
Source: http://www.eera.gov.uk/category.asp?cat=382			
Appraisal Framework contains a set of sustainable development objectives	Comprehensive set of targets and indicators contained in baseline review	The appraisal should be read in conjunction with the East of England Plan: it gives additional information on how to apply the Plan in a sustainable way.	This is a key document to consider when developing the appraisal framework. The results of the appraisal of policies relevant to the District should also inform the appraisal process.
Sustainable Futures: The Integrated Regional Strategy for the East of England (Feb 2005)		Status:	
Source: http://www.eera.gov.uk/category.asp?cat=47 and			
<p>The Strategy states its key objectives as the following high level outcomes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. an exceptional knowledge base and a dynamic economy in the region 2. opportunities for everyone to contribute to – and benefit from – the region’s economic dynamism 3. strong, inclusive, healthy and culturally rich communities 4. a high quality and diverse natural and built environment 5. a more resource-efficient region <p>It identifies the following 8 <i>Crucial Regional Issues</i> that must be confronted and resolved, noting that all are complex and include elements that are contradictory:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Housing supply, growth and sustainability 	<p>The IRS includes no specific targets, although it does note ‘the need for a set of PSA targets that are much more closely attuned to the needs of this region’.</p> <p>The IRS expresses reluctance to suggest a new set of performance indicators, but suggests, that once the current review of the performance management framework for RDAs is completed, the EERA should review the performance management systems behind the other regional strategies, particularly in relation to the current set of indicators for the Regional Sustainable Development Framework, which are included as an Annex. It suggests that should be possible to identify a ‘modest number of headline indicators on which progress towards the Vision, high</p>	<p>The IRS draws on existing regional strategies to present a ‘Vision and a series of high level outcomes’ for the region in order to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide a joined-up statement of regional priorities • To flag any areas in which existing regional strategies are actually or potentially conflicting • To suggest processes through which tensions between regional strategies might be mitigated and resolved • To provide an overarching context for the development of regional strategies in the future, building on the current Regional SDF • To provide a clear statement to central government of priorities 	<p>The regional Vision, high level outcomes and priorities identified in the IRS will inform the SA framework and the issues to be considered in the SA.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Transport, travel and infrastructure 3. Building the knowledge economy 4. Skills and labour supply 5. Deprivation and access to services 6. Health and well being 7. Rural issues 8. Resource issues <p>From the above 5 <i>Priorities</i> are identified for the region:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Achieve high quality and sustainable solutions in Growth Areas and other parts of the region facing growth and regeneration pressures 2. Harness fully the region's strengths in science, research and development, and in surrounding commercialisation processes 3. Address the causes and implications of persistent deprivation and social exclusion wherever it exists in the region 4. Effect a step-change in the efficiency of resource use and the management of the region's distinctive natural and built environmental assets 5. Capture the benefits from – and manage the impacts of – the region's international gateways and national transport corridors 	<p>level outcomes and priorities might be assessed.'</p>	<p>for the East of England at a regional level.</p> <p>The IRS is intended to integrate the regional Environmental, Economic, Spatial, Housing, Social, Cultural and Health Strategies, within the context of the Regional Sustainable Development Framework, in order to provide the regional strategic context for the development of sub-regional and local strategies and plans.</p>	

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
A Sustainable Development Framework for the East of England (Oct 2001)		Status: Regional policy guidance	
Source: http://www.eera.gov.uk/Documents/About%20EERA/Policy/Sustainable%20Development/SDF.pdf Trends supplement: http://www.sustainability-east.com/Reports/Trends%20Supplement.pdf			
<p>To plan for an improving quality of life for the people of the East of England which is sustainable for the long-term future and, in particular:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enable its potential for economic growth to be achieved in a balanced way, in the interests of all the people of the region and the UK and beyond. 2. Spread the benefits of growth more equally, so as to reduce poverty, crime, ill health and social exclusion and reduce inequalities. 3. Foster a sense of well-being and self-worth by enabling people to achieve their full potential, and providing for rewarding employment, learning and leisure. 4. Protect and enhance the quality of the region's natural and built environment. 5. Manage the use of resources sustainably and innovatively, in order to minimise the region's global environmental impact. <p>The framework identifies the following 21 key sustainability issues for the region:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The economy 	<p>The framework does not contain quantified targets, but does include 84 indicators under the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To achieve sustainable levels of prosperity and economic growth • To deliver more sustainable patterns of location of development, including employment and housing • To protect and maintain our most valuable regional assets such as designated habitats, landscapes of natural beauty, and our historic built heritage, and to improve the wider environment by means of adequate investment and management • To reduce our consumption of fossil fuels • To achieve a more equitable sharing of the benefits of prosperity across all sectors of society and fairer access to services, focusing on deprived areas in the region • To use natural resources, both finite and renewable, as efficiently as possible, and re-use 	<p>Provides key regional policy framework for sustainable development.</p>	<p>The regional issues and objectives outlined in the SDF will inform the development of the LDF SA framework. The indicators proposed will inform the indicators to be used for the baseline data for the LDF SA.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>2. Location of growth 3. Transport 4. Rural issues 5. Agriculture, food and forestry 6. Poverty and deprivation 7. Health 8. Crime 9. Culture 10. Tourism 11. Community participation 12. Learning and skills 13. Natural environment 14. Historic and built environment 15. Global impact 16. Living with climate change 17. Energy 18. Local environmental quality 19. Waste 20. Water resources and quality 21. Minerals</p> <p>It sets out key objectives, together with context, regional strengths and challenges for each issue.</p>	<p>finite resources or recycled alternatives wherever possible</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To minimise our production of by-products or wastes, aiming for 'closed systems' where possible • To avoid using the global environment to underwrite our own unsustainable way of life (e.g. dependence on unsustainably produced and/or transported food imports or timber) <p>The values and interpretation of these indicators are presented in a separate supplement to the SDF which was most recently updated in July 2003 (see source reference above).</p>		

County Plans, Programmes and Policies

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
Hertfordshire Structure Plan 1991-2011		Status: Adopted March 1998	
Source: http://www.hertsdirect.org/yrcouncil/hcc/env/plan/homes/hertstructureplan/planfuture/moreinfo/			
<p>The Hertfordshire Structure Plan, covering the period to 2011, was adopted in March 1998. This is currently under review - with policies being 'rolled forward' to 2016. Consultation on the Structure Plan took place in the summer of 2002 and the "deposit stage" of draft policy alterations arising from that consultation occurred between the 5th March and the 16th April 2003. The subsequent stages of rolling forward the Structure Plan to 2016 are currently on hold.</p>	<p>Key policies for NHDC:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The current plan requires NHDC to make provision for 10,400 including 2,600 west of the A1(M) at Stevenage, over the period 1991-2011. 	<p>Provides the county-level strategic framework for the NHDC SDF.</p>	<p>Plan policies need to be considered in the SA.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
Hertfordshire Local Transport Plan 2006/07 - 2010/11		Status: Currently out for public consultation (3/6/2005)	
Source: http://www.hertsdirect.org/yrccouncil/hcc/env/plan/transplan/loctranspln/			
<p>The 9 key objective of the LTP are:</p> <p>Safety</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To improve safety for all by giving the highest priority to minimising the number of collisions and injuries occurring as a result of the transport system. <p>Congestion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To obtain the best use of the existing network through effective design, maintenance and management. To manage the growth of transport and travel volumes across the county, and thereby secure improvements in the predictability of travel time. To develop an efficient, safe, affordable and enhanced transport system which is attractive, reliable, integrated and makes best use of resources. <p>Accessibility</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop a transport system that provides access to employment, shopping, education, leisure and health facilities for all, including 	<p>The plan includes targets and indicators, primarily the 17 mandatory indicators required by the DfT, supplemented with 5 local ones.</p>	<p>The LDF should include policies that promote the sustainable transport aims of the LTP.</p>	<p>Access and transport are key aspects of sustainable development that need to be considered in the SA. Transport-related issues will be relevant to many SA objectives.</p> <p>Traffic flows in Hertfordshire are 35% above the national average posing a threat to Quality of Life in terms of safety, congestion, access and environmental impacts. The LTP attributes high levels of traffic to many interacting factors including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> over 1 million residents spread amongst a dozen medium sized towns (more than 25,000 population) and many more smaller towns; villages are generally no more than 5 to 10 miles from a town creating complex journey patterns. neighbouring London attracts large commuting flows; rail services do not provide for east-west movements; the county sits astride three of the most important national routes (M25, M1 and A1(M)); car ownership is the sixth highest in the country. 40% of households have 2 or more cars.

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>those without a car and those with impaired mobility.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To ensure that the transport system contributes towards improving the efficiency of commerce and industry and the provision of sustainable economic development in appropriate locations. <p>Environmental</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To mitigate the effect of the transport system on the built and natural environment and on personal health. To raise awareness and encourage use of more sustainable modes of transport through effective promotion, publicity, information and education. <p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To reduce the need for the movement of people and goods through integrated land use planning, the promotion of sustainable distribution and the use of telecommunications. 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to key services, particularly healthcare, is difficult by sustainable transport.
<p>SEA of Local Transport Plan 2006/7- 2010-2011</p>		<p>Status: Formal SEA undertaken by Hertfordshire County Council</p>	
<p>http://www.hertsdirect.co.uk/infobase/docs/pdfstore/ltpsea.pdf</p>			
<p>Appraisal Framework contains a set of sustainable development objectives</p>	<p>Comprehensive set of targets and indicators contained in baseline review</p>	<p>The appraisal should be read in conjunction with the LTP: it gives additional information on the Sustainability implications of the Plan.</p>	<p>The results of the appraisal of policies relevant to the District should also inform the appraisal process.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>Northern Hertfordshire Area Transport Plan</p>		<p>Status: Adopted 2004</p>	
<p>Source:</p>			
<p>District Transport Plan conforming to the objectives of the County LTP, with the following local objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1 To reduce transport impacts on health, safety and environment of the community. 2 To improve personal security and safety to promote the use of other modes. 3 To promote a safe and sustainable means of movement. 4 To minimise the need to travel. 5 To improve access to services and facilities by passenger transport, cycling and walking. 6 To improve the connectivity of transport modes and enhance interchanges. 7 To promote the vitality of towns and local facilities. 8 To ensure adequate accessibility for all people to facilities. 9 To reduce community severance. 10 To reduce casualties on the transport network. <p>These are categorised under the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environment: 1, 3, 4, 5 • Economic 2, 6,7 	<p>The plan sets out the following targets derived from the LTP for each theme:</p> <p>ENVIRONMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To not exceed the recommended level of nitrogen dioxide by more than 18 times per year. • To reduce the distance travelled per person by 5% by 2021. • To reduce the car use modal share from 72.07% to 65.5% by 2021. <p>ECONOMIC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce the car use modal share from 72.07% to 65.5% by 2021. • To increase footfall by 5% in our towns by 2021. <p>ACCESSIBILITY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce the car use modal share from 72.07% to 65.5% by 2021 <p>SAFETY</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce the distance travelled per person by 5% by 2021. • To contribute to the countywide target to reduce the number of killed and seriously injured casualties <p>INTEGRATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce the distance travelled per person by 5% by 2021. 	<p>The LDF should include policies that promote the sustainable transport aims of the LTP and the ATP.</p>	<p>Access and transport are key aspects of sustainable development that need to be considered in the SA. Transport-related issues will be relevant to many SA objectives.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accessibility 8, 9, 10 • Safety 2, 3, 10 • Integration 4 			
<p>A 50 Year Vision for the Wildlife and Natural Habitats of Hertfordshire BAP (April 1998)</p>		<p>Status:</p>	
<p>Source: http://hef.org.uk/nature/biodiversity/</p>			
<p>The Herts BAP was drawn up in response to the <i>UK Biodiversity Action Plan</i> published in January 1994 and the detailed report, <i>Biodiversity: The UK Steering Group Report</i>, published December 1995 which includes detailed action plans for threatened habitats and species. It aims are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that national targets for species and habitats, as specified in the UK Action Plan, are translated into effective action at the local level. • To identify targets for species and habitats appropriate to the local area, and reflecting the values of people locally. • To develop effective local partnerships to ensure that programmes for biodiversity conservation are maintained in the long-term. • To raise awareness of the need for biodiversity conservation in the local context. • To ensure that opportunities 	<p>The plan evaluates the status of habitats and species in the county and identifies key habitats and species of national and local significance and High Biodiversity Areas. The plan contains targets in respect of its planned actions, many of which are specific and detailed. The plan stresses that a BAP is both a product and on-going process. The agreed objectives for the BAP are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To establish a plan partnership through identifying and consulting key partners in the process. • To produce an overview of our present knowledge of the biodiversity resource in the county. • To prepare a series of prioritised habitat action plans to guide work on protecting, restoring and re-creating a sustainable level of biodiversity in the county. • Within each habitat action plan to identify detailed targets reflecting both national and local importance for the first ten years. • To identify a list of priority species for the preparation of action plans. Concise target statements should be prepared for all chosen species. 	<p>In considering the relations with other plans the BAP states: 'Local Biodiversity Action Plans link to the statutory planning process in two ways. Information generated by the local biodiversity plans can provide detailed information for revision of development plans, for example, the identification of High Biodiversity Areas. In addition, the statutory planning process can make a major contribution to achievement of the Local Biodiversity Action Plan targets, in particular through policies for site protection and enhancement and the creation of new habitats in appropriate locations.'</p>	<p>Biodiversity is a key aspect of sustainable development that needs to be included within the SA framework. The baseline review should include indicators of biodiversity.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>for conservation and enhancement of the whole biodiversity resource are fully considered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To provide a basis for monitoring progress in biodiversity conservation, at both local and national level. • Within each habitat and species action plan to identify delivery mechanisms and sources of finance and advice. • To publish the plan and implement the agreed programme of action. • To establish a long term monitoring programme to measure the effectiveness of the Plan in achieving national and local targets. 	<p>Relevant information is held at the Hertfordshire Biological Records Centre: http://enquire.hertscc.gov.uk/hbrc/default.html</p>		
<p>The Hertfordshire Environmental Strategy (June 2001)</p>		<p>Status: adopted June 2001</p>	
<p>Source: http://www.hertsdirect.org/yrccouncil/hcc/env/plan/issues/envstrat/</p>			
<p>The HES is intended as a framework for other actions rather than a separate strategy. As set out at the above link it appears to be a standard statement of sustainability principles with little addition detail or specific consideration of environmental issues.</p>	<p>No targets or indicators are suggested at the above link.</p>	<p>As set out, the HES has little or no direct relevance to the NHDC LDF. The general principles of sustainability will be considered in relation to other more comprehensive strategies.</p>	<p>The general principles will be included in the SA framework, but the HES appears to add nothing to these.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
Economic Development Strategy for Hertfordshire 2000-2005 (Oct 2000)		Status:	
Source: http://www.hertsdirect.org/yrccouncil/hcc/env/you/ECDU/publist/edstrategy			
The key objectives of the EDS are: 1. Create a learning environment for all 2. Develop a business friendly environment (and actively promote economic growth in selected activities) 3. Strike a balance between the built and natural environment 4. Promote social inclusion	The strategy includes targets within its action plans. Many of these are expressed in general terms, some are specific to detailed actions and some of quantified, generally in relation to existing targets, for instance, the Herts Learning Targets are set slightly above National Targets (for 2002). The strategy does not contain any specific indicators, but at the time of publication these were being developed in conjunction with the University of Reading.	The key objectives of the EDS need to be considered in relation to the NHDC LDF, but few of the detailed planned actions are directly relevant.	See previous column.
Hertfordshire Town Renaissance Campaign		Status: Campaign report	
Source: http://www.hertsdirect.org/yrccouncil/hcc/env/plan/homes/campaignreport/			
Report of consultation exercise on urban development issues in Hertfordshire, and particularly attitudes and issues associated with brownfield development	Not applicable – reports findings of consultation exercise.	Not a policy document, but the findings should be considered as context to aspects of the LDF.	Context for SA
Hertfordshire Waste Strategy 2002-2024		Status:	
Source: http://www.wasteaware.org.uk/strategy/fullversion2.pdf			
A Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Hertfordshire setting out how waste problems are to be	The strategy includes detailed targets, mainly based on PSA and other existing targets. It does not contain any indicators as such, but they are implicit	This strategy is only marginally relevant to the LDF to the extent that planning policies may effect the delivery of the waste strategy.	Management of waste is an important SD issue that needs to be considered in the SA.

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
addresses over the next 2 decades.	for many of the targets.		
Hertfordshire Waste Local Plan 1995-2005 (1999)		Status: Adopted Jan 1999	
Source: http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/wlp.pdf			
<p>The aims and objectives of the Waste Local Plan are:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To facilitate the provision of sufficient waste management facilities in Hertfordshire to accommodate the equivalent of the County's own arisings; • To recognise that waste management generates employment and is part of the infrastructure which supports business in general; • To locate waste recycling, handling and reduction facilities as close as practicable to the origin of waste; • To promote the development of waste management facilities which increase the proportion of waste managed further up the waste hierarchy; • To minimise the traffic generating effects of waste management development; • To mitigate against the possible effects of greenhouse gases; • To reduce the overall demand for resources (including land); • To involve the wider 	<p>The plan includes detailed targets. It does not contain any indicators as such, but they are implicit for many of the targets.</p>	<p>Relevant, now extended to 2007 to allow for transition to MWDF (see below).</p>	<p>Management of waste is an important SD issue that needs to be considered in the SA.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>community in the waste management debate;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To facilitate the increased use of recycled waste materials as aggregate in Hertfordshire; • To facilitate a shift away from road transport as the principal means of transporting waste; • To minimise the impact of waste management development on the natural and built environment; • To maximise the recovery of value (including energy) from waste, where this represents the Best Practicable Environmental Option; • To adopt the Best Practicable Environmental Option when considering alternative forms of waste management development. 			
<p>Hertfordshire Sustainability Guide (March 2003)</p>		<p>Status: Guidance note</p>	
<p>Source: http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/susguide.pdf</p>			
<p>The guidance is set out under 3 key themes: Sustainable communities (SC) Economic vitality (EV) Healthy environment (HE) Each theme is divided into a number of topics with aims and more detailed guidance as follows: SC1 Ensuring that everyone has a Decent Home SC2 Tackling the Causes of</p>	<p>The guidance does not suggest specific targets or indicators, but does include a checklist for each topic subdivided by detailed guidance aims.</p>	<p>This guidance is directly relevant to sustainability issues in the NHDC LDF.</p>	<p>The document provides detailed guidance on many issues relevant to the SA of NHDC LDF, in particular the checklists are set out similarly to an SA framework and should be used to inform the SA framework for the NHDC LDF.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
Poverty and Social Exclusion SC3 Creating Safe Communities SC4 Promoting Healthier Lifestyles SC5 Improving Access to Culture and the Arts SC6 Making Travel and Access more Sustainable SC7 Engaging the Community EV1 Enhancing Town Centre and Market Town Vitality EV2 Sustaining a Vibrant Local Economy EV3 Ensuring Employment and Lifelong Learning HE1 Supplying and Using Energy Sustainably HE2 Reducing Pollution HE3 Dealing with Resources more Sustainably HE4 Safeguarding Water Resources and Minimising Flood Risk HE5 Protecting and Enhancing Biodiversity HE6 Protecting, Providing and Improving Open Spaces HE7 Making Efficient Use of Land, Buildings and Materials HE8 Protecting and Enhancing Landscape and Townscape Character and Cultural Heritage The main text provides detailed guidance for each theme and topic illustrated with case studies.			
Enjoy! A cultural strategy for Hertfordshire		Status:	
Source: http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/hertscultstrat.pdf			

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making Hertfordshire a more prosperous and attractive place to live, work or visit • Offering children, young people and adults the opportunity to reach their full potential through access to learning and information • Encouraging children and young people to access and enjoy cultural and leisure activities • Enabling all members of the community to have more and easier access to different cultural and leisure pursuits • Valuing and supporting the diverse range of cultural and leisure activities enjoyed across the county • Working in partnership with national, regional and local agencies to deliver a range of cultural and leisure activities effectively 	<p>The strategy contains no specific targets or indicators.</p>	<p>Of little direct relevance to the NHDC LDF, except to the extent that LDF policies may effect access to cultural and leisure activities.</p>	<p>Access to leisure and culture is an important to Quality of Life and needs to be considered in the SA.</p>
<p>Rural Hertfordshire – an agenda for action 2001 – 2005 Hertfordshire Rural Forum</p>		<p>Status:</p>	
<p>Source: http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/ruralforum.pdf</p>			
<p>The agenda identifies key issues within 9 'Rural Strands':</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing • Transport/traffic • Rural Economy 	<p>The agenda does not include specific targets or indicators. The aim of the agenda is seen as highlighting issues and problems that need to be addressed rather than a</p>	<p>The particular issues affecting rural areas need to be considered in the NHDC LDF.</p>	<p>The particular issues affecting rural areas need to be considered in the SA framework for the NHDC LDF.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Exclusion • Biodiversity/landscape • Access to services • Community identity and involvement • Needs of young people • Recreational pressures and opportunities 	detailed strategy or action plan.		
Rural Innovation Strategy – Hertfordshire Rural Forum (Apr 2003)		Status:	
Source: http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/finalrural.pdf			
<p>In addition to the 'strands' identified in an <i>Agenda for Action</i> (see above) to strategy has the following objectives based on an analysis of strength and weaknesses of rural areas in the county:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To build capacity in local rural communities to encourage them to think about the longer-term potential of their area and to work together to address, in sustainable ways, the needs and issues identified. 2. To facilitate the development of competitive and sustainable rural economies that will help to create jobs and increase economic opportunities. 3. To improve the quality of life for people living or working in rural 	<p>The strategy was prepared primarily as an action plan to secure funding from EEDA. The strategy does not contain specific targets or indicators, but does suggest means of monitoring supported projects and actions.</p>	<p>The particular issues affecting rural areas need to be considered in the NHDC LDF. Little in this strategy is directly relevant to the LDF, but the strength and weaknesses analysis in Appendix 4 provides a useful summary of issues affecting rural areas in the county.</p>	<p>The particular issues affecting rural areas need to be considered in the SA framework for the NHDC LDF. Appendix 4 highlights issues that may need to be considered in the SA.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>communities by enhancing access to services and helping everyone to achieve their full potential.</p> <p>4. To protect and enhance the natural and historic rural environment, including extending access to the countryside and developing quality rural leisure opportunities.</p>			
<p>Hertfordshire Renewable Energy Study (Jan 2005)</p>		<p>Status: Interim study report</p>	
<p>Source: http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/restudy.pdf</p>			
<p>Interim study of the renewable energy potential of Hertfordshire. It concludes that the county has the technical potential to meet renewable energy production targets proposed in the East of England Sustainable Development Round Table Study, but that there are many factors, including planning issues, that will effect the achievements of the targets in practice (many of which are beyond the control of local stakeholders).</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>	<p>It is intended that, following consultation, the final report will inform the development of future renewable energy policy and planning policy framework in the county.</p>	<p>Increasing the proportion of energy obtained from renewable sources is a key requirement of sustainability. The reduction greenhouse gas emissions will need to be an objective within the SA framework.</p>

Local Plans, Programmes and Policies

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
Local			
North Hertfordshire District Local Plan No.2 with Alterations		Status: adopted with modifications on 23rd April 1996	
Source: http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/PDFs/planning/localplan.PDF			
This local plan is still current because the deposit draft Local Plan No. 3, published Feb. 2000 conflicted with PPG3, published a month later, and was withdrawn.	N/A	The LDF will replace this Local Plan	No specific implications.
Corporate Plan North Hertfordshire District Council 2005-2015 (March 2005)		Status: Adopted	
Source:			
The plan outlines short, medium and long term actions to achieve the vision of: Making North Hertfordshire a vibrant place to live, work and prosper It identifies the following strategic objectives: 1. Sustainable Communities 2. Safer Communities 3. Healthier Communities 4. Equal Communities 5. Prosperous Communities 6. Listening To You	The plan includes 'measures of success' for each strategic objective, but these are stated in broad terms rather than as quantified targets. It does not include any specific indicators, but these are implicit in most of the measures proposed.	Most of the actions under the objective of Sustainable Communities are directly relevant to the NHDC LDF.	All, or most, of the actions proposed are relevant to sustainable development, but it is probable that they will also be considered in relation to other relevant PPPs. The SA framework should be checked against the plan to ensure that all relevant issues have been considered.

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
North Hertfordshire Housing Strategy 2004-2007		Status:	
Source:			
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To meet the community's needs for affordable housing. 2. To improve the quality and choice of homes available to those in need of affordable housing. 3. To prevent homelessness by ensuring clear and effective housing advice and to provide good quality services and support to homeless households. 4. To ensure that all housing in the District is of a decent standard and contributes to the good health of the community. 5. To ensure that high quality supported housing is available for those who need it most and where it is needed most within North Hertfordshire. 6. To deliver services that reflect the diversity of the local community. 	<p>Priority 1 Deliver a minimum of 500 affordable homes in 5 years from April 2003.</p> <p>Detailed targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver a minimum of 60% of housing on brownfield sites. • Delivering a minimum of 16 affordable homes on exception sites to meet rural needs. • Fund the purchasing of 20 existing homes. • Re-launch a Cash Incentive Scheme providing 10 units in 2003/04 and 15 units in 2004/05. • Obtain 30% affordable housing through the planning system. <p>The Action Plan also includes proposals for a large number of improvements to systems and information.</p>	Directly relevant to LDF	The provision of decent, affordable housing is an essential element of sustainability that needs to be considered in the SA.
North Hertfordshire Housing Needs Study 2002		Status:	
Source:			
The report examines future housing needs for the District. It does not contain list objectives as such, but it makes the following recommendations to the Council:	<p>The report recommends the following planning targets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Negotiate with prospective developers towards achieving 35% subsidised affordable homes from the total of all 	SPD needs to address affordable housing and housing for older people.	This report contains detailed information on housing needs which will inform the SA.

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In its enabling role support delivery agencies, mainly RSL's working in the area to provide a mix of types but mainly flats to meet the needs of single adults and couples and address the shortages in the stock; Develop a comprehensive older persons delivery strategy to address the current and future growth in elderly and frail elderly households across all tenures, and their related care and support needs to:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> assess and prioritise the need for support services and adaptation required to keep people in their own home; re-assess existing sheltered stock in meeting today's housing standards and preferences; develop 'extra care' accommodation for the frail elderly population. Consider adopting Lifetime Homes standards for new housing. 	<p>suitable sites coming forward for planning consent over the period of the Local Plan. Each site will need to be assessed individually, targets being subject to wider planning, economic priority, regeneration and sustainability considerations;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote the additional delivery of 25 unsubsidised "starter" market units a year, 125 in the period to 2007 to meet the needs of new forming households with income levels adequate to access the local market for new units. 		
<p>Home Energy Conservation Act (H.E.C.A) Progress Report (June 2001)</p>		<p>Status:</p>	
<p>Source:</p>			
<p>Aims of the strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To create housing conditions which provide affordable 	<p>Target as per Home Energy Conservation Act (H.E.C.A) 1995 – 30% reduction in energy consumption over 15 year period.</p>	<p>Mainly relevant to LDF for new build only.</p>	<p>Improvement in the efficiency of energy use is fundamental to sustainability. Needs to be</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>warmth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To reduce air pollution caused by the production and consumption of energy. • To reduce the consumption of non-renewable fuel resources. • To increase public awareness of energy use and its effect on the environment. • To foster and facilitate the installation of energy efficiency measures in private sector properties. • To operate positive policies for improving the energy efficiency of the Council's own housing stock. • To promote changes in behaviour to reduce unnecessary energy consumption. • To encourage the incorporation of energy efficiency measures in new build and refurbishment projects. • To develop corporate working arrangements within the council, with landlords and other agencies to implement the strategy. • To take account of financial and other personal circumstances when implementing this strategy and, further, by the creation of a Fuel Poverty Strategy. 			<p>considered in the SA.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
Biodiversity Action Plan		Status:	
Source:			
<p>This local Biodiversity Action Plan is aimed at promoting integrated approaches towards effective biodiversity conservation and planning for sustainable development both within N.H.D.C. and in liaison with various partners. It should also help fulfil the role of the Council towards conserving the district's natural heritage as set out in measures such as The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000, Local Government Act 2000, and Conservation (Natural Habitats etc.) 1994.</p> <p>It sets out a series of actions that are intended to enable the Council to identify priorities for biodiversity conservation; to establish resources and responsibilities for programmes of action, review and monitoring. Implicit within these actions is a requirement for promotion of enhanced awareness and education in biodiversity issues and opportunities for involvement for all levels of society.</p>	<p>The plan sets out currently known information and detailed actions in relation to habitats and species relevant to the District. Many of the actions are directed at improving the accuracy of data. It includes detailed targets for particular habitats as appendices. These are mainly stated in broad, rather than quantified terms.</p>	<p>'Local Biodiversity Action Plans link to the statutory planning process in two ways. Information generated by the local biodiversity plans can provide detailed information for revision of development plans, for example, the identification of High Biodiversity Areas. In addition, the statutory planning process can make a major contribution to achievement of the Local Biodiversity Action Plan targets, in particular through policies for site protection and enhancement and the creation of new habitats in appropriate locations.'</p> <p><i>A 50 Year Vision for the Wildlife and Natural Habitats of Hertfordshire: BAP (April 1998)</i></p>	<p>Biodiversity is a key aspect of sustainable development that needs to be included within the SA framework. The baseline review should include indicators of biodiversity.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
Rural Strategy for North Hertfordshire 2005 – 2010 (March 2005)		Status: Final Report	
Source:			
<p>No stated objectives, but the expected outcomes of this strategy include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Having a coherent, consistent and comprehensive approach to identifying and responding to rural issues • Ensuring that there are clear planning policies in place to preserve the greenbelt wherever possible and retain community facilities • Having a clear set of priorities for supporting the diverse needs of our rural communities • Developing an increased awareness amongst officers, partners and members of the issues specific to our rural areas and a belief among those rural communities that local agencies are working concertedly on their behalf. • Having an increased awareness and understanding of what the difficult issues are, the constraints, and what we have done collectively to address them. This will include developing methods of sharing 	<p>Following consultations to identify issues of public concern, the strategy includes priority actions, and a detailed action plan under the themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Community safety B. Education and Life-long learning C. Health D. Housing E. Leisure and community development F. Planning and environment G. Transport, and H. Young people 	<p>Many of the issues raised are directly relevant to the LDF, particularly under the themes of Housing; Planning and environment; and Transport.</p>	<p>Ensure that all relevant issues raised are considered in the SA.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>information in order that all sections of rural communities can remain fully engaged.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating an increased sense of well-being amongst our rural communities. 			
<p>Pavilions, Playing Fields and Sports Pitches Strategy</p>		<p>Status: adopted 2005</p>	
<p>Source:</p>			
<p>The purpose of the Pavilions, Playing Fields and Sports Pitches Strategy is to form a strategic and holistic plan for organised sports on public green space in North Hertfordshire.</p>	<p>The adopted Local Plan states that 1.6 hectares of sports space should be provided per 1,000 population. This conforms to the NPFA's "Six Acre Standard" sets a minimum standard for outdoor playing space of 2.4 hectares (6 acres) for 1000 people, comprising 1.6 hectares (4 acres) for outdoor sport and 0.8 hectares (2 acres) for children's play. The audit undertaken indicates that there is an 11% short-fall across the district, but that the only significant under provision is in Baldock (37%).</p>	<p>Adequate provision in sports facilities needs to be considered in the LDF.</p>	<p>Access to sports facilities is an important Quality of Life issue, both as a leisure activity and for health benefits. This should be considered in the SA framework.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
Play Area and Outdoor Youth Provision Strategy 2004 - 2010		Status: adopted 2004	
Source:			
<p><i>Aims and objectives of the Play Area & Youth Provision Strategy are:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To provide safe interesting and accessible outdoor playing space for children. To provide outdoor local facilities for youth. To ensure existing and future play facilities comply with current legislation and guidelines. To integrate existing and future provision with planning policy. To reduce future maintenance costs by standardising certain items of provision i.e. fencing and safety surfacing. 	<p>No specific targets, but the strategy includes a detailed audit of existing provision and an action plan. Analysis against the NPFA's "Six Acre Standard" shows under-provision in all 4 urban areas, with Baldock having less than 25% of target provision.</p>	<p>Adequate provision in sports facilities needs to be considered in the LDF.</p>	<p>Access to sports facilities is an important Quality of Life issue, both as a leisure activity and for health benefits. This should be considered in the SA framework.</p>
Community Strategy for North Hertfordshire (Nov 2003)		Status:	
Source:			
<p>Under the Local Government Act 2000, LAs are required to develop community strategies. Their aim is to improve the efficiency of public service provision via public</p>	<p>The strategy includes detailed action plans for addressing issues raised during the consultation process, under the themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community Safety 	<p>A number of action points are directly relevant to the LDF, particularly under the themes of Housing; Planning, Town Centres and Environment; and Transport.</p>	<p>The SA should consider issues raised in the strategy.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>consultation and a joined-up approach to partnership. The NHCS involved a 3-year Area Visioning consultation process. It is implemented via the North Hertfordshire Local Strategic Partnership (NHLSP) which has about 30 public and voluntary sector member organizations.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education & Lifelong Learning • Health • Housing • Leisure and Community Development • Planning, Town Centres and Environment • Transport • Young People <p>These include both district-wide and local area actions. The strategy outlines monitoring processes and will use 8 of the 38 Audit Commission Quality of Life indicators for measurement purposes.</p>		
<p>Community Safety Strategy April 2005 – March 2008</p>		<p>Status: adopted 2005</p>	
<p>Source:</p>			
<p>Under Section 5 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, as amended by Sections 97 and 98 of the Police Reform Act 2002, all Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships are required to develop three year community safety strategies. The strategy is put together following an audit of crime and disorder that provides a picture of the major issues within the district.</p>	<p>The strategy contains a baseline audit and targeted actions.</p>	<p>Not directly relevant, although planning may have a role in mitigating certain types of crime, such as street crime, graffiti, or anti-social behaviour. This is not explicitly considered in the strategy.</p>	<p>Crime and fear of crime are important Quality of Life issues that need to be considered in the SA.</p>
<p>Social Inclusion Strategy</p>		<p>Status: adopted 2005</p>	
<p>Source:</p>			
<p>The strategy does not include an explicit statement of objectives but does state that:</p>	<p>The approach was not to develop a separate strategy but '...at a strategic level, existing policies and service</p>	<p>Issues relating to social exclusion should be considered in the LDF, but this strategy does not specifically</p>	<p>Social exclusion needs to be considered in the SA.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council’s purpose for developing a Social Inclusion Strategy is to ensure that the collective policies and functions of the Council are directed to alleviating disadvantage, deprivation and inequality within our communities and to optimise their life opportunities and experiences as set out in the Strategic Objectives. • The Council aims to ensure that there is fairness, respect and dignity given to all North Herts residents, employees and visitors but that there is targeted support to those most in need. • In delivering a socially inclusive way of working, the Council recognises that it will need to work with and through our communities in partnership with other statutory and voluntary/community based agencies, e.g.: the Local Strategic Partnership, the Compact. • At the same time, any Social Inclusion Strategy must reflect a balance between the needs of the urban and rural context of North Hertfordshire. 	<p>delivery already happening should be reviewed, refreshed and more clearly set within a social inclusion context.’</p> <p>There are no explicit targets, but the strategy is intended to address national targets at a local level. It also mentions Local Public Service Agreements (LPSAs) being developed with the County.</p> <p>No indicators are specified, but Action Plans are to be monitored and evaluated on an annual basis.</p> <p>It also states that ‘...there will need to be a much more detailed analysis of the demographic and statistical data for North Hertfordshire to ensure that there is more particular objective evidence to support the social inclusion approach.’</p>	<p>consider planning policies.</p>	

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
Health Improvement and Modernisation Programme		Status:	
Source:			
<p>This is the second Health Improvement Programme (HIMP) published by North Herts and Stevenage PCT. The HIMP is an agreed way of working for everyone involved with improving health and sets out actions for, among others, local authorities, NHS Trusts, the newly established Primary Care Groups, the Health Authority and other partner organizations. The aim is to take forward the key national strategies and policies for health at a local level.</p> <p>The HIMP reflects the priorities arising from national and political requirements; advice from professional groups; and the views of the local population.</p>	<p>The HIMP sets out a prioritised work plan under the themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and young people • Adults • Older people • Other priorities. <p>The HIMP stresses prevention and considers health inequalities. The HIMP does not suggest quantified local targets, but is intended to address national targets. The HIMP does not include indicators explicitly, but makes extensive use of available data to provide context and support its priorities.</p>	<p>Ensure that the LDF includes policies to improve public health (e.g. through walking and cycling initiatives and better homes) and combat social exclusion.</p>	<p>The SA objectives should reflect the need to promote better public health and combat social exclusion. The SA directive refers explicitly to the need to consider 'human health' as an issue.</p>
North Hertfordshire District Council Car Parking Strategy 2004 – 2009		Status: Adopted July 2004	
Source:			
<p>This document sets out the Council's agreed approach to parking issues in North Hertfordshire, providing a local strategy that meets relevant</p>	<p>Not applicable.</p>	<p>Car parking needs to be considered in the LDF, particularly with regard to new development. A good practice guide has been prepared (Harrison Webb Associates</p>	<p>Although sustainable development aims to reduce car use, it is important to car parking is managed to enable effective access to services and to minimise negative impacts. Car</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>national, regional and County policies. As such this strategy covers all aspects of parking, including on-street, off-street (both charged for and free), standards for town centres and residential areas, the opportunities for park and ride and using private non-residential parking, enforcement and monitoring. The strategy also proposes a zonal approach to parking standards for new development in accordance with guidance from the County Council and in line with a number of other Hertfordshire authorities.</p>		<p>2002). This report examined practical issues, such as;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • determining which developer contributions could and should be sought • the production of zonal maps (including defining and scoring parking zones) • how the standards could be applied • how to incorporate travel plans • how to set and apply accessibility charges • how the parking assessment fits in with the issue of a Transport Assessment 	<p>parking issues should be consider in the SA.</p>
<p>North Hertfordshire Cycling Strategy (1999) and North Hertfordshire Towns Cycle Network (2000)</p>		<p>Status: Council policy</p>	
<p>The Strategy sets out the Council’s vision, aims and policies to promote cycling. The overall aim is to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate the development of a safe, convenient and coherent network of facilities so that cycling can be viewed as a realistic form of transport. <p>The Strategy contains a number of policies for developing cycling infrastructure, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NHDC may require a financial 	<p>To increase the level of bicycle use to 4% of al trips by 2002 and to double this to 8% by 2012.</p>	<p>The plan needs to address contributions for cycling facilities, taking account of the networks planned for the four towns.</p>	<p>Promoting cycling needs to be considered when appraising transport impacts. The target needs to be included in the baseline data.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>contribution where a developer is unable to provide cycling facilities directly.</p> <p>1. The Network document gives details of planned networks in the four towns.</p>			
<p>Review of Voluntary Managed Community Centres and Village Halls</p>		<p>Status: Council policy</p>	
<p>Source: http://www.hertslink.org/portal/A_Z/C/eDemocracy/Civic%20Calendar/NHDC/items/Community%20Centres%20and%20Village%20Halls_3/reports</p>			
<p>The purpose of the document is to establish the Council's policy towards community centres, village halls and public halls. It describes aspirations on the future management and support of public halls. It then lays out policies to be considered as part of the LDF process. These should aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Retain existing viable community facilities that continue to be required. For example: the Council will not permit developments that would result in the loss or reduction of, or have an adverse impact on a social or community facility unless it can be demonstrated that the facility is no longer required, or arrangements are made to replace it. Facilitate the provision for social and community facilities 	<p>The following minimum standards are adopted for the provision of community centres:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In urban settings, there should be a community centre to provide for a local population of between a range of 7,500 to 10,000 persons who can access the centre by foot within a twenty-minute period. For rural areas, there should be a village hall to provide for a population in the range of 750-1,000 persons who can access the hall by foot within a twenty-minute period. <p>In addition, in certain areas and for specific schemes, the council may specify the provision of specialist facilities to meet the needs of specific groups, e.g. children and young people.</p>	<p>The replacement of existing facilities and provision of additional facilities would be achieved through the use of section 106 agreements. The standards therefore need to be included in the SPD.</p>	<p>Community facilities need to be considered when appraising access to services and facilities.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
to meet future needs in an acceptable form.			
Supplementary Planning Document Vehicle Parking Provision at New Development		Status: Adopted as SPD March 2006 Associated SA/SEA prepared off the SPD in line with national and European legislation.	
Source: http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/planning/local_development_framework/car_parking_zones_spd.htm			
<p>This Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) supplements Policy 55 in the North Hertfordshire District Local Plan Number 2 with Alterations, and accords with guidance in Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 12: Local Development Frameworks. It is also consistent with North Hertfordshire District Council's (NHDC) Car Parking Strategy 2004 – 2009 (adopted 27 July 2004).</p> <p>The Parking Strategy is compatible with the SPG on Parking Provision at New Development adopted by Hertfordshire County Council (HCC) on 18 December 2000. The HCC Guidance supplements Policy 25: Car Parking, as set out in the Hertfordshire Structure Plan Review 1991 – 2011 (adopted April 1998) and is accompanied by a Best Practice Guide (published March 2003).</p> <p>The purpose of the SPD is to explain the Council's policy on vehicle parking provision at new</p>	<p>The SPD does not provide car-parking standards. Standards already exist in a number of documents and the SPD sets out guidance on how to interpret and apply these standards in North Hertfordshire.</p>	<p>Car parking needs to be considered in the LDF, particularly with regard to new development.</p> <p>The SPD provides guidance on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • determining which developer contributions could and should be sought • the production of zonal maps (including defining and scoring parking zones) • how the standards could be applied • how to incorporate travel plans • how to set and apply accessibility charges • how the parking assessment fits in with the issue of a Transport Assessment 	<p>Although sustainable development aims to reduce car use, it is important that car parking is managed to enable effective access to services and to minimise negative impacts. Car parking issues should be considered in the SA.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>development. Its intention is to provide clear guidance and more certainty for developers.</p> <p>The SPD explains two new, important differences to previous policy on parking at new development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Firstly the Draft SPD explains how the concept of 'maximum' rather than 'minimum' standards; and • Secondly introduces a zonal approach to parking restraint within the four towns of Baldock, Letchworth Garden City, Hitchin and Royston as well as Knebworth. 			
<p>Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document</p>		<p>Status: Adopted Nov 2006 Associated SA/SEA prepared of the draft SPD in line with national and European legislation.</p>	
<p>Source: http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/planning/local_development_framework/planning_obligations_spd.htm</p>			
<p>The SPD is concerned with four towns of Baldock, Hitchin, Letchworth Garden City and Royston as well as the rural areas within North Hertfordshire District. It outlines the Council's approach to planning obligations in relation to planning applications and reflects the Council's corporate priorities and objectives. It will enable developers and landowners to be aware at an early stage what</p>	<p>The SPD sets certain standard charges and threshold requirements for developments. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • community centre and halls • leisure • open space, outdoor sport and recreation • public realm • sustainable transport 	<p>The provision of additional facilities, services and infrastructure would be achieved through the use of section 106 agreements. The standards therefore need to be included in the SPD.</p>	<p>Planning obligations need to be considered when appraising access to services and facilities.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>infrastructure and services may be sought to cope with additional demands brought on by new development and offset any harmful impacts to the natural, historic or built environment.</p> <p>The SPD takes into account the latest Government advice contained in Circular 05/2005 on Planning Obligations and will supplement Policy 51 – Development Effects and Planning Gain of the ‘saved Local Plan’ North Hertfordshire District Local Plan No.2 with Alterations. The SPD will eventually accompany relevant policies in the merging Local Development Framework (LDF).</p> <p>The cumulative impact of development is recognised as an important issue within the draft SPD, where it is considered that collectively new development, through incremental growth, creates additional demands.</p> <p>The SPD uses a ‘standard charge’ approach to address some of the likely impacts on infrastructure, services and facilities within an area.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • waste collection and recycling • education • libraries • youth and child care • affordable housing <p>Guidance is also provided on other types of contributions, although no set target is provided. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • environmental issues • Economic development • Development an flood risk • Sustainable construction methods • Community safety. 		

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
Sub-District			
Hitchin Town Centre Strategy (Final Version Nov 2004)		Status: Adopted as the Council's Statement of Policy –Nov 2004	
Source: http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/planning/planning_policy_and_projects/planning_for_town_centres.htm			
<p>This is the first Town Centre Strategy prepared under the Town Centre Template adopted by NHDC in May 2001.</p> <p>It sets out 54 detailed policies under the themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land Use Activities • Community Facilities • Accessibility • Community Safety • Built Environment and Public Spaces • Promotion and Marketing 	<p>No specific quantified targets.</p> <p>Proposals for monitoring but no specific indicators included.</p>	<p>Many of the issues and policies are relevant to the LDF and should be considered.</p> <p>The Hitchin Town Centre Strategy was developed in the context of current planning policies and may require amending to be compatible with the LDF once adopted.</p>	<p>Many of the issues raised should be considered in the SA framework, particularly in respect of the built environment, town centres and accessibility.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
Baldock Town Centre Strategy (Final Version Jan 2006)		Status: Adopted as the Council's Statement of Policy in January 2006	
Source: http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/planning/planning_policy_and_projects/planning_for_town_centres/baldock_town_centre_strategy.htm			
<p>This is the second Town Centre Strategy prepared under the Town Centre Template adopted by NHDC in May 2001.</p> <p>It sets out 39 detailed policies under the themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Built environment • Public spaces • The Street Scene • Enhancement Opportunities • Land Use Activities • Community Facilities • Transport and Access • Community Safety • Promotion and Marketing 	<p>No specific quantified targets.</p> <p>Proposals for monitoring as part of an Action Plan but no specific indicators included.</p>	<p>Many of the issues and policies are relevant to the LDF and should be considered.</p> <p>The Baldock Town Centre Strategy was developed in the context of current planning policies and may require amending to be compatible with the LDF once adopted.</p>	<p>Many of the issues raised should be considered in the SA framework, particularly in respect of the built environment, town centres and accessibility.</p>
Letchworth Garden City Town Centre Strategy (Jan 2007)		Status: Adopted as Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) in January 2007	
Source: http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/planning/planning_policy_and_projects/planning_for_town_centres/letchworth_town_centre_strategy.htm			
<p>This is the third Town Centre Strategy prepared under the Town Centre Template adopted by NHDC in May 2001.</p> <p>It sets out 34 detailed policies under the themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Built & historic environment • Public spaces • The Street Scene 	<p>No specific quantified targets.</p> <p>Proposals for monitoring as part of an Action Plan but no specific indicators included.</p>	<p>Many of the issues and policies are relevant to the LDF and should be considered.</p> <p>The Letchworth Garden City Town Centre Strategy was developed in the context of current planning policies and may require amending to be compatible with the LDF once adopted.</p>	<p>Many of the issues raised should be considered in the SA framework, particularly in respect of the built environment, town centres and accessibility.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enhancement Opportunities • Land Use Activities • Community Facilities • Transport and Access • Community Safety • Promotion and Marketing 			
Royston Conservation Area Review		Status: Adopted 2007	
Source: http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/planning/planning_control_and_conservation/the_conservation_and_heritage_team/royston_conservation_area_review.htm			
<p>The boundaries of the Royston Conservation Area were drawn up in 1969 and no review has taken place since 1974.</p> <p>The Character Statement is a means of ensuring that the importance and special interest of the conservation are recognised and understood. It will play a key role in ensuring that changes within the conservation area preserve or enhance its special character or appearance.</p>	No specific quantified targets.	Many of the issues and guidance are relevant to the SPD and should be considered, particularly in the sections on the built and historic environment.	Many of the issues raised should be considered in the SA , particularly in respect of the historic built and environment.
North Hertfordshire Urban Design Assessment – District Assessment/North Hertfordshire Urban Design Assessment – Royston (Draft Reports June 2007)		Status: Draft document	
Source:			
The document provides a set of urban design criteria against which development, conservation and change can be assessed. They are divided into the following categories:	Not applicable.	Many of the issues and guidance are relevant to the SPD and should be considered, particularly in the sections on the built and historic environment.	Many of the issues raised should be considered in the SA , particularly in respect of the historic built and environment.

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Making places; • Continuity and enclosure; • Making connections; • Quality of the public realm; • Settlement-wide criteria. 			