

**Sustainability Appraisal and SEA of North Hertfordshire Land Allocations DPD  
Appendix 1: Review of policies, plans and programmes**

October 2007

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# European 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
<b>EU Sustainable Development Strategy (June 2006)</b>		Status: Adopted by the EU in 2006	
Source: <a href="http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/06/st10/st10117.en06.pdf">http://register.consilium.europa.eu/pdf/en/06/st10/st10117.en06.pdf</a>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To limit climate change and its costs and negative effects to society and the environment</li> <li>• To ensure that our transport systems meet society's economic, social and environmental needs whilst minimising their undesirable impacts on the economy, society and the environment</li> <li>• To promote sustainable consumption and production patterns</li> <li>• To improve management and avoid overexploitation of natural resources, recognising the value of ecosystem services</li> <li>• To promote good public health on equal conditions and improve protection against health threats</li> <li>• To create a socially inclusive society by taking into account solidarity between and within generations and to secure and increase the quality of life of citizens as a precondition for lasting individual well-being</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kyoto Protocol commitments for reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 2008 – 2012,</li> <li>• By 2010 12% of energy consumption, on average, and 21% of electricity consumption, as a common but differentiated target, should be met by renewable sources, considering raising their share to 15% by 2015.</li> <li>• Reaching an overall saving of 9% of final energy consumption over 9 years until 2017</li> <li>• Reducing transport noise both at source and through mitigation measures to ensure overall exposure levels minimise impacts on health.</li> <li>• Halving road transport deaths by 2010 compared to 2000.</li> <li>• Improving the environmental and social performance for products and processes and encouraging their uptake by business and consumers.</li> <li>• Improving management and avoiding overexploitation of renewable natural resources such as fisheries, biodiversity, water, air, soil and atmosphere,</li> <li>• Halting the loss of biodiversity and</li> </ul>		

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 significant reduction in the worldwide rate of biodiversity loss by 2010.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avoiding the generation of waste and enhancing efficient use of natural resources by applying the concept of life-cycle thinking and promoting reuse and recycling</li> <li>• Curbing the increase in lifestyle-related and chronic diseases, particularly among socioeconomically disadvantaged groups and areas.</li> <li>• Reducing health inequalities within and between Member States by addressing the wider determinants of health and appropriate health promotion and disease prevention strategies.</li> <li>• Significantly increasing the labour market participation of women and older workers according to set targets, as well as increasing employment of migrants by 2010.</li> <li>• Promoting increased employment of young people. By the end of 2007 every young person who has left school and is unemployed should be offered a job, apprenticeship, additional training or other employability measure within six months, and within no more than 4 months by 2010.</li> </ul>		
<p><b>EU Spatial Development Perspective (May 1999)</b></p>		<p>Status: No formal status, there is a commitment from member states to take it forward in producing their own national and regional planning policies</p>	
<p>Source: <a href="http://europa.eu.int/comm/regional_policy/sources/docoffic/official/reports/som_en.htm">http://europa.eu.int/comm/regional_policy/sources/docoffic/official/reports/som_en.htm</a></p>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I development of a balanced and polycentric urban system and a new urban-rural relationship;</li> <li>• securing parity of access to infrastructure and knowledge; and</li> </ul>	<p>None</p>	<p>Mainly relevant at national and regional scale</p>	<p>Mainly relevant at national and regional scale</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"> <li>sustainable development, prudent management and protection of nature and cultural heritage.</li> </ul>			
<b>EU Sixth Environmental Action Plan (July 2002)</b>		Status:	
Source: <a href="http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/newprg/index.htm">http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/newprg/index.htm</a>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to stabilise the atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gases at a level that will not cause unnatural variations of the earth's climate.</li> <li>to protect and restore the functioning of natural systems and halt the loss of biodiversity in the European Union and globally. To protect soils against erosion and pollution.</li> <li>to achieve a quality of the environment where the levels of man-made contaminants, including different types of radiation, do not give rise to significant impacts on or risks to human health.</li> <li>to ensure the consumption of renewable and non-renewable resources does not exceed the carrying capacity of the environment. To achieve a decoupling of resource use from economic growth through significantly improved resource efficiency, dematerialization of the economy, and waste prevention.</li> </ul>	<p>Numerous actions are identified but few specific targets other than for greenhouse gas emissions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>In the short term, the EU is committed, under the Kyoto Protocol, to achieving an 8% reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases by 2008-2012 compared to 1990 level (in the longer term a global reduction of 20-40% will be needed).</li> </ul>	Key European context	Key European context
<b>EU Biodiversity Strategy (Feb 1998)</b>		Status:	
Source: <a href="http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/docum/pdf/9842en.pdf">http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/docum/pdf/9842en.pdf</a>			
<p>A range of objectives is identified under four themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity</li> <li>sharing of benefits arising out of the utilisation of genetic resources;</li> <li>Research, identification and monitoring of</li> </ul>	No specific targets identified	No direct implications	Key European context



Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
information; and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>education, training and awareness</li> </ul>			
<b>EU Water Framework Directive (2000)</b>		Status: <b>EU Directive</b>	
Source: <a href="http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/water/water-framework/index_en.html">http://europa.eu.int/comm/environment/water/water-framework/index_en.html</a>			
<p>This European legislation is designed to integrate the way water bodies are managed across Europe. The Water Framework Directive is a set of guidelines for managing large bodies of water. Its main aims are to improve water quality while reducing any danger 'a water body' poses, such as flooding. It's also designed to stop the deterioration of wetlands and improve aquatic habitats for wildlife.</p> <p>The main objectives of the WFD are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>enhance the status and prevent further deterioration of aquatic ecosystems and associated wetlands - there is a requirement for nearly all inland and coastal waters to achieve 'good status' by 2015;</li> <li>promote the sustainable use of water;</li> <li>reduce pollution of water, especially by 'priority' and 'priority hazardous' substances;</li> <li>lessen the effects of floods and droughts;</li> <li>rationalise and update existing water legislation and introduce a co-ordinated approach to water management based on the concept of river basin planning.</li> </ul> <p>The Environment Agency is the 'competent authority' responsible for the implementation of the WFD in England and Wales.</p>	<p>The WDF requires that a River Basin Management Plan (RBMP) is produced for each defined River Basin Districts (RBD). These include provision for assessing and monitoring and should include targets.</p>	<p>The LDF should take account of the relevant requirements of the WFD. This will typically require the consideration of relevant EA guidance.</p>	<p>Water resources are an important aspect of sustainability which should be considered in the SA objectives.</p>

# 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
<p><b>Securing the Future - UK Government sustainable development strategy (March 2005)</b></p>		<p>Status:UK government policy for England and framework for devolved administrations.</p>	
<p>Source: <a href="http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/publications/uk-strategy/uk-strategy-2005.htm">http://www.sustainable-development.gov.uk/publications/uk-strategy/uk-strategy-2005.htm</a></p>			
<p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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 incentivised.</p> <p>Promoting Good Governance Actively promoting effective, participative systems of governance in all levels of society – engaging</p>	<p>Introduces a new set of high-level indicators: the <b>UK Framework Indicators</b> 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.</p>	<p>Plan should conform to the requirements of the strategy.</p>	<p>Ensure that the key policy requirements are reflected in the SA Framework objectives and appraisal criteria.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>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><b>Sustainable communities: building for the future (OMDP Feb 2003)</b></p>		<p>Status: UK Government Action Plan (with financial commitments 2003-2006)</p>	
<p>Source: <a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_communities/documents/divisionhomepage/034686.hcsp">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_communities/documents/divisionhomepage/034686.hcsp</a></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"> <li>• Decent homes, decent places</li> <li>• Low demand and abandonment</li> <li>• A step change in housing supply</li> <li>• Land, countryside and rural communities</li> <li>• Sustainable growth</li> <li>• Reforming the delivery</li> </ul>	<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><b>Working with the Grain of Nature – A Biodiversity Strategy For England (DEFRA 2002)</b></p>		<p>Status: Non-statutory</p>	
<p>Source: <a href="http://www.ukbap.org.uk/EBG/england_biodiversity_strategy.asp">http://www.ukbap.org.uk/EBG/england_biodiversity_strategy.asp</a></p>			
<p>This national strategy, published post-devolution, builds on the 1994</p>	<p>The strategy devotes a chapter to Biodiversity indicators and a separate</p>	<p>The strategy (and regional, county and local BAPs) is directly relevant to</p>	<p>Biodiversity is a key aspect of sustainable development that needs</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>UK Biodiversity Action Plan published in response to the UN Convention on Biodiversity (CBD) signed at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992. The aim of the Strategy is to ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>A halting, and if possible a reversal, of declines in priority habitats and species, with wild species and habitats as part of healthy, functioning ecosystems</i></li> <li>• <i>The general acceptance of biodiversity's essential role in enhancing the quality of life, with its conservation becoming a natural consideration in all relevant public, private and non-governmental decisions and policies</i></li> </ul> <p>The strategy includes a chapter entitled <i>A holistic approach</i> which seeks to change the emphasis of nature conservation away from concentration on designation of conservation areas and protection of species at risk to a broader approach to the environment as a whole. It also contains chapters on specific sectors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agriculture</li> <li>• Water and wetlands</li> <li>• Woodland and forestry</li> <li>• Towns, cities and development</li> <li>• The coasts and seas</li> </ul> <p>And on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local and regional action</li> <li>• The economics and funding of biodiversity</li> <li>• The engagement of business</li> <li>• Promoting education and public</li> </ul>	<p>baseline assessment <i>Measuring the progress of the biodiversity strategy for England</i> was published on 1 December 2003. <i>Annual stock takes</i> have also been published for 2002-3 and 2003-4.</p> <p>The <i>holistic approach</i> chapter sets targets for various themes as key outcomes. Targets, milestones and indicators are included in the chapters dealing with individual sectors and other key themes. A key aspect of implementing a biodiversity strategy is the collection and dissemination of information. The website <a href="http://www.ukbap.org.uk">http://www.ukbap.org.uk</a> includes details of national and local BAPs and national Species and Habitat Action Plans.</p>	<p>the NHDC LDF. A key aim of the strategy is the:</p> <p>'Integration of biodiversity considerations in local authority activities and in particular as part of the preparation and implementation of Community Strategies and recognition of the role of local biodiversity objectives in planning policies'</p> <p>One of the most relevant aspects of the strategy is Chapter 7 on <i>Towns, cities and development</i> with the aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure that cities, towns and other settlements contribute fully to the goals of biodiversity conservation</li> <li>• To ensure that construction, planning, development and regeneration have minimal adverse impacts on biodiversity and enhance it where possible</li> <li>• To ensure that biodiversity conservation is integral to sustainable urban communities, both in the built environment, and in parks and green spaces</li> <li>• To ensure that biodiversity conservation is integral to measures to improve the quality of people's lives, delivered through other initiatives e.g. Community Strategies, including Neighbourhood Renewal and Cultural Strategies, social inclusion, health and equality of opportunity</li> <li>• To value, further and enhance people's own contributions to</li> </ul>	<p>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>understanding More detailed action plans in respect of the key themes and sectors are included as appendices.</p>		<p>improving biodiversity in towns and cities and to increase their access to it</p>	
<b>PPG2: Greenbelt (1992)</b>		Status: Government policy	
Source: <a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_606905.hcsp">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_606905.hcsp</a>			
<p>The fundamental aim of Green Belt policy is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open; the most important attribute of Green Belts is their openness. Green Belts can shape patterns of urban development at sub-regional and regional scale, and help to ensure that development occurs in locations allocated in development plans. Once established they help fulfill the objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to provide opportunities for access to the open countryside for the urban population;</li> <li>• to provide opportunities for outdoor sport and outdoor recreation near urban areas;</li> <li>• to retain attractive landscapes, and enhance landscapes, near to where people live;</li> <li>• to improve damaged and derelict land around towns;</li> <li>• to secure nature conservation interest; and</li> <li>• to retain land in agricultural, forestry and related uses.</li> </ul>	Not applicable	<p>The LDF must include policies that define the permanence of the Green Belt. Where areas are close to conurbations, they may come under intense pressure for development and if so need to be protected and maintained. There should be a presumption against inappropriate development. Policies should state that development is only allowed under very special circumstances where any harm to the Green Belt objectives is clearly outweighed by other considerations.</p>	<p>Green belt policies may help to achieve a number of SA objectives including: protection and enhancement of biodiversity; promotion of healthy lifestyles, preservation of landscape; and revitalisation of urban centres.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<b>PPS3: Housing (CLG, 2006)</b>		Status: Government policy	
Source: <a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/embedded_object.asp?id=1162097">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/embedded_object.asp?id=1162097</a>			
<p><b>Strategic housing policy objectives</b></p> <p>The Government's key housing policy goal is to ensure that everyone has the 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"> <li>- To achieve a wide choice of high quality homes, both affordable and market housing, to address the requirements of the community.</li> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- To improve affordability across the housing market, including by increasing the supply of housing.</li> <li>- To create sustainable, inclusive, mixed communities in all areas, both urban and rural.</li> </ul> <p><b>Planning for housing policy objectives</b></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 obligations, advice on this will be included in the Companion Guide, to be published in the future.</p>	<p>The SA should take account of affordable housing objectives.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<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"> <li>- High quality housing that is well-designed and built to a high standard.</li> <li>- 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.</li> <li>- A sufficient quantity of housing taking into account need and demand and seeking to improve choice.</li> <li>- Housing developments in suitable locations, which offer a good range of community facilities and with good access to jobs, key services and infrastructure.</li> <li>- 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.</li> </ul>			

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p><b>PPG4: Industrial, Commercial Development and Small Firms (2001)</b></p>		<p>Status: Government policy</p>	
<p>Source: <a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_control/documents/contentservertemplate/odpm_index.hcst?n=3386&amp;l=3">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_control/documents/contentservertemplate/odpm_index.hcst?n=3386&amp;l=3</a></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 achieve wider objectives in the public interest. They offer the opportunity to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• encourage new development in locations which minimise the length and number of trips, especially by motor vehicles;</li> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• discourage new development where it would be likely to add unacceptably to congestion;</li> <li>• locate development requiring access mainly to local roads away</li> </ul>	<p>Ensuring that the economic growth necessary to provide QoL 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>from trunk roads, to avoid unnecessary congestion on roads designed for longer distance movement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• give reference for users that will benefit from increased rail freight in localities close to rail nodes.</li> <li>• ensure that developments that are detrimental to amenity or a potential source of pollution should be separated from sensitive land uses.</li> </ul>	
<b>PPG8: Telecommunications (2001)</b>		Status: Government policy	
Source:			
<p>The aim of the policy is to give guidance on planning for telecommunications development - including radio masts and towers, antennas of all kinds, radio equipment housing, public call boxes, cabinets, poles and overhead wires. The aim of telecommunications policy is to ensure that people have a choice as to who provides their telecommunications service, a wider range of services from which to choose and equitable access to the latest technologies as they become available.</p>	Not applicable.	<p>The NHDC LDF should include policies on telecommunications systems based on the following considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whilst local planning authorities are encouraged to respond positively to telecommunications development proposals, they should take account of the advice on the protection of urban and rural areas in other planning policy guidance notes.</li> <li>• In making an application for planning permission or prior approval, operators may be expected to provide evidence regarding the need for the proposed development.</li> <li>• Authorities should not seek to prevent competition between different operators and should not question the need for the</li> </ul>	<p>Telecommunications systems can help achieve the sustainability objectives of encouraging a diverse economy and access to services. However, they can have negative environmental impacts, and possibly, represent health concerns.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
		<p>telecommunications system which the proposed development is to support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning authorities should have regard to any technical constraints on the location and proposed development.</li> <li>• Site sharing, design and screening should be considered in order to minimise visual intrusion</li> </ul> <p>On the contentious issue of health concerns, the PPG states (in summary):  'Health considerations and public concern can in principle be material considerations in determining applications for planning permission and prior approval. ...However, it is the Governments firm view that the planning system is not the place for determining health safeguards. It remains central Governments responsibility to decide what measures are necessary to protect public health. In the Governments view, if a proposed mobile phone base station meets the ICNIRP guidelines for public exposure it should not be necessary for a local planning authority, in processing an application for planning permission or prior approval, to consider further the health aspects and concerns about them. ... In the Governments view, local planning authorities should not implement their own precautionary policies'</p>	

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<b>PPG10: Planning and Waste Management (1999)</b>		Status: Government policy	
Source:			
<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"> <li>• to provide a planning framework which enables adequate provision to be made for waste management facilities to meet the needs of society for the re-use, recovery and disposal of waste, taking account of the potential for waste minimisation and the particular needs in respect of special waste<sup>1</sup>;</li> <li>• to help meet the needs of business and encourage competitiveness;</li> <li>• to encourage sensitive waste management practices in order to preserve or enhance the overall quality of the environment and avoid risks to human health;</li> <li>• to have regard to the need to protect areas of designated landscape and nature conservation value from inappropriate development;</li> <li>• to minimise adverse environmental impacts resulting from the handling, processing, transport and disposal of waste;</li> <li>• to consider what new facilities may be needed, in the light of wastes forecast to arise; and,</li> </ul>	Not applicable.	<p>The Government wish to see future waste management decisions based on the following principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• consideration of the Best Practicable Environmental Option for each waste stream;</li> <li>• regional self-sufficiency;</li> <li>• the proximity principle; and a waste hierarchy.</li> </ul> <p>In the context of the above considerations, the LDF should include policies on waste facilities that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• will minimise impacts on designated landscapes, nature conservation and the historic environment.</li> <li>• require that new developments have waste management strategies before granting planning permission and should include pollution monitoring.</li> <li>• demand appropriate locations for facilities, to minimise impact on sensitive land uses and to account for transport, traffic and access.</li> </ul>	The SA objectives should include objectives devoted to waste minimisation and appropriate waste management.

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"> <li>to ensure that opportunities for incorporating re-use/recycling facilities in new developments are properly considered.</li> </ul>			
<b>PPG13: Transport (2001)</b>		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. 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"> <li>promote more sustainable transport choices for both people and for moving freight;</li> <li>promote accessibility to jobs, shopping, leisure facilities and services by public transport, walking and cycling, and</li> <li>reduce the need to travel, especially by car.</li> </ul>	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"> <li>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;</li> <li>locate day to day facilities which need to be near their clients in local centres so that they are accessible by walking and cycling;</li> <li>accommodate housing principally within existing urban areas, planning for increased intensity of development for both housing and other uses at locations which are highly accessible by public transport, walking and cycling;</li> <li>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;</li> <li>in rural areas, locate most</li> </ol>	<p>The issues surrounding access and travel are important considerations for the SA. Effective access to employment, education and services is vital to improving QoL and contributes to social inclusion. But transport, and the infrastructure to support, it has large environmental impacts, including contributing to greenhouse gas emissions. The SA must consider these issues, and in particular</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reducing the need to travel by private car;</li> <li>Reducing the volume of freight traffic; and</li> <li>Improving accessibility of key services to local communities</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
		<p>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> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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 closely linked;</li> <li>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;</li> <li>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;</li> <li>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</li> </ol>	

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
		<p>design and layout of developments and areas, to secure 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><b>PPG15: Planning and the Historic Environment (2001)</b></p>		<p>Status: Government policy</p>	
<p>Source:</p>			
<p>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.</p>	<p>Not applicable</p>	<p>Local plans (the LDF) should:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• include a strategy for the</li> </ul>	<p>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.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
		economic regeneration of 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.	
<b>PPG16: Archaeology and Planning (2001)</b>		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.
<b>PPG17: Planning for Sport, Open Space and Recreation (2002)</b>		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	Not applicable	Planning for open spaces should be based on local standards established by the assessment of local needs and an audit of existing provision. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land</li> </ul>	The objectives of this PPG conform with many sustainability objectives. The SA should ensure that NHDC LDF meets these requirements.

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>objectives. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• supporting an urban renaissance, including performing vital functions as areas of nature conservation and biodiversity.</li> <li>• supporting a rural renewal.</li> <li>• promotion of social inclusion and community cohesion</li> <li>• health and well being</li> <li>• promoting more sustainable development</li> </ul>		<p>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.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Open space and sports and recreational facilities that are of high quality, or of particular value to a local community or in wildlife and biodiversity terms, should be recognised and given protection by local authorities through appropriate policies in plans.</li> <li>• 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 considered.</li> <li>• The location of new areas of open space, sports and recreational facilities, should promote objectives including accessibility, regeneration, social inclusion and biodiversity.</li> </ul> <p>The accompanying Companion Guide to PPG17 provides further guidance on implementation, and advocates the use of a range of tools such as English Nature's Accessible Natural Greenspace Standards.</p>	



Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<b>PPG24: Planning and Noise (1994)</b>		Status: Government policy	
Source:			
<p>PPG24 gives guidance on the use of their planning powers to minimise the adverse impact of noise. It:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• outlines the considerations to be taken into account in determining planning applications both for noise-sensitive developments and for those activities which will generate noise;</li> <li>• introduces the concept of noise exposure categories for residential development, encourages their use and recommends appropriate levels for exposure to different sources of noise; and</li> <li>• advises on the use of conditions to minimise the impact of noise.</li> </ul> <p>The aim of this guidance is to provide advice on how the <i>planning</i> system can be used to minimise the adverse impact of noise without placing unreasonable restrictions on development or adding unduly to the costs and administrative burdens of business.</p>	Not applicable	<p>The LDF should include policies to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ensure that, wherever practicable, noise-sensitive developments are separated from major sources of noise (such as road, rail and air transport and certain types of industrial development)</li> <li>• ensure that new development involving noisy activities should, if possible, be sited away from noisesensitive land uses.</li> </ul> <p>Where it is not possible to achieve such a separation of land uses, local planning authorities should consider whether it is practicable to control or reduce noise levels, or to mitigate the impact of noise, through the use of conditions or planning obligations.</p>	<p>Noise can have a significant effect on the environment and on the quality of life enjoyed by individuals and communities. The SA should ensure that these consideration are taken into account by the LDF.</p>
<b>PPS25: Development and Flood Risk (2006)</b>		Status: Government policy	
Source:			

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>The statement says that local planning authorities (LPAs) should prepare and implement planning strategies that help to deliver sustainable development by:</p> <p><b>Appraising risk</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>identifying land at risk and the degree of risk of flooding from river, sea and other sources in their areas;</li> <li>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;</li> </ul> <p><b>Managing risk</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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;</li> <li>only permitting development in areas of 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;</li> </ul> <p><b>Reducing risk</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>safeguarding land from development that is required for current and future flood</li> </ul>		<p>The statement says that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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;</li> <li>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 sustainable communities. They should be integrated effectively with other strategies of material significance.</li> </ul>	<p>The SA should ensure that flood risks are adequately considered in the SDP. There is currently no RFRA or SFRA in place.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>management e.g. conveyance and storage of flood water, and flood defences;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• reducing flood risk to and from new development through location, layout and design, incorporating sustainable drainage systems (SUDS);</li> <li>• 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;</li> </ul> <p><b>A partnership approach</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• ensuring spatial planning supports flood risk management policies and plans, River Basin Management Plans and emergency planning.</li> </ul>			

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<b>PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Development (ODPM 2005)</b>		Status: Government policy	
Source: <a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_035506.hcsp">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_035506.hcsp</a>			
<p>Sustainable development is identified as the key principle underlying planning. Planning is charged with addressing sustainable development through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• making suitable land available for development in line with economic, social and environmental objectives to improve people’s quality of life;</li> <li>• contributing to sustainable economic development;</li> <li>• protecting and enhancing the natural and historic environment, the quality and character of the countryside, and existing communities;</li> <li>• ensuring high quality development through good and inclusive design, and the efficient use of resources; and,</li> <li>• 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</li> </ul>	No specific targets	Key policy context.	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
services for all members of the community.			
<b>Draft Supplement to PPS1 – Planning and Climate Change (CLG, December 2006)</b>		Status: Draft government policy	
Source:			
<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"> <li>- 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);</li> <li>- new development should be located and designed to optimise its carbon performance 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;</li> </ul>	Not applicable	<p>Regional planning bodies, and all planning authorities should prepare and deliver spatial strategies that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- make a full contribution to delivering the Government’s Climate Change Programme and energy policies, and in doing so contribute to global sustainability;</li> <li>- in enabling the provision of new 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;</li> <li>- 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;</li> <li>- secure new development and shape places resilient to the effects of climate change in ways consistent with social cohesion and inclusion;</li> </ul>	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.

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"> <li>- new development should be located and designed for the climate, and impacts, it is likely to experience over its intended lifetime;</li> <li>- 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;</li> <li>- 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;</li> <li>- 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,</li> <li>- 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</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- sustain biodiversity, and in doing so recognise that the distribution of habitats and species will be affected by climate change;</li> <li>- reflect the development needs and interests of communities and enable them to contribute effectively to tackling climate change; and,</li> <li>- respond to the concerns of business and encourage competitiveness and technological innovation.</li> </ul>	

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>regional planning bodies and planning authorities periodically review and roll forward their planning strategies. Reviews should reflect future updates to the national Climate 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><b>PPS6: Planning for Town Centres (ODPM 2005)</b></p>		<p>Status: Government policy</p>	
<p>Source: <a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_036805.pdf">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_036805.pdf</a></p>			
<p>The Government's key objective for town centres is to promote their vitality and viability by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>planning for the growth and development of existing centres; and</li> <li>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.</li> </ul> <p>These key objectives must also take into account other Government objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>enhancing consumer choice</li> </ul>	<p>No specific targets</p>	<p>Planning authorities are required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>actively promote growth and manage change in town centres;</li> <li>define a network and a hierarchy of centres each performing their appropriate role to meet the needs of their catchments; and</li> <li>adopt a proactive, plan-led approach to planning for town centres, through regional and local planning.</li> </ul> <p>Within a regional planning context, local planning authorities should actively plan for growth and manage change in town centres over the</p>	<p>The PPS notes that the Government's wider policy objectives are also relevant, insofar as they would not be inconsistent with the key objectives as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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;</li> <li>to encourage investment to regenerate deprived areas, creating additional employment opportunities and an improved physical</li> </ul>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>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;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• supporting efficient, competitive and innovative retail, leisure, tourism and other sectors, with improving productivity; and</li> <li>• improving accessibility, ensuring that existing or new development is, or will be, accessible and well-served by a choice of means of transport.</li> </ul>		<p>period of their development plan documents by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• selecting appropriate existing centres to accommodate the identified need for growth by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ making better use of existing land and buildings, including, where appropriate, redevelopment;</li> <li>◦ where necessary, extending the centre.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• managing the role and function of existing centres by, for example, promoting and developing a specialist or new role and encouraging specific types of uses in some centres; and</li> <li>• planning for new centres of an appropriate scale in areas of significant growth or where there are deficiencies in the existing network of centres.</li> </ul>	<p>environment;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to promote economic growth of regional, sub-regional and local economies;</li> <li>• 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 to car use; and</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul> <p>The SA should consider potential synergies and conflicts between the range of policy objectives.</p>
<p><b>PPS7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas (OMDP 2004)</b></p>		<p>Status: Government policy</p>	
<p>Source: <a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_030148.hcsp">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_030148.hcsp</a></p>			
<p>Sets planning policy in the context of Government objectives to:</p>	<p>No specific targets.</p>	<p>Within the broader context of the Government's sustainable</p>	<p>The SA objectives and appraisal should take account of the specific</p>



Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p><b>(i) To raise the quality of life and the environment in rural areas through the promotion of:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• thriving, inclusive and sustainable rural communities, ensuring people have decent places to live by improving the quality and sustainability of local environments and neighbourhoods;</li> <li>• sustainable economic growth and diversification;</li> <li>• good quality, sustainable development that respects and, where possible, enhances local distinctiveness and the intrinsic qualities of the countryside; and</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul> <p><b>(ii) To promote more sustainable patterns of development:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• focusing most development in, or next to, existing towns and villages;</li> <li>• preventing urban sprawl;</li> <li>• discouraging the development of 'greenfield' land, and, where such land must be used, ensuring it is not used wastefully;</li> <li>• promoting a range of uses to maximise the potential benefits of the countryside fringing urban areas; and</li> <li>• providing appropriate leisure opportunities to enable urban and</li> </ul>		<p>development policy the PPS suggests: Good quality, carefully-sited accessible development within existing towns and villages 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. 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. New building development in the open countryside away from existing settlements, or outside areas allocated for 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. Priority should be given to the re-use</p>	<p>issues affecting rural areas.</p> <p>There are potential conflicts between the aim 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>rural dwellers to enjoy the wider countryside.</p> <p><b>(iii) Promoting the development of the English regions by improving their economic performance so that all are able to reach their full potential</b> - by developing competitive, diverse and thriving rural enterprise that provides a range of jobs and underpins strong economies.</p> <p><b>(iv) To promote sustainable, diverse and adaptable agriculture sectors</b> where farming achieves high environmental standards, 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>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. 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>	
<p><b>PPS9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation (DCLG, August 2005)</b></p>		<p>Status: Government policy</p>	
<p>Source: <a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1501970">www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1501970</a></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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>to promote sustainable development</b> by ensuring that</li> </ul>	<p>No specific targets.</p>	<p>The PPS states that Regional planning bodies and 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. Development plan policies and planning decisions should be based</p>	<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>biological and geological diversity are conserved and enhanced as an integral part of social, environmental and economic development, so that policies and decisions about the development and use of land integrate biodiversity and geological diversity with other considerations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>to conserve, enhance and restore the diversity of England's wildlife and geology</b> 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.</li> <li>• <b>to contribute to rural renewal and urban renaissance by:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 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</li> <li>○ ensuring that developments take account of the role and value of biodiversity in supporting economic diversification and contributing to a high quality environment.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		<p>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.</p> <p>(ii) Plan policies and planning decisions should aim to maintain, and enhance, restore or 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 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</p>	

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
		<p>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, 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>In addition to PPS9 itself, Circular (ODPM 06/05 and DEFRA 01/05) Biodiversity and Geological Conservation: Statutory Obligations and Their Impact Within The Planning System provides administrative guidance on application of the law in England relating to planning and nature conservation.</p>	

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		<p>The accompanying PPS9 Guide to Good Practice provides good practice guidance on ways regional planning bodies and local planning authorities can help deliver the national policies in PPS9 and comply with legal requirements set out in the Circular.</p> <p>With respect to Local Development Documents it states: Local authorities should take an integrated approach to planning for biodiversity and geodiversity when preparing local development documents. They should ensure that policies in local development documents reflect, and are consistent with, national, regional and local biodiversity priorities and objectives (including those agreed by local biodiversity partnerships).</p> <p>In addition, it states: Local development frameworks should: (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 (ii) identify any areas or sites for the restoration or creation of new priority habitats which contribute to regional targets, and support this restoration</p>	

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
		or creation through appropriate policies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•</li> </ul>	
<b>PPS10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management (ODPM, July 2005)</b>		Status: Government policy	
Source: <a href="http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1501865">www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1501865</a>			
Regional planning bodies and all planning authorities should, to the extent appropriate to their responsibilities, prepare and deliver planning strategies that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• help secure the recovery or disposal of waste without</li> </ul>	No specific targets	Most of PPS10 is aimed at Regional Planning Bodies and Waste Planning Authorities. However, it states that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In determining planning applications, all planning authorities should, where relevant, consider the likely impact of proposed, non-waste related, development on existing waste management facilities, and on sites and areas allocated for waste management. Where proposals would prejudice the implementation of the waste strategy in the development plan, consideration should be given to how they could be amended to make them acceptable or, where this is not practicable, to refusing planning permission.</li> <li>• Proposed new development should be supported by site waste management plans of the type encouraged by the code of practice published by the DTI14. These do not require formal approval by planning authorities, but are encouraged to identify the volume and type of material to be demolished and/or excavated,</li> </ul>	The efficient use of resources and the reduction of waste are important aspects of sustainable development and both are reflected in the SA objectives.

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>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"> <li>reflect the concerns and interests of communities, the needs of waste collection authorities, waste disposal authorities and business, and encourage competitiveness;</li> <li>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;</li> <li>ensure the design and layout of new development supports sustainable waste management.</li> </ul>		<p>opportunities for the reuse and recovery of materials and to demonstrate how off-site disposal of waste will be minimized and managed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Planning authorities should ensure that new development makes sufficient provision for waste management and promote designs and layouts that secure the integration of waste management facilities without adverse impact on the street scene or, in less developed areas, the local landscape.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>PPS12: Local Development Frameworks (ODPM September 2004)</b></p>		<p>Status: Government policy</p>	
<p>Source: <a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_031155.hcsp">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_031155.hcsp</a></p>			
<p>This PPS sets out the Government's policy on the preparation of local development documents which will</p>	<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</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>comprise the local development framework. The key aims are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. flexibility. Local planning authorities can respond to changing local circumstances and ensure that spatial plans are prepared and reviewed more quickly than development plans under the old system;</li> <li>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;</li> <li>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;</li> <li>iv. sustainability appraisal. To ensure that local development documents are prepared with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable</li> </ul>			<p>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>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>			
<p><b>PPS 22: Renewable Energy (ODPM August 2004)</b></p>		<p>Status: Government policy</p>	
<p>Source: <a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_030334.hcsp">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_030334.hcsp</a></p>			
<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><b>(i)</b> 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><b>(ii)</b> Regional spatial strategies and local development documents should contain policies designed to promote</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>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.</p> <p>Planning applications for renewable energy projects should be assessed against specific criteria set out in regional spatial strategies and local development documents. Regional</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.</p> <p>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>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><b>(iii)</b> 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 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><b>(iv)</b> 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><b>(v)</b> Regional planning bodies and local planning authorities should not</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. 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>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>	

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>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><b>(vi)</b> 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><b>(vii)</b> Local planning authorities, regional stakeholders and Local Strategic Partnerships should foster community involvement in renewable energy projects<sup>3</sup> and seek to promote knowledge of and 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><b>(viii)</b> 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,</p>			

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
scale, design and other measures.			
<b>PPS23: Planning and Pollution Control (ODPM 2004)</b>		Status: Government policy	
Source: <a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_032632.hcsp">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_032632.hcsp</a>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any consideration of the quality of land, air or water and potential impacts arising from development, possibly leading to impacts on health, is capable of being a material planning consideration.</li> <li>The 'precautionary principle' should be invoked when there is good reason to believe that harmful effects may occur to human, animal or plant health or the environment and the level of scientific uncertainty is such that risk cannot be assessed with sufficient confidence.</li> <li>The generation of additional pollution from road traffic, the demand on natural resources and the discharges to the environment associated with any proposed development should be considered.</li> <li>LDDs should set out the criteria against which applications for potentially polluting developments will be considered.</li> <li>The presence of contamination in land can present risk to human health and the environment; development presents an opportunity to deal with these risks successfully.</li> <li>The planning system should focus</li> </ul>		<p>The LDF should include policies in response to the advice in PPS23. The planning system plays an important role in determining the location of development which may give rise to pollution, either directly or from traffic generated, and in ensuring that other developments are, as far as possible, not affected by major existing, or potential sources of pollution. Appendix A of PPS23 lists a series of issues for consideration in preparing LDDs and taking decisions on individual planning applications. PPS23 includes two separate annexes (<i>Annex 1: Pollution Control, Air and Water Quality</i> and <i>Annex 2: Development on Land Affected by Contamination</i>). A third Annex on <i>Planning and Light Pollution</i> will be published for consultation in due course.</p>	<p>The SA objectives should reflect the need to reduce pollutant emissions and enhance land, air and water quality.</p> <p>Conflicts may arise between different SA objectives, for instance, the need to separate necessary but potentially polluting land uses from other land uses may conflict with the need to promote mix used 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>on whether the development itself is an acceptable use of the land, and the impacts of those uses, rather than the control of processes or emissions themselves. Planning authorities should work on the assumption that the relevant pollution control regime will be properly applied and enforced.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The availability of sewerage and drainage infrastructure will influence whether or not development should proceed. Where there are substantial concentrations of land affected by contamination, more detailed attention should be given to this in LDDs, possibly through area action plans.</li> <li>• Where pollution issues are likely to arise, intending developers should hold informal preapplication discussions with the LPA.</li> </ul>			
<p><b>The Future of Transport White Paper (DETR July 2004)</b></p>		<p>Status:</p>	
<p>Source:</p>			
<p>Set out Government plans for transport in the long term. The strategy is built around 3 central themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustained investment over the long term</li> <li>• Improvement in transport</li> </ul>	<p>The white paper does not contain detailed quantified targets or specific indicators.</p>	<p>Important policy context, but not directly relevant to the NHDC LDF, because they are not a transport planning authority.</p>	<p>The issues surrounding access and travel are important considerations for the SA. Effective access to employment, education and services is vital to improving QoL and contributes to social inclusion. But transport, and the infrastructure to</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
management, and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning ahead</li> </ul>			support, it has large environmental impacts, including contributing to greenhouse gas emissions. The SA must consider these issues, and in particular <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reducing the need to travel by private car;</li> <li>• Reducing the volume of freight traffic; and</li> <li>• Improving accessibility of key services to local communities</li> </ul>
<b>UK Air Quality Strategy (2000)</b>		Status:	
Source:			
This Strategy describes the plans drawn up by the Government and the devolved administrations to improve and protect ambient air quality in the UK in the medium-term. The proposals aim to protect people's health and the environment without imposing unacceptable economic or social costs.	The pollutants covered are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• benzene;</li> <li>• 1,3-butadiene;</li> <li>• carbon monoxide;</li> <li>• lead;</li> <li>• nitrogen dioxide;</li> <li>• ozone;</li> <li>• particles (PM10); and</li> <li>• sulphur dioxide.</li> </ul> Targets are set for each of these.	Not directly relevant to the LDF, but it should consider any effects policies may have on the levels of air pollution.	Protection of the environment is a key sustainability objective and improving air quality should be amongst the SA objectives.
<b>The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland: Addendum (Defra 2003)</b>		Status:	
Source:			
An addendum to UK Air Quality Strategy 2000, modifying objectives and setting new targets.	New targets set.	See above	See above

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<b>UK Climate Change Programme (2000)</b>		Status:	
Source:			
<p>Details how the UK plans to deliver its Kyoto target to cut its greenhouse gas emissions by 12.5%, and move towards its domestic goal to cut carbon dioxide emissions by 20% below 1990 levels by 2010.</p> <p>It aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• improve business's use of energy, stimulate investment and cut costs;</li> <li>• stimulate new, more efficient sources of power generation;</li> <li>• cut emissions from the transport sector;</li> <li>• promote better energy efficiency in the domestic sector;</li> <li>• improve energy efficiency requirements of the Building Regulations;</li> <li>• continue the fall in emissions from agriculture and forestry;</li> <li>• ensure the public sector takes a leading role.</li> </ul>	See objectives.	The NHDC LDF policies should take account both of the need to minimise greenhouse gas emissions and the potential impacts of climate change.	Climate change issues need to be considered in developing the SA framework, both in terms of adaptation and mitigation.
<b>Energy White Paper: Our energy future – creating a low carbon economy (Dti 2003)</b>		Status:	
Source:			
The aims of the white paper are:	Contains quantified targets for a	LDF policies should take account of	Efficient use of natural resources is a

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"> <li>to put ourselves on a path to cut the UK's carbon dioxide emissions - the main contributor to global warming - by some 60% by about 2050, as recommended by the RCEP, with real progress by 2020;</li> <li>to maintain the reliability of energy supplies;</li> <li>to promote competitive markets in the UK and beyond, helping to raise the rate of sustainable economic growth and to improve our productivity; and</li> <li>to ensure that every home is adequately and affordably heated.</li> </ul>	<p>number policies, including carbon emissions (see objectives), electricity from renewable sources (10% by 2010, 20% by 2020) and the industrial use of oil and gas.</p>	<p>the need to minimise the use of energy and to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, particular in regard to transport and access, building design and the increased use of renewable energy. (Responses to the consultation processes saw planning as a major constraint on introduction of renewable energy generation.)</p>	<p>key component of sustainability. The SA framework should include objectives for improving energy efficiency and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.</p>
<p><b>The UK Fuel Poverty Strategy (Dec 2001)</b></p>		<p>Status:</p>	
<p>Source: <a href="http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/consumers/fuel_poverty/strategy.shtml">http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/consumers/fuel_poverty/strategy.shtml</a></p>			
<p>The strategy identifies the main causes of fuel poverty in the UK as: ...a combination of poor energy efficiency in homes and low incomes. Other factors include the size of some properties in relation to the number of people living in them, and the cost of fuel.</p> <p>And its effects as:</p> <p>Fuel poverty damages people's quality of life and imposes wider costs on the community. The most direct effects are in relation to the health of people living in cold homes. Although</p>	<p>The stated goal of the strategy is to seek an end to the blight of fuel poverty for vulnerable households by 2010. Fuel poverty in other households will also be tackled once progress is made on the priority vulnerable groups.</p> <p>The specific interim targets for England is:</p> <p>By 2004, to have assisted 800,000 vulnerable households through the Home Energy Efficiency Scheme (HEES) now marketed as the Warm Front Team (WFT) and to reduce the number of non-decent social sector</p>	<p>The strategy is not directly relevant to the LDF and does not specifically relate to planning issues. However, planning policies and control should consider the energy efficiency of new builds and conversions.</p>	<p>Fuel poverty impacts on many quality of life issues, particularly relating to health and the vulnerable. These should be considered within the SA framework.</p> <p>Potentially useful source of comparative data for baseline, although no data below regional level.</p>



Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>these risks apply to all people, older people, children, and those who are disabled or have a long-term illness are especially vulnerable.</p>	<p>homes by one third (though not all of these will be occupied by fuel poor households).</p> <p>The strategy contains proposals for monitoring and detailed indicators related to fuel poverty issues. Two annual monitoring reports and an action plan have been published subsequently.</p>		
<p><b>UK Waste Strategy (Defra 2000)</b></p>		<p>Status:</p>	
<p>Source:</p>			
<p>This strategy describes the Governments vision for managing waste and resources better.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Changing the way we manage waste and resources can make an important contribution to improving our quality of life.</li> <li>• We need to tackle the amount of waste produced, breaking the link between economic growth and increased waste.</li> <li>• Where waste is produced, we must put it to good use, through re-use, recycling, composting and recovering energy.</li> </ul>	<p>Key targets: By 2005 to reduce the amount of industrial and commercial waste sent to landfill to 85% of that landfilled in 1998</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to recover value from 40% of municipal waste by 2005</li> <li>• to recover value from 45% of municipal waste by 2010</li> <li>• to recover value from 67% of municipal waste by 2015</li> </ul> <p>("Recover" means obtain value from wastes through one of the following means: recycling; composting; other forms of material recovery (such as anaerobic digestion) or energy recovery (combustion with direct or indirect use of the energy produced, manufacture of refuse derived fuel, gasification, pyrolysis, or other technologies))</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to recycle or compost at least 25% of household waste by 2005</li> <li>• to recycle or compost at least 30% of household waste by 2010</li> <li>• to recycle or compost at least</li> </ul>	<p>This strategy is only marginally relevant to the LDF to the extent that planning policies may affect the delivery of the waste strategy.</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>33% of household waste by 2015</p> <p>The strategy includes the relevant Best Value and QoLC Indicators.</p>		
<b>Rural Strategy (2004)</b>		Status: Government policy	
Source: <a href="http://www.defra.gov.uk/rural/pdfs/strategy/rural_strategy_2004.pdf">http://www.defra.gov.uk/rural/pdfs/strategy/rural_strategy_2004.pdf</a>			
<p>Rural Strategy 2004 provides the policy framework, the tools and the evidence base to help all Government Departments, regional and local partners work together in a collaborative way over the next three to five years to deliver more sustainable rural communities and an enhanced and enriched countryside. The objectives are presented under 3 themes:</p> <p><b>1) Economic and Social Regeneration</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>building on the economic success of the majority of rural areas</b> to ensure they contribute fully to national, regional and local economic prosperity ; and</li> <li>• <b>tackling the structural economic weaknesses and accompanying poor social conditions that exist in a minority of rural areas.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>2) Social Justice for All</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• for the majority of rural England which is fundamentally prosperous our social priorities are to ensure <b>fair access to public services and affordable</b></li> </ul>	<p>The strategy do not include quantified targets or suggest specific indicators, but it does provide a detailed summary of the evidence base underlying it. It also include a redefinition of rural areas.</p>	<p>The issues most relevant to the LDF are included in PPS7.</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 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><b>housing;</b> and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>in both more and less prosperous areas, to <b>tackle social exclusion wherever it occurs.</b></li> </ul> <p><b>3) Enhancing the Value of our Countryside</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to continue to take action to <b>protect and enhance the rural and urban environments;</b> and</li> <li>to <b>enhance the value and natural beauty of the countryside for rural communities and for the benefit of society in general</b></li> </ul>			
<p><b>Saving Lives: Our Healthier Nation White Paper (DoH 1999)</b></p>		<p>Status:</p>	
<p>Source:</p>			
<p>The White Paper sets out the Government's strategy for health:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to improve the health of the population as a whole by increasing the length of life and the number of years people spend free from illness;</li> <li>to improve the health of the worst off in society and to narrow the health gap.</li> </ul>	<p>It includes four specific targets to be achieved by 2010:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to reduce the death rate from cancer in people under 75 by at least one fifth;</li> <li>to reduce the death rate from coronary heart disease and stroke and related diseases in people under 75 by at least two fifths;</li> <li>to reduce the death rate from suicide and undetermined injury by at least one fifth;</li> <li>to reduce the death rate from accidents by at least one fifth and to reduce the rate of serious injury from accidents by at least</li> </ul>	<p>The white paper is not directly relevant to the LDF, however the implications for health of LDF policies should be considered, particular where they may effect access to healthcare or healthy leisure; encourage walking or cycling; or promote social inclusion.</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>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
	one tenth.		
<b>The Energy Challenge: Energy Review Report (DTI, July 2006)</b>		Status: Government proposals, due to be followed by White Paper	
Source: <a href="http://www.dti.gov.uk/energy/review/">www.dti.gov.uk/energy/review/</a>			
<p>This report presents the conclusions of the government's energy review which began in November 2005. It sets out the proposed next steps for responding to the energy challenges facing the United Kingdom and will be followed by a White Paper in late 06/early 07. It includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the proposed overarching approach to saving carbon and giving incentives to reduce carbon dioxide emissions.</li> <li>proposals to increase the efficiency of the products and services used at work and at home and to improve the standards and heat efficiency of buildings.</li> <li>proposals on distributed energy. This includes proposals on combined heat and power (CHP), microgeneration and proposals to encourage the development of renewable forms of heat.</li> <li>proposals on oil, gas and coal. This includes steps to make international markets for oil and gas work better; to encourage companies to maximise investment and production from</li> </ul>	<p>It estimates that the proposals in the report will achieve:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20% of UK electricity needs from renewable sources by 2020</li> <li>13-17% cut in carbon emissions by 2020</li> </ul>	<p>The LDF should take account of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the overall need to reduce carbon emissions in the context of climate change;</li> <li>the need to increase the energy efficiency of buildings;</li> <li>the need to promote renewables, including combined heat and power (which will be the subject of forthcoming government guidance) and microgeneration;</li> <li>the need to reduce carbon emissions from transport;</li> <li>proposed future changes to the planning system for energy and infrastructure, including a new PPS on Climate Change, which will aim to achieve a reduction in carbon emissions through the location, siting and design of new development.</li> </ul>	<p>Efficient use of natural resources is a key component of sustainability. The SA framework includes objectives for improving energy efficiency and the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>the UK's fossil fuel resources; and to help reduce the risks associated with the UK's increasing reliance on gas imports.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>proposals for substantial new investment in power stations over the next two decades. This includes proposals on renewables, cleaner coal and carbon capture and storage and on civil nuclear power.</li> <li>the steps Government will take to reduce carbon dioxide emissions from transport.</li> <li>the steps the Government will take to improve the planning process for all energy infrastructure. The proposals include planning improvements for gas infrastructure (e.g. pipelines, LNG terminals and gas storage) and electricity generation, including renewables, CHP, fossil fuel and nuclear power stations.</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Planning for a Sustainable Future (CLG, May 2007)</b></p>		<p>Status: Government White Paper</p>	
<p>Source:</p>			
<p>For the town and country planning system, the White Paper propose to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>produce a more strategic,</li> </ul>	<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</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>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;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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,</li> <li>• 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, and which promotes competition and improves consumer choice, avoiding the unintended effects of the current need test;</li> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• 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</li> </ul>		<p>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>	

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>next 10 years;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• review and wherever possible extend permitted development rights on microgeneration to non residential types of land use including commercial and agricultural development;</li> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• 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;</li> <li>• introduce Planning Performance Agreements, which will help streamline the processing of major</li> </ul>			

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>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;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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</li> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>			



# 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><b>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)</b></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: <a href="http://www.eera.gov.uk/category.asp?cat=452">http://www.eera.gov.uk/category.asp?cat=452</a>  <a href="http://www.eera.gov.uk/Documents/About%20EERA/Policy/Planning%20and%20Transport/EiP%20Report/2006-06-20%20EoE%20Panel%20Report%20Vol%20I%20PPMv5.pdf">http://www.eera.gov.uk/Documents/About%20EERA/Policy/Planning%20and%20Transport/EiP%20Report/2006-06-20%20EoE%20Panel%20Report%20Vol%20I%20PPMv5.pdf</a></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</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. 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>strengthening its stock of environmental assets.”</p> <p>objectives:</p> <p><b>Objective 1:</b> 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"> <li>• locating development so as to reduce the need to travel;</li> <li>• effecting a major shift in travel towards public transport, walking and cycling and away from car use;</li> <li>• maximising the energy efficiency of development and promoting renewable energy generation; and</li> <li>• minimising the risk of flooding.</li> </ul> <p><b>Objective 2:</b> To increase housing opportunities for people in the region</p> <p>by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• securing a step change in the delivery of additional housing throughout the region, and</li> <li>• especially in key centres for development and change; and</li> <li>• recognising a priority for the provision of affordable housing to meet identified needs,.</li> </ul> <p><b>Objective 3:</b> To realise the economic potential of the region and its people</p> <p>by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• facilitating the development</li> </ul>			

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

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

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<b>East of England Plan: Sustainability Appraisal Report (November 2004)</b>		Status : Formal report on SEA and SA of East of England Plan commissioned by EERA	
Source: <a href="http://www.eera.gov.uk/category.asp?cat=382">http://www.eera.gov.uk/category.asp?cat=382</a>			
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.
<b>Sustainable Futures: The Integrated Regional Strategy for the East of England (Feb 2005)</b>		Status:	
Source: <a href="http://www.eera.gov.uk/category.asp?cat=47">http://www.eera.gov.uk/category.asp?cat=47</a> and			
The Strategy states its key objectives as the following high level outcomes: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. an exceptional knowledge base and a dynamic economy in the region</li> <li>2. opportunities for everyone to contribute to – and benefit from – the region’s economic dynamism</li> <li>3. strong, inclusive, healthy and culturally rich communities</li> <li>4. a high quality and diverse natural and built environment</li> <li>5. a more resource-efficient region</li> </ol> It identifies the following 8 <i>Crucial Regional Issues</i> that must be	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’. 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	The IRS draws on existing regional strategies to present a ‘Vision and a series of high level outcomes’ for the region in order to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide a joined-up statement of regional priorities</li> <li>• To flag any areas in which existing regional strategies are actually or potentially conflicting</li> </ul>	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.

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>confronted and resolved, noting that all are complex and include elements that are contradictory:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Housing supply, growth and sustainability</li> <li>2. Transport, travel and infrastructure</li> <li>3. Building the knowledge economy</li> <li>4. Skills and labour supply</li> <li>5. Deprivation and access to services</li> <li>6. Health and well being</li> <li>7. Rural issues</li> <li>8. Resource issues</li> </ol> <p>From the above 5 <i>Priorities</i> are identified for the region:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Achieve high quality and sustainable solutions in Growth Areas and other parts of the region facing growth and regeneration pressures</li> <li>2. Harness fully the region's strengths in science, research and development, and in surrounding commercialisation processes</li> <li>3. Address the causes and implications of persistent deprivation and social exclusion wherever it exists in the region</li> <li>4. Effect a step-change in the efficiency of resource use and the management of the region's distinctive natural and built environmental assets</li> <li>5. Capture the benefits from – and manage the impacts of – the region's international gateways and national transport corridors</li> </ol>	<p>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 level outcomes and priorities might be assessed.'</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To suggest processes through which tensions between regional strategies might be mitigated and resolved</li> <li>• To provide an overarching context for the development of regional strategies in the future, building on the current Regional SDF</li> <li>• To provide a clear statement to central government of priorities for the East of England at a regional level.</li> </ul> <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
<b>A Sustainable Development Framework for the East of England (Oct 2001)</b>		Status: Regional policy guidance	
Source: <a href="http://www.eera.gov.uk/Documents/About%20EERA/Policy/Sustainable%20Development/SDF.pdf">http://www.eera.gov.uk/Documents/About%20EERA/Policy/Sustainable%20Development/SDF.pdf</a> Trends supplement: <a href="http://www.sustainability-east.com/Reports/Trends%20Supplement.pdf">http://www.sustainability-east.com/Reports/Trends%20Supplement.pdf</a>			
<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"> <li>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.</li> <li>2. Spread the benefits of growth more equally, so as to reduce poverty, crime, ill health and social exclusion and reduce inequalities.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>4. Protect and enhance the quality of the region's natural and built environment.</li> <li>5. Manage the use of resources sustainably and innovatively, in order to minimise the region's global environmental impact.</li> </ol> <p>The framework identifies the following 21 key sustainability issues for the region:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The economy</li> </ol>	<p>The framework does not contain quantified targets, but does include 84 indicators under the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To achieve sustainable levels of prosperity and economic growth</li> <li>• To deliver more sustainable patterns of location of development, including employment and housing</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• To reduce our consumption of fossil fuels</li> <li>• 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</li> <li>• To use natural resources, both finite and renewable, as efficiently</li> </ul>	<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>as possible, and re-use finite resources or recycled alternatives wherever possible</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To minimise our production of by-products or wastes, aiming for 'closed systems' where possible</li> <li>• 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)</li> </ul> <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>		
<p><b>Our Environment, Our Future: The Regional Environmental Strategy for the East of England (July 2003)</b></p>		<p>Status:</p>	
<p>Source:</p>			
<p>The document sets out the Environment Strategy for the East of England, in the context of the series of strategies that form the overall</p>	<p>The strategy does not contain quantified targets, but does suggest an indicator for each key action within each strategic aim. No data are</p>	<p>The RES provides the regional strategic context for considering the environment issues in the</p>	<p>The issues and aims identified in the RES will inform the development of the SA framework and the indicator set for the baseline.</p>



Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>Integrated Strategy for the region. It provides a description of <b>Key Assets</b> and an <b>Assessment of the Current State</b> for each of the following themes and topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The Landscape And Natural Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Natural And Man-made Landscapes</li> <li>• Biodiversity</li> </ul> </li> <li>2. The Historic And Built Environment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Historic Environment</li> <li>• Local Distinctiveness And Quality In The Built Environment</li> </ul> </li> <li>3. Natural Resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Water</li> <li>• Air And Climate</li> <li>• Land</li> </ul> </li> </ol> <p>It identifies 5 key environmental challenges for the region and suggests strategic aims for each as follows:</p> <p><b>Delivering sustainable patterns and forms of development.</b></p> <p>SA1: Accommodate population and economic growth whilst protecting and enhancing the environment.</p> <p>SA2: Reduce the need to travel and achieve a switch to more sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>SA3: Deliver sustainable design.</p> <p><b>Meeting the challenges and opportunities of climate change.</b></p> <p>SA4: Reduce vulnerability of the region to climate change.</p> <p>SA5: Promote energy conservation and a switch to renewable energy sources.</p> <p>SA6: Harness environmental benefits</p>	<p>provided for any indicators in the strategy itself.</p>	<p>LDF. All the strategic aims identified in the RES are relevant, and many of the key actions are directly concerned with planning strategy and control, for instance, to:</p> <p>‘Ensure that development plans and local development documents properly integrate environmental objectives into special strategies and planning policies’</p> <p>And</p> <p>‘Ensure that all local planning authorities are aware of, and use, guidance and checklists on sustainable design in determining planning permissions.’</p>	

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>arising from climate change.</p> <p><b>Ensuring environmental sustainability in the economy.</b> SA7: Improve the environmental awareness, skills, and housekeeping of business and the workforce. SA8: Promote the environmental economy. SA9: Deliver more sustainable agriculture.</p> <p><b>Enhancing environmental capital.</b> SA10: Maintain and strengthen landscape and townscape character. SA11: Enhance biodiversity. SA12: Conserve and enhance the historic environment.</p> <p><b>Achieving sustainable lifestyles.</b> SA13: Reduce the region's global environmental impact. SA14: Increase understanding and ownership of environmental issues.</p>			
<p><b>Revised regional housing strategy for the East of England: Strategy Document 2005-2010</b></p>		<p>Status:</p>	
<p>Source:</p>			
<p>The overall vision behind the RHS is identified as: <b>To ensure everyone can live in a decent home at a price they can afford in locations that are sustainable.</b> It aims to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To use housing investment to support economic development and ensure that the capacity of the housing sector can deliver</li> </ul>	<p>Some targets/challenges are identified in the RHS, particularly:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Providing the 478,000 new homes required in the Draft East of England Plan by 2021; and</li> <li>Providing the minimum 30% and the aspirational 40% affordable housing</li> </ul> <p>Other detailed targets are included in the RHS Action Plan. No indicators are identified in the</p>	<p>Provides the regional strategic context for considering housing within the NHDC LDF. The RHS is complemented by a series of sub-regional strategies. The one relevant to NHDC for the London Commuter Belt is reviewed below.</p>	<p>Issues and aims will be considered in developing 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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide a sustainable environment and attractive places to live</li> <li>To promote social inclusion within sustainable communities</li> <li>To ensure that housing serves to improve the region's health and well-being and reduce inequalities.</li> </ul>	strategy document.		
<b>Regional Social Strategy: A strategy to achieve a fair and inclusive society in the East of England (March 2004)</b>		Status:	
Source:			
<p>The RSS identifies 6 strategic objectives as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To tackle poverty and reduce income inequalities (SO1)</li> <li>To promote access to work, tackle low pay and improve conditions of work (SO2)</li> <li>To improve the life chances of children from disadvantaged families and support vulnerable young people in the transition to adulthood (SO3)</li> <li>To improve the life chances of adults through learning and skills development (SO4)</li> <li>To promote active ageing and reduce social exclusion of older people (SO5)</li> <li>To support the development of sustainable communities (SO6)</li> </ul>	<p>The RSS contains many detailed, quantified targets based on existing PSA targets. No indicators are specifically considered, but the contextual section provides significant background data on the region.</p>	<p>Key regional strategy increasing social inclusion. As such, it is broadly relevant to many LDF issues, but very few of the detailed actions outlined are directly relevant to planning, with the exception of housing (especially affordable housing) and aspects of access issues and community building.</p>	<p>Social inclusion is an important aspect of sustainable development that will be considered in drawing up 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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve access to services, especially for disadvantaged groups (SO7)</li> <li>To develop social networks, community assets and promote community cohesion (SO8)</li> </ul>			
<b>Living with climate change in the East of England (Feb 2003/Sep 2003)</b>		Status:	
Source:			
<p>A study of the potential impacts of climate change on the EoE, together with possible responses. The study is published in two stages: 1 Guidance on Spatial Issues and 2 Draft Guidance for Local Service Provision. There are also 3 summary reports, one general, one for local authorities and one for businesses.</p> <p>The study considers potential impacts under 2 scenarios: low emissions (2.0 °C) and high emissions (3.9°C) increases in global temperatures by 2080. Guidance is focussed on adaptation, rather than mitigation, measures. It suggest as an Over-arching Aim:</p> <p><i>To work with climate change, rather than against it and manage the impacts for the benefit of future generations</i></p> <p>and a Key Spatial Guiding Principle:</p> <p><i>To reduce risk by guiding new development to those locations least vulnerable to the potentially adverse impacts of climate change</i></p>	<p>There are no targets suggested, nor indicators proposed.</p> <p>The study includes analysis of regional strategies in relation to CC and an appraisal of the 4 spatial options in the RPG.</p> <p>It also considers sub-regional areas based on CC impacts. NH is at the boundary of 2 areas: Northern and Southern Heartland, but faces the issues characteristic of the Southern area: lack of water resources; water constraints and temperatures effecting agriculture and habitats; risk of subsidence on clay soils and fluvial flooding.</p>	<p>The issues raised by CC need to be considered in relation to the NHDC LDF. The study suggests the need to consider long-term impacts and risks, despite current uncertainties, but also stresses that CC impacts and responses need to be balanced against other considerations.</p>	<p>Climate change issues need to be considered in developing the SA framework, both in terms of adaptation and mitigation.</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 in more detail:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Protect existing land uses from the impacts of sea level rise and fluvial flooding only where the benefits of doing so in environmental, economic and social terms clearly outweigh the capital and revenue costs</li> <li>• Avoid allowing development in locations that could constrain or reduce effectiveness of future options for adaptation (e.g. allowing development in areas that might prevent effective coastal and fluvial flood management in the future)</li> <li>• Where possible, allow for sea level rise to take its natural course</li> <li>• Avoid new development being located in areas at risk from sea level rise and storm surges</li> <li>• Guide new development to areas not at risk from fluvial flooding</li> <li>• Minimise the requirement for 'technical fixes' to solve flooding and water supply issues</li> <li>• Encourage local access to goods, services and facilities in order to reduce the need for movement and reliance on transport infrastructure that could be vulnerable to climate change impacts</li> <li>• Guide new development to locations that are least likely to experience water supply shortages</li> <li>• Guide development to locations that will not be at risk from</li> </ul>			

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>subsidence arising from climate change (e.g. clay soils)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Exploit the environmental, social and economic opportunities afforded by climate change</li> <li>• Where possible compensate for loss of habitats by creation of similar habitats in less vulnerable areas</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Water resources for the future – A strategy for Anglian Region (Environment Agency, March 2001)</b></p>		<p>Status: Regional Environment Agency Strategy</p>	
<p>Source: <a href="http://www.eera.gov.uk/Documents/About%20EERA/Policy/Planning%20and%20Transport/PlanHome/RPG/RPG14/Supporting%20docs/EA%20WR%20Anglian%20STR.pdf">http://www.eera.gov.uk/Documents/About%20EERA/Policy/Planning%20and%20Transport/PlanHome/RPG/RPG14/Supporting%20docs/EA%20WR%20Anglian%20STR.pdf</a></p>			
<p>This strategy forms part of a suite of documents representing the water resources strategy for England and Wales. The national water resources strategy deals with overarching policy, approaches and techniques. The strategy for the Anglian Region applies these approaches to focus on the current state of water resources locally and explores options for their long-term sustainable development.</p> <p>The strategy is intended to help achieve the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to illustrate the impact of different social and economic choices on future water use;</li> <li>• to manage water resources in a way that causes no long-term degradation of the environment;</li> </ul>	<p>The strategy considers the medium and longer terms - 10 and 25 years respectively. It uses the 4 <i>Foresight</i> (DTI, 1999) scenarios to consider strategy against various potential socio-economic changes. The strategy includes a detailed assessment of water resources and demand in the region, including local data that could inform the baseline review for the SA. It also includes consideration of potential impacts of climate change and a sustainability appraisal of the various options considered.</p> <p>The strategy recognises the need for monitoring, to be published annually, but does not include any specific indicators.</p>	<p>The issues raised by this strategy are important for the LDF, but there few direct references to land use planning issues. The only substantial passage states:</p> <p>To ensure longer term sustainability there are several vital aspects to address, which require close and continued liaison, both at regional and local level, between the Agency, planners, developers and water companies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development should not be committed</li> </ul>	<p>The issue of water resources and demand is an important component of sustainability which needs to be considered in the SA framework. It is particularly significant in the Eastern region which has the lowest average rainfall of any UK region.</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"> <li>• to improve the state of existing degraded catchments;</li> <li>• to ensure that water is available to those who need it, and that it is used wisely by all;</li> <li>• to indicate the present state of water resources;</li> <li>• to cater robustly for risks and uncertainties;</li> <li>• to promote the value of water to society and the environment;</li> <li>• to review feasible water management options, including innovative solutions where appropriate;</li> <li>• to provide a framework for logical decisions to be taken at the right time;</li> <li>• to identify actions and opportunities for the Agency and others to work together to achieve our vision.</li> </ul>		<p>ahead of secure water supplies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The location of development should take into consideration the relative availability of existing developed water resources, where there is a choice on other grounds.</li> <li>• Every opportunity should be taken to build water efficiency into new developments, and innovative approaches should be encouraged.</li> <li>• Other water resource management measures should be incorporated into new developments, including sustainable urban drainage and waste water re-use</li> </ul> <p>Of the 30 actions proposed, only one is directly relevant to the LDF: A27 The Agency will work with planners to identify opportunities for water efficiency in new developments.</p>	

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<b>A Shared Vision: The regional economic strategy for the East of England (Nov 2004)</b>			Status: Regional Strategy (Endorsed EERA 5/11/2004 with qualifications on expansion of Stansted Airport and concerns about partnership arrangements.)
Source:			
<p>The strategy presents a vision for the region as:            ‘...a leading economy, founded on our world-class knowledge base and the creativity and enterprise of our people, in order to improve the quality of life of all who live and work here.’            It identifies the key changes needed to achieve this as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• building on the region’s current strengths</li> <li>• improving areas of average or poor performance</li> <li>• capitalising on the East of England’s distinctive opportunities</li> <li>• embedding important underlying principles.</li> </ul> <p>And the key strategic goals as:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A skills base that can support a world-class economy</li> <li>2. Growing competitiveness, productivity and entrepreneurship</li> <li>3. Global leadership in developing and realising innovation in science, technology and research</li> <li>4. High quality places to live, work and visit</li> <li>5. Social exclusion and broad participation in the regional economy</li> <li>6. Making the most from the development of international</li> </ol>	<p>In its consideration of each goal, the strategy presents more detailed objectives under the heading ‘What success will look like’. It also considers the context, spatial dimension and regional priorities. In the section headed ‘Delivery’ the strategy presents its goals in relation to PSA targets and suggests sets of regional outcome indicators for each goal.</p>	<p>The document provides the key strategic framework for economic development of the region, and as such the issues and goals need to be considered by the NHDC LDF. The most directly relevant goal is:            4 High quality places to live, work and visit, with detailed objectives of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a better balance between housing supply and demand in the region</li> <li>• successful delivery of the East of England Sustainable Communities Plan to enhance the distinctive qualities of the region’s urban and rural communities</li> <li>• high quality social, environmental and transport infrastructure and services to attract and retain skilled workers and increase</li> </ul>	<p>Many of the objectives and issues raised will need to be considered in the development of the SA Framework, particularly those of housing supply and areas and pockets of deprivation. Although NH is less deeply rural than parts of the region, the goals for rural development are relevant to some areas of the district and will need to be considered in the LDF and SA:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• address integration and simplification of appropriate access to skills and business support, employment, affordable housing, infrastructure and service provision</li> <li>• enhance sustainable business growth and productivity within the region’s rural areas including a sustainable and competitive food, farming and drink sector. Lagging communities of place and interest require particular consideration</li> <li>• support the provision of innovative solutions to rural community regeneration</li> <li>• enhance the economic and social potential of the region’s environmental assets</li> <li>• work with local authorities and communities to enable effective mainstreaming, leadership and management of rural issues in the Growth Areas.</li> </ul>



Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>gateways and national and regional transport corridors</p> <p>7. A leading information society</p> <p>8. An exemplar for the efficient use of resources</p>		<p>investment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a natural and built environment which supports economic vitality and renaissance in the region's towns and cities, market towns and rural communities.</li> <li>cultural, heritage and leisure assets which enhance the strengths of the region for the benefit of the region's residents and its visitors</li> </ul> <p>The strategy also considers sub-regional growth areas – NH does not fall neatly into any of these, but is sandwiched between <i>Milton Keynes-South Midlands</i> (which includes Luton) and <i>London-Stansted-Cambridge-Peterborough</i> (which includes Stevenage). Much of NH falls within an area termed the <i>London Arc</i> where the objectives are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>maintain and improve competitiveness of the London Arc by ensuring its continued attractiveness as a</li> </ul>	

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
		<p>location for business investment in particular for key sectors such as biotechnology and the creative and cultural industries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ensure efficient use of existing employment land, of previously developed land, and existing buildings which can contribute to renaissance of existing settlements and reduce pressure on greenfield land</li> <li>• deliver adequate affordable housing to meet the needs of the local housing market, including key workers</li> <li>• support sustainable patterns of movement by all travel modes within the arc, and in particular for major commuting flows to and from London</li> <li>• harness the economic strengths of the area as a catalyst for regeneration at locations in or adjacent to the arc.</li> </ul>	

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p><b>Creating Sustainable Communities In the East of England</b></p>		<p>Status:</p>	
<p>Source: <a href="http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_communities/documents/pdf/odpm_comm_pdf_022202.pdf">http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_communities/documents/pdf/odpm_comm_pdf_022202.pdf</a></p>			
<p>The EoE response to the national programme <i>Sustainable communities: Building for the future</i> (see above) is a programme of action highlighting housing, planning and neighbourhood renewal issues. Key issues for the region are identified as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Addressing problems of high and rapidly rising house prices and their impact on the recruitment and retention of staff, particularly close to London and around Cambridge but spreading deeper into the region.</li> <li>• Improving transport infrastructure - railways, roads, airports and ports to meet the needs of economic growth.</li> <li>• Ensuring that the benefits of economic growth are spread across the region, particularly to those urban and rural communities facing problems of deprivation and peripherality.</li> </ul> <p>Addressing the development consequences of scarce water resources throughout the region and an increasing sea level for coastal and low lying areas.</p>	<p>The document does not set new targets, nor suggest any indicators. Rather it sets out actions and funding for realising existing targets and strategies.</p>	<p>The general objectives of the plan are relevant to NHDC LDF, but the details outlined tend to focus on growth and problem areas in the region and there are no direct references to issues in N Herts.</p>	<p>Sustainable communities are a key aspect of sustainable development that needs to be addressed in the SA framework. However, most of the issues raised by the concept of sustainable communities will be covered in relation to other sustainability objectives and strategies.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p><b>Towns and Cities – Strategy and Action Plan: Urban Renaissance in the East of England</b></p>			<p>Status:</p>
<p>Source:</p>			
<p>The regional framework for urban renaissance drawn up in response to the Government’s Urban White Paper and Sustainable Communities Plan. It utilises the vision and objectives of the Urban White Paper (see above National strategies), adding a sixth objective: People and organisations in the public, private and voluntary sectors who have the skills necessary to deliver the urban renaissance.</p>	<p>The strategy contains no specific targets stating that it ‘...cannot itself deliver the targets but can influence and guide policies of others as well as development on the ground.’ It does suggest a limited number of initial headline indicators based data already collected by the EERA, which can be added to. The initial list is to be kept under review by the Towns and Cities Advisory Group with a view to ensuring that ‘the indicators used represent a generally-agreed, useable and meaningful set of measures for monitoring progress in the region.’</p>	<p>The strategy, in conjunction with other related regional strategies, is relevant to urban areas of NHDC. It recognises that the region is unusual in that although 88% of the population live in towns, it contains none of the country’s core cities or major conurbations, and that a third of the population live in settlements of less than 5,000, which is below the working definition of urban areas as settlements with populations of more than 10,000. Within the region many settlements of 5,000 are identifiable as towns (and hence serve as service centres) rather than villages.</p>	<p>Maintaining and improving the quality of the urban environment is an important aspect of sustainable development that needs to be reflected in the SA framework.</p>
<p><b>Sub-Regional</b></p>			

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<b>A Housing Strategy for the London Commuter Belt Sub-region 2005 – 2008</b>			Status:
Source:			
<p>The London Commuter Belt Sub-Region (LCBSR) is the largest of the nine sub-regions in the East region, and includes N. Herts.</p> <p>The Housing Strategy identifies and analyses housing issues and priorities in the context of the sub-region's housing market as the basis for identifying relevant investment priorities.</p> <p>Based on the vision:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To enable growth in the sub-region and to provide for the needs of homeless people and those who require affordable housing, whilst protecting the environment;</li> <li>To create and maintain sustainable communities and achieve social inclusion; and</li> <li>To make the best use of the existing stock whilst improving its condition in both the public and private sectors.</li> </ul> <p>it identifies 5 priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maximising the delivery of affordable housing.</li> <li>Developing the intermediate market.</li> <li>Improving stock condition.</li> <li>Meeting the needs of vulnerable groups.</li> <li>Achieving social inclusion.</li> </ul>	<p>The strategy provides a detailed analysis of the housing market by county and concludes that the expected annual average of 2,500 affordable new homes over the 3-year period will just meet growth requirements but fail to meet housing needs requirements by 70%.</p> <p>Data and targets for N. Herts.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>97/98 – 02/03 achieved 181 affordable units average 31 units pa.</li> <li>From 03/04 plan to deliver 500 homes over 5 years.</li> <li>Housing Needs survey indicates a short fall of 357 affordable units annually to 2011</li> </ul>	<p>The strategy describes issues, suggests good practice and proposes action for each of the 5 priorities. The most relevant to the LDF is priority 1, which includes amended planning policies from Epping Forrest DC as an example of good practice.</p> <p>Priority 1 is directly relevant to the NHDC LDF.</p>	<p>Issues and aims should be considered in developing the SA framework.</p> <p>The analysis is a potentially useful source of data for baseline characterisation.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p><b>Chilterns AONB Management Strategy – The Framework for Action 2002 – 2007</b></p>			
<p>Source: <a href="http://www.chilternsaonb.org/downloads/management_plan/management_plan.pdf">http://www.chilternsaonb.org/downloads/management_plan/management_plan.pdf</a></p>			
<p>The Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (the CRoW Act) introduced an obligation on relevant local authorities and Conservation Boards, where they exist, to produce and regularly review an AONB Management Plan. The document provides strategic guidance for LAs and other relevant organizations based on a vision, aims and policies for the AONB. The Conservation Board has also prepared more detailed guidance for building design in the Chilterns. This has been adopted as SPG by the majority of LAs covering the AONB.</p>	<p>The strategy contains suggestions for indicators to monitor the plan. These have been implemented in subsequent progress reports.</p>	<p>The Strategy does not have statutory authority but N Herts LDF should take account of any relevant guidance. In some instances this may extend beyond the ANOB itself.</p>	<p>The impacts of the LDF on the characteristics of Chiltern AONB should be considered in the SA.</p>
<p><b>Our Plan for Water Supply to 2030, Three Valleys Water</b></p> <p><b>Anglian Water Resource Plan 2004, Anglian Water</b></p>			<p>Status: Private utilities plans</p>
<p><a href="http://www.3valleys.co.uk/pdf/WRP_summary.pdf">http://www.3valleys.co.uk/pdf/WRP_summary.pdf</a>  <a href="http://www.anglianwater.co.uk/assets/WRP04final.pdf">http://www.anglianwater.co.uk/assets/WRP04final.pdf</a>  <a href="http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/commondata/acrobat/mws_837514.pdf">http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/commondata/acrobat/mws_837514.pdf</a> (Maintaining water supply, EA, July 2004)</p>			
<p>The EA require water companies to produce plans to show how they intend to provide sufficient water to meet customers' needs while protecting and enhancing the environment. The plans have been developed within a framework agreed between the EA, Ofwat and the water companies. They</p>	<p>The plans do not have specific targets at present, although they are developed in the context of leakage targets, Drought Plans and Security of Supply Index. The EA intends to develop proposed water into supply targets in future.</p>	<p>The plans are not directly relevant to the NHDC LDF. Rather the utilities' plans should be capable of responding to new developments and include existing proposals in their scenario</p>	<p>No direct implications for the SA of the LDF. In this context it is the role of the utilities' water resource plans to ensure that they can maintain security of supply whilst maintaining and enhancing the environment.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>identify:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the actions that each company plans to take to maintain supplies</li> <li>the costs and benefits of these actions;</li> <li>the uncertainties in the plan and the ongoing work that is needed to keep the plan up-to-date.</li> </ul> <p>Both plans involve both demand management and improving the security of supplies. And both conclude that despite demand management that future water resource development will be required.</p> <p>The EA requires companies to keep their plans under review and to make changes as necessary. The EA intends to report on the progress of plans to Ministers annually.</p>		<p>planning. The EA stresses that plans should take proper account of the ODPM's proposals for sustainable communities. (Maintaining water supply, EA, July 2004)</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
<b>County</b>			
<b>Hertfordshire Structure Plan 1991-2011</b>		Status: Adopted March 1998	
Source: <a href="http://www.hertsdirect.org/yrccouncil/hcc/env/plan/homes/hertstructureplan/planfuture/moreinfo/">http://www.hertsdirect.org/yrccouncil/hcc/env/plan/homes/hertstructureplan/planfuture/moreinfo/</a>			
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.	Key policies for NHDC: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> </ul>	Provides the county-level strategic framework for the NHDC SDF.	Plan policies need to be considered in the SA.
<b>Hertfordshire Local Transport Plan 2006/07 - 2010/11</b>		Status: Currently out for public consultation (3/6/2005)	
Source: <a href="http://www.hertsdirect.org/yrccouncil/hcc/env/plan/transplan/loctranspln/">http://www.hertsdirect.org/yrccouncil/hcc/env/plan/transplan/loctranspln/</a>			
The 9 key objective of the LTP are: <b>Safety</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To improve safety for all by giving the highest priority to minimising the number of collisions and injuries</li> </ul>	The plan includes targets and indicators, primarily the 17 mandatory indicators required by the DfT, supplemented with 5 local ones.	The LDF should include policies that promote the sustainable transport aims of the LTP.	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. Traffic flows in Hertfordshire are 35% above the national average posing a



Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p>occurring as a result of the transport system.</p> <p><b>Congestion</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To obtain the best use of the existing network through effective design, maintenance and management.</li> <li>To manage the growth of transport and travel volumes across the county, and thereby secure improvements in the predictability of travel time.</li> <li>To develop an efficient, safe, affordable and enhanced transport system which is attractive, reliable, integrated and makes best use of resources.</li> </ul> <p><b>Accessibility</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To develop a transport system that provides access to employment, shopping, education, leisure and health facilities for all, including those without a car and those with impaired mobility.</li> <li>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.</li> </ul> <p><b>Environmental</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To mitigate the effect of the transport system on the built and natural environment and on personal health.</li> </ul>			<p>threat to QoL 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"> <li>over 1 million residents</li> <li>spread amongst a dozen medium sized towns (more than 25,000 population) and many more smaller towns;</li> <li>villages are generally no more than 5 to 10 miles from a town creating complex journey patterns.</li> <li>neighbouring London attracts large commuting flows;</li> <li>rail services do not provide for east-west movements;</li> <li>the county sits astride three of the most important national routes (M25, M1 and A1(M));</li> <li>car ownership is the sixth highest in the country.</li> <li>40% of households have 2 or more cars.</li> <li>Access to key services, particularly healthcare, is difficult by sustainable transport.</li> </ul>

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"> <li>To raise awareness and encourage use of more sustainable modes of transport through effective promotion, publicity, information and education.</li> </ul> <p><b>Other</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> </ul>			
<p><b>SEA of Local Transport Plan 2006/7- 2010-2011</b></p>		<p>Status: Formal SEA undertaken by Hertfordshire County Council</p>	
<p><a href="http://www.hertsdirect.co.uk/infobase/docs/pdfstore/ltpsea.pdf">http://www.hertsdirect.co.uk/infobase/docs/pdfstore/ltpsea.pdf</a></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>
<p><b>A 50 Year Vision for the Wildlife and Natural Habitats of Hertfordshire: BAP (April 1998)</b></p>		<p>Status:</p>	
<p>Source: <a href="http://hef.org.uk/nature/biodiversity/">http://hef.org.uk/nature/biodiversity/</a></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>	<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>	<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</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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• To identify targets for species and habitats appropriate to the local area, and reflecting the values of people locally.</li> <li>• To develop effective local partnerships to ensure that programmes for biodiversity conservation are maintained in the long-term.</li> <li>• To raise awareness of the need for biodiversity conservation in the local context.</li> <li>• To ensure that opportunities for conservation and enhancement of the whole biodiversity resource are fully considered.</li> <li>• To provide a basis for monitoring progress in biodiversity conservation, at both local and national level.</li> <li>• Within each habitat and species action plan to identify delivery mechanisms and sources of finance and advice.</li> <li>• To publish the plan and implement the agreed programme of action.</li> <li>• To establish a long term monitoring programme to measure the effectiveness of the Plan in achieving national</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To establish a plan partnership through identifying and consulting key partners in the process.</li> <li>• To produce an overview of our present knowledge of the biodiversity resource in the county.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• Within each habitat action plan to identify detailed targets reflecting both national and local importance for the first ten years.</li> <li>• To identify a list of priority species for the preparation of action plans. Concise target statements should be prepared for all chosen species.</li> </ul> <p>Relevant information on the BAP is held by:  Catherine Wyatt  BAP Officer  c/o East Hertfordshire District Council  Wallfields, Pegs Lane  Hertford SG13 8EQ</p> <p>Tel: 01992 531478  Email: <a href="mailto:Catherine.wyatt@eastherts.gov.uk">Catherine.wyatt@eastherts.gov.uk</a></p>	<p>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>	

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA and local targets.	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<b>The Hertfordshire Environmental Strategy (June 2001)</b>		Status: adopted June 2001	
Source: <a href="http://www.hertsdirect.org/yrcouncil/hcc/env/plan/issues/envstrat/">http://www.hertsdirect.org/yrcouncil/hcc/env/plan/issues/envstrat/</a>			
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.	No targets or indicators are suggested at the above link.	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.	The general principles will be included in the SA framework, but the HES appears to add nothing to these.
<b>Hertfordshire Economic Development Strategy 2006-2011 (Consultation Draft, January 2006)</b>		Status: Consultation Draft	
Source: <a href="http://www.hertsprosperity.com/resources_documents.asp">http://www.hertsprosperity.com/resources_documents.asp</a>			
The EDS uses the Goals and Priorities from the RES Goals and (where appropriate) sets out a series of local (Hertfordshire) baselines and priorities.	There are some targets associated with individual actions in the EDS. However, the progress in delivering the EDS will largely be measured against a combination of Government PSA and local performance indicators from elsewhere (such as the LAA).	The key priorities 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.
<b>Hertfordshire Town Renaissance Campaign</b>		Status: Campaign report	
Source: <a href="http://www.hertsdirect.org/yrcouncil/hcc/env/plan/homes/campaignreport/">http://www.hertsdirect.org/yrcouncil/hcc/env/plan/homes/campaignreport/</a>			
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

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<b>Hertfordshire Waste Strategy 2002-2024</b>		Status:	
Source: <a href="http://www.wasteaware.org.uk/strategy/fullversion2.pdf">http://www.wasteaware.org.uk/strategy/fullversion2.pdf</a>			
A Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Hertfordshire setting out how waste problems are to be addresses over the next 2 decades.	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 for many of the targets.	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.
<b>Hertfordshire Waste Local Plan 1995-2005 (1999)</b>		Status: Adopted Jan 1999	
Source: <a href="http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/wlp.pdf">http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/wlp.pdf</a>			
The aims and objectives of the Waste Local Plan are:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To facilitate the provision of sufficient waste management facilities in Hertfordshire to accommodate the equivalent of the County's own arisings;</li> <li>• To recognise that waste management generates employment and is part of the infrastructure which supports business in general;</li> <li>• To locate waste recycling, handling and reduction facilities as close as practicable to the origin of waste;</li> <li>• To promote the development of waste management facilities which increase the proportion of waste managed further up the waste</li> </ul>	The plan includes detailed targets. It does not contain any indicators as such, but they are implicit for many of the targets.	Relevant, now extended to 2007 to allow for transition to MWDF (see below).	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
<p>hierarchy;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To minimise the traffic generating effects of waste management development;</li> <li>• To mitigate against the possible effects of greenhouse gases;</li> <li>• To reduce the overall demand for resources (including land);</li> <li>• To involve the wider community in the waste management debate;</li> <li>• To facilitate the increased use of recycled waste materials as aggregate in Hertfordshire;</li> <li>• To facilitate a shift away from road transport as the principal means of transporting waste;</li> <li>• To minimise the impact of waste management development on the natural and built environment;</li> <li>• To maximise the recovery of value (including energy) from waste, where this represents the Best Practicable Environmental Option;</li> <li>• To adopt the Best Practicable Environmental Option when considering alternative forms of waste management development.</li> </ul>			
<p><b>The Hertfordshire minerals and waste development framework and scheme (March 2005)</b></p>		<p>Status: Submission document</p>	
<p>Source: <a href="http://www.hertsdirect.org/yrccouncil/hcc/env/waste/mineralsandwaste/">http://www.hertsdirect.org/yrccouncil/hcc/env/waste/mineralsandwaste/</a></p>			
<p>Sets out the timetable for the</p>	<p>Not applicable.</p>	<p>Will become a DPD once adopted.</p>	<p>Management of waste is an important</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
county MWDF in accordance with the new requirements of The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, including interim arrangements.			SD issue that needs to be considered in the SA.
<b>Hertfordshire Sustainability Guide (March 2003)</b>		Status: Guidance note	
Source: <a href="http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/susguide.pdf">http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/susguide.pdf</a>			
<p>The guidance is set out under 3 key themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sustainable communities (SC)</li> <li>Economic vitality (EV)</li> <li>Healthy environment (HE)</li> </ul> <p>Each theme is divided into a number of topics with aims and more detailed guidance as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SC1 Ensuring that everyone has a Decent Home</li> <li>SC2 Tackling the Causes of Poverty and Social Exclusion</li> <li>SC3 Creating Safe Communities</li> <li>SC4 Promoting Healthier Lifestyles</li> <li>SC5 Improving Access to Culture and the Arts</li> <li>SC6 Making Travel and Access more Sustainable</li> <li>SC7 Engaging the Community</li> <li>EV1 Enhancing Town Centre and Market Town Vitality</li> <li>EV2 Sustaining a Vibrant Local Economy</li> <li>EV3 Ensuring Employment and Lifelong Learning</li> <li>HE1 Supplying and Using Energy Sustainably</li> </ul>	<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
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.			
<b>Hertfordshire Minerals Local Plan Review</b>		Status:	
Source: <a href="http://www.hertsdirect.org/yrccouncil/hcc/env/waste/mineralsandwaste/mlpplaceholder/">http://www.hertsdirect.org/yrccouncil/hcc/env/waste/mineralsandwaste/mlpplaceholder/</a>			
In accordance with the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended), Hertfordshire County Council has a duty to prepare and review a Minerals Local Plan. The County Council adopted its first Minerals Local Plan in July 1998.		Of limited direct relevance to the LDF, since Herts County Council is the designated Minerals Planning Authority.	Minerals extraction is relevant to many aspects of sustainable development such as agriculture, transport, employment, land use planning and resource use.
<b>Enjoy! A cultural strategy for Hertfordshire</b>		Status:	
Source: <a href="http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/hertscultstrat.pdf">http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/hertscultstrat.pdf</a>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Making Hertfordshire a more prosperous and attractive place to live, work or visit</li> </ul>	The strategy contains no specific targets or indicators.	Of little direct relevance to the NHDC LDF, except to the extent that LDF policies may effect access to cultural and leisure activities.	Access to leisure and culture is an important to QoL and 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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Offering children, young people and adults the opportunity to reach their full potential through access to learning and information</li> <li>• Encouraging children and young people to access and enjoy cultural and leisure activities</li> <li>• Enabling all members of the community to have more and easier access to different cultural and leisure pursuits</li> <li>• Valuing and supporting the diverse range of cultural and leisure activities enjoyed across the county</li> <li>• Working in partnership with national, regional and local agencies to deliver a range of cultural and leisure activities effectively</li> </ul>			
<b>Rural Hertfordshire – an agenda for action 2001 – 2005 Hertfordshire Rural Forum</b>		Status:	
Source: <a href="http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/ruralforum.pdf">http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/ruralforum.pdf</a>			
The agenda identifies key issues within 9 'Rural Strands': <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Housing</li> <li>• Transport/traffic</li> </ul>	The agenda does not include specific targets or indicators. The aim of the agenda is seen as highlighting issues and problems that	The particular issues affecting rural areas need to be considered in the NHDC LDF.	The particular issues affecting rural areas need to be considered in the SA framework for the NHDC LDF.

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"> <li>• Rural Economy</li> <li>• Social Exclusion</li> <li>• Biodiversity/landscape</li> <li>• Access to services</li> <li>• Community identity and involvement</li> <li>• Needs of young people</li> <li>• Recreational pressures and opportunities</li> </ul>	<p>need to be addressed rather than a detailed strategy or action plan.</p>		
<p><b>Rural Innovation Strategy – Hertfordshire Rural Forum (Apr 2003)</b></p>		<p>Status:</p>	
<p>Source: <a href="http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/finalrural.pdf">http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/finalrural.pdf</a></p>			
<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"> <li>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.</li> <li>2. To facilitate the development of competitive and sustainable rural economies that will help to create jobs and increase economic opportunities.</li> </ol>	<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>3. To improve the quality of life for people living or working in rural 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><b>Hertfordshire Renewable Energy Study (Jan 2005)</b></p>		<p>Status: Interim study report</p>	
<p>Source: <a href="http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/restudy.pdf">http://www.hertsdirect.org/infobase/docs/pdfstore/restudy.pdf</a></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>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<b>Building Futures: A Hertfordshire Guide to Promoting Sustainability in Development (July 2006)</b>		Status: Consultation Draft	
Source: <a href="http://www.hertsdirect.org/yrccouncil/hcc/env/plan/issues/buildingfuturesustainability/">www.hertsdirect.org/yrccouncil/hcc/env/plan/issues/buildingfuturesustainability/</a>			
Includes key principles and guidance for sustainable design and construction in the following aspects of sustainable building: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• air</li> <li>• design</li> <li>• energy</li> <li>• materials</li> <li>• noise</li> <li>• waste</li> <li>• water</li> </ul>	Not applicable	The LDF should support the implementation of this guide in order to promote sustainability in building design and construction.	The document provides detailed guidance on many issues relevant to the SA of the LDF, particularly SA objective 6(a) which includes consideration of encouraging 'sustainable design, use of sustainable building materials and minimise wastage caused by construction methods?'

# 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
<b>Local</b>			
<b>North Hertfordshire District Local Plan No.2 with Alterations</b>		Status: adopted with modifications on 23rd April 1996	
Source: <a href="http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/PDFs/planning/localplan.PDF">http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/PDFs/planning/localplan.PDF</a>			
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.
<b>Corporate Plan North Hertfordshire District Council 2005-2015 (March 2005)</b>		Status: Draft	
Source:			
The plan outlines short, medium and long term actions to achieve the vision of: <b>Making North Hertfordshire a vibrant place to live, work and prosper</b> 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
<b>North Hertfordshire Housing Strategy 2004-2007</b>		Status:	
Source:			
<p>1. To meet the community's needs for affordable housing.</p> <p>2. To improve the quality and choice of homes available to those in need of affordable housing.</p> <p>3. To prevent homelessness by ensuring clear and effective housing advice and to provide good quality services and support to homeless households.</p> <p>4. To ensure that all housing in the District is of a decent standard and contributes to the good health of the community.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>6. To deliver services that reflect the diversity of the local community.</p>	<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"> <li>• Deliver a minimum of 60% of housing on brownfield sites.</li> <li>• Delivering a minimum of 16 affordable homes on exception sites to meet rural needs.</li> <li>• Fund the purchasing of 20 existing homes.</li> <li>• Re-launch a Cash Incentive Scheme providing 10 units in 2003/04 and 15 units in 2004/05.</li> <li>• Obtain 30% affordable housing through the planning system.</li> </ul> <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.
<b>North Hertfordshire Homelessness Strategy</b>		Status:	
Source:			
<p><b>1.</b> To prevent homelessness.</p> <p><b>2.</b> To provide a safety net for those people who do become homeless.</p> <p><b>3.</b> To increase supply and access to affordable housing.</p>	<p>Objectives 1 and 2 are to be met via improved systems, staff training, partnerships, etc. (plus some changes to hostel provision).</p> <p>Objective 3 is covered by proposals in the NH Housing Strategy.</p>	The issues most relevant to LDF should be covered in response to the Housing Strategy.	Ensure that the needs of the homeless are adequately 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
<b>North Hertfordshire Empty Homes Strategy 2004-2007</b>		Status:	
Source:			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce homelessness and housing need</li> <li>• Reduce temporary accommodation costs</li> <li>• Secure repairs and improvement for homes in disrepair</li> <li>• Provide good quality affordable housing</li> <li>• Remove magnets for vandalism, squatting and crime</li> <li>• Contribute to town centre development and local regeneration</li> <li>• Demonstrate the Council's commitment to the governments national agenda</li> <li>• Reduce costs for owners</li> </ul>	Range of targets for improving information on and awareness of empty homes. Specific targets: Bring about the re-occupation of: 2% of empty homes in the first year April 2006 (equivalent to 10 homes), 3% in the second year April 2007 (equivalent to 15 homes) and 4% in the third year April 2008 (equivalent to 20 homes). Target to be reviewed annually.	The issues most relevant to LDF should be covered in response to the Housing Strategy.	Effective use of existing housing stock is important to sustainability. Ensure that this is adequately considered in the SA.
<b>Home Energy Conservation Act (H.E.C.A) Progress Report (June 2001)</b>		Status:	
Source:			
Aims of the strategy are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To create housing conditions which provide affordable warmth.</li> <li>• To reduce air pollution caused by the production and consumption of energy.</li> <li>• To reduce the consumption of non-renewable fuel resources.</li> <li>• To increase public awareness</li> </ul>	Target as per Home Energy Conservation Act (H.E.C.A) 1995 – 30% reduction in energy consumption over 15 year period.	Mainly relevant to LDF for new build only.	Improvement in the efficiency of energy use is fundamental to sustainability. 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
<p>of energy use and its effect on the environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To foster and facilitate the installation of energy efficiency measures in private sector properties.</li> <li>• To operate positive policies for improving the energy efficiency of the Council's own housing stock.</li> <li>• To promote changes in behaviour to reduce unnecessary energy consumption.</li> <li>• To encourage the incorporation of energy efficiency measures in new build and refurbishment projects.</li> <li>• To develop corporate working arrangements within the council, with landlords and other agencies to implement the strategy.</li> <li>• To take account of financial and other personal circumstances when implementing this strategy and, further, by the creation of a Fuel Poverty Strategy.</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Biodiversity Action Plan</b></p>		<p>Status:</p>	
<p>Source:</p>			
<p>This local Biodiversity Action Plan is aimed at promoting integrated approaches towards effective biodiversity conservation and planning for sustainable</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</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</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</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 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>data. It includes detailed targets for particular habitats as appendices. These are mainly stated in broad, rather than quantified terms.</p>	<p>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.</p>
<p><b>Rural Strategy for North Hertfordshire 2005 – 2010 (March 2005)</b></p>		<p>Status: Final Report</p>	
<p>Source:</p>			
<p>No stated objectives, but the expected outcomes of this strategy include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Having a coherent, consistent and comprehensive approach to identifying and responding</li> </ul>	<p>Following consultations to identify issues of public concern, the strategy includes priority actions, and a detailed action plan under the themes:</p> <p>A. Community safety</p> <p>B. Education and Life-long learning</p>	<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>to rural issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensuring that there are clear planning policies in place to preserve the greenbelt wherever possible and retain community facilities</li> <li>• Having a clear set of priorities for supporting the diverse needs of our rural communities</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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 information in order that all sections of rural communities can remain fully engaged.</li> <li>• Creating an increased sense of well-being amongst our rural communities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>C. Health</li> <li>D. Housing</li> <li>E. Leisure and community development</li> <li>F. Planning and environment</li> <li>G. Transport, and</li> <li>H. Young people</li> </ul>		

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<b>Pavilions, Playing Fields and Sports Pitches Strategy</b>		Status: ?	
Source:			
<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 QoL issue, both as a leisure activity and for health benefits. This should be considered in the SA framework.</p>
<b>Play Area and Outdoor Youth Provision Strategy 2004 - 2010</b>		Status: ?	
Source:			
<p>Aims and objectives of the Play Area &amp; Youth Provision Strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide safe interesting and accessible outdoor playing space for children.</li> <li>• To provide outdoor local facilities for youth.</li> <li>• To ensure existing and future play facilities comply with current legislation and guidelines.</li> <li>• To integrate existing and future provision with planning policy.</li> <li>• To reduce future</li> </ul>	<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 QoL 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
maintenance costs by standardising certain items of provision i.e. fencing and safety surfacing.			
<b>Allotment Strategy 2004 – 2009</b>		Status: Discussion Draft	
Source:			
<p>Aims and objectives of the Allotments Strategy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To increase the number of allotment gardeners.</li> <li>• To promote allotment gardening for a healthy lifestyle.</li> <li>• To ensure allotment sites comply with current legislation and guidelines.</li> <li>• To integrate existing and future provision with planning policy.</li> <li>• To engage local allotment associations in the future direction of allotments.</li> <li>• To formulate a sustainable maintenance and development programme in accordance with customer expectation.</li> </ul>	<p>No specific targets are included. Analysis of existing sites shows significant variability in occupancy rates, with a district average as 74%, up in recent years. Occupancy of the 4 sites in Hitchin is at, or near 100% and all have waiting lists. One of the 6 sites in Letchworth has 100% occupancy and a waiting list.</p>	<p>Provision of allotments should be considered in the LDF.</p>	<p>Allotment gardening accords with SD principles, offering a healthy leisure activity and local food. Allotments also assist biodiversity and provide green space in urban areas.</p>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<p><b>Community Strategy for North Hertfordshire (Nov 2003)</b></p>		<p>Status:</p>	
<p>Source:</p>			
<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 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>	<p>The strategy includes detailed action plans for addressing issues raised during the consultation process, under the themes:            Community Safety            Education &amp; Lifelong Learning            Health            Housing            Leisure and Community Development            Planning, Town Centres and Environment            Transport            Young People</p> <p>These include both district-wide and local area actions. The strategy outlines monitoring processes and will use 8 of the 38 Audit Commission QoL indicators for measurement purposes.</p>	<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>
<p><b>Community Safety Strategy April 2005 – March 2008</b></p>		<p>Status: Draft?</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</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 QoL issues that 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
picture of the major issues within the district.			
<b>Social Inclusion Strategy</b>		Status:	
Source:			
<p>The strategy does not include an explicit statement of objectives but does state that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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.</li> <li>• 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</li> </ul>	<p>The approach was not to develop a separate strategy but '...at a strategic level, existing policies and service 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. 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>Issues relating to social exclusion should be considered in the LDF, but this strategy does not specifically consider planning policies.</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
<p>Strategic Partnership, the Compact.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At the same time, any Social Inclusion Strategy must reflect a balance between the needs of the urban and rural context of North Hertfordshire.</li> </ul>			
<p><b>Health Improvement and Modernisation Programme</b></p>		<p>Status:</p>	
<p>Source:</p>			
<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 organisations. The aim is to take forward the key national strategies and policies for health at a local level. 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"> <li>Children and young people</li> <li>Adults</li> <li>Older people</li> <li>Other priorities.</li> </ul> <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>

Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<b>Contaminated Land Strategy (NHDC, July 2004)</b>		Status:	
Source:			
<p>This strategy was drawn up under of Part IIA (inserted April 2000) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990. This is extremely complex, but essentially requires local authorities to take a staged approach to the remediation of contaminated land:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) The identification of land, with reference to an explicit definition, which can be formally determined to be 'contaminated land'</li> <li>2) The identification of the action required to clean up this contaminated land</li> <li>3) The identification of those responsible for the clean up of contaminated land</li> </ol> <p>NHDC's Contaminated Land Strategy sets out how it will implement this new regime and also how it will integrate its existing programmes to ensure a balanced and proportional approach to this issue.</p>	<p>Not applicable. The strategy is essentially a statement of how the new procedures are to be implemented.</p>	<p>Contaminated land issues need to be considered in drawing up the LDF. The strategy states that:          'The Planning Policy Division can take account of the new contaminated land regime when formulating specific planning policies. These policies will endeavour to balance the various needs of the community and to encourage sustainable development.'          And          'It is essential that the Development Control Division of this Authority continues to use the powers of the Town &amp; Country Planning legislation to ensure that where contaminated land is encountered that suitable and sufficient remediation schemes are integrated into planning consents (where granted)'.</p>	<p>Contaminated land issues need to be considered in the SA. They are relevant to pollution and the reuse of brownfield sites.</p>



Key objectives relevant to plan and SA	Key targets and indicators relevant to plan and SA	Implications for plan	Implications for SA
<b>Northern Hertfordshire Area Transport Plan</b>		Status:	
Source:			
<p>District Transport Plan conforming to the objectives of the County LTP, with the following local objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1 To reduce transport impacts on health, safety and environment of the community.</li> <li>2 To improve personal security and safety to promote the use of other modes.</li> <li>3 To promote a safe and sustainable means of movement.</li> <li>4 To minimise the need to travel.</li> <li>5 To improve access to services and facilities by passenger transport, cycling and walking.</li> <li>6 To improve the connectivity of transport modes and enhance interchanges.</li> <li>7 To promote the vitality of towns and local facilities.</li> <li>8 To ensure adequate accessibility for all people to facilities.</li> <li>9 To reduce community severance.</li> <li>10 To reduce casualties on the transport network.</li> </ol> <p>These are categorised under the</p>	<p>The plan sets out the following targets derived from the LTP for each theme:</p> <p><b>ENVIRONMENT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To not exceed the recommended level of nitrogen dioxide by more than 18 times per year.</li> <li>• To reduce the distance travelled per person by 5% by 2021.</li> <li>• To reduce the car use modal share from 72.07% to 65.5% by 2021.</li> </ul> <p><b>ECONOMIC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To reduce the car use modal share from 72.07% to 65.5% by 2021.</li> <li>• To increase footfall by 5% in our towns by 2021.</li> </ul> <p><b>ACCESSIBILITY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To reduce the car use modal share from 72.07% to 65.5% by 2021</li> </ul> <p><b>SAFETY</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To reduce the distance travelled per person by 5% by 2021.</li> <li>• To contribute to the countywide target to reduce the number of killed and seriously injured casualties</li> </ul> <p><b>INTEGRATION</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To reduce the distance travelled per person by 5% by 2021.</li> </ul>	<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
following themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environment: 1, 3, 4, 5</li> <li>• Economic 2, 6,7</li> <li>• Accessibility 8, 9, 10</li> <li>• Safety 2, 3, 10</li> <li>• Integration 4</li> </ul>			
<b>North Hertfordshire District Council Car Parking Strategy 2004 – 2009</b>		Status: Adopted July 2004	
Source:			
This document sets out the Council's agreed approach to parking issues in North Hertfordshire, providing a local strategy that meets relevant 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.	Not applicable.	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 2002). This report examined practical issues, such as; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• determining which developer contributions could and should be sought</li> <li>• the production of zonal maps (including defining and scoring parking zones)</li> <li>• how the standards could be applied</li> <li>• how to incorporate travel plans</li> <li>• how to set and apply accessibility charges</li> <li>• how the parking assessment fits in with the issue of a Transport Assessment</li> </ul>	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 parking issues should be consider in the SA.

**North Hertfordshire Cycling Strategy (1999) and North Hertfordshire Towns Cycle Network (2000)**

Status: Council policy

The Strategy sets out the Council’s vision, aims and policies to promote cycling. The overall aim is to:

- Facilitate the development of a safe, convenient and coherent network of facilities so that cycling can be viewed as a realistic form of transport.

The Strategy contains a number of policies for developing cycling infrastructure, including:

- NHDC may require a financial contribution where a developer is unable to provide cycling facilities directly.
  - The Network document gives details of planned networks in the four towns.

To increase the level of bicycle use to 4% of all trips by 2002 and to double this to 8% by 2012.

The plan needs to address contributions for cycling facilities, taking account of the networks planned for the four towns.

Promoting cycling needs to be considered when appraising transport impacts. The target needs to be included in the baseline data.

**Review of Voluntary Managed Community Centres and Village Halls**

Status: Council policy

Source: [http://www.hertslink.org/portal/A\\_Z/C/eDemocracy/Civic%20Calendar/NHDC/items/Community%20Centres%20and%20Village%20Halls\\_3/reports](http://www.hertslink.org/portal/A_Z/C/eDemocracy/Civic%20Calendar/NHDC/items/Community%20Centres%20and%20Village%20Halls_3/reports)

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

The following minimum standards are adopted for the provision of community centres:

- 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

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.

Community facilities need to be considered when appraising access to services and facilities.

<p>aim to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>Facilitate the provision for social and community facilities to meet future needs in an acceptable form.</li> </ul>	<p>twenty-minute period.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> </ul> <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><b>Supplementary Planning Document Vehicle Parking Provision at New Development</b></p>		<p>Status: Adopted as SPD March 2006 Associated SA/SEA prepared off the SPD in line with national and European legislation.</p>	
<p>Source: <a href="http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/planning/local_development_framework/car_parking_zones_spd.htm">http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/planning/local_development_framework/car_parking_zones_spd.htm</a></p>			
<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</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"> <li>determining which developer contributions could and should be sought</li> <li>the production of zonal maps (including defining and scoring parking zones)</li> <li>how the standards could be applied</li> <li>how to incorporate travel plans</li> <li>how to set and apply accessibility charges</li> <li>how the parking assessment</li> </ul>	<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>

<p>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 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"> <li>• Firstly the Draft SPD explains how the concept of ‘maximum’ rather than ‘minimum’ standards; and</li> <li>• Secondly introduces a zonal approach to parking restraint within the four towns of Baldock, Letchworth Garden City, Hitchin and Royston as well as Knebworth.</li> </ul>		<p>fits in with the issue of a Transport Assessment</p>	
<p><b>Planning Obligations Supplementary Planning Document</b></p>		<p>Status: Adopted Nov 2006 Associated SA/SEA prepared of the draft SPD in line with national and European legislation.</p>	
<p>Source: <a href="http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/planning/local_development_framework/planning_obligations_spd.htm">http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/planning/local_development_framework/planning_obligations_spd.htm</a></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 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 sets certain standard charges and threshold requirements for developments. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• community centre and halls</li> <li>• leisure</li> <li>• open space, outdoor sport and recreation</li> <li>• public realm</li> <li>• sustainable transport</li> <li>• waste collection and recycling</li> <li>• education</li> <li>• libraries</li> <li>• youth and child care</li> <li>• affordable housing</li> </ul> <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"> <li>• environmental issues</li> <li>• Economic development</li> <li>• Development an flood risk</li> <li>• Sustainable construction methods</li> <li>• Community safety.</li> </ul>	<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>
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<p>The SPD uses a 'standard charge' approach to address some of the likely impacts on infrastructure, services and facilities within an area.</p>			
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<b>Sub-District</b>			
<b>Hitchin Town Centre Strategy (Sept 2004)</b>		Status:	
Source:			
<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"> <li>• Land Use Activities</li> <li>• Community Facilities</li> <li>• Accessibility</li> <li>• Community Safety</li> <li>• Built Environment and Public Spaces</li> <li>• Promotion and Marketing</li> </ul>	<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>
<b>Hitchin Transportation Plan (1998)</b>		Status: <b>Approved by HCC Environment Committee 13/01/98</b>	
Source:			
<p>Long-term transportation strategy for Hitchin based on the principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The transportation system for Hitchin should be developed to provide an integrated, sustainable system that will serve both current and future needs of the wider community, while supporting the economic well-being of the town</li> <li>• The components of the transportation system for Hitchin should be in keeping</li> </ul>	<p>The proposed schemes and measures are set out under the themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cycling</li> <li>• Parking</li> <li>• Passenger Transport</li> <li>• Control of Traffic</li> <li>• Pedestrians</li> <li>• Education, Information and Training</li> </ul> <p>Implementation is considered in the short, medium and longer term.</p> <p>No explicit quantified targets are set, although implementation of many of the specific schemes could be considered as targets of the plan.</p>	<p>Compatibility with the objectives and measures set out in the plan should be considered during the development of the LDF.</p>	<p>Access and transportation are key sustainability issues that should be considered in the SA framework.</p>



<p>with and promote the quality of the town's environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The transportation system within Hitchin should give priority to local needs, including links to surrounding villages. However, it must also take account of wider transportation needs in the County and the town's position within the County transportation network.</li> <li>• A shift from cars to alternative modes of transport such as walking, cycling and passenger transport will be encouraged where appropriate, to assist in reducing pollution; the need for new roads and the general emphasis on the car as a primary choice for all journeys in Hitchin.</li> <li>• The transportation system for Hitchin should promote opportunities for safe and secure journeys for all sectors of the community.</li> </ul>	<p>Monitoring of the plan is considered only very briefly and no indicators are proposed.</p>		
<p><b>Draft Hitchin Town Centre Public Transport Strategy (Aug 2004)</b></p>		<p>Status:</p>	
<p>Source:</p>			
<p>A strategy for improving public transport in Hitchin in the context of relevant local and national policy objectives. The strategy focuses primarily on bus provision and utilisation.</p>	<p>The draft strategy contains detailed recommendations for improvements to buses serving the town, but no quantified targets or indicators.</p>	<p>Little of direct relevance to the LDF, however the LDF should be checked to ensure that policies are compatible with the objective to improve provision and utilisation of public transport.</p>	<p>Access and transportation are key sustainability issues that should be considered in the SA framework.</p>

<b>Baldock Town Centre Strategy (January 2006)</b>		Status: Final Version	
Source: <a href="http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/planning/planning_policy_and_projects/planning_for_town_centres/baldock_town_centre_strategy.htm">http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/planning/planning_policy_and_projects/planning_for_town_centres/baldock_town_centre_strategy.htm</a>			
<p>This is the second Town Centre Strategy prepared under the Town Centre Template adopted by NHDC in May 2001. It includes an action plan, which will be reviewed on an annual basis.</p> <p>The strategy sets out the following vision for Baldock town centre:          'To maintain, regenerate and develop an attractive, safe, accessible, vibrant and lively town centre, based on its historical context, for the local community and visitors to work, live and relax'.          A number of key aims are also identified to achieve this vision, namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ensure the long term economic sustainability and viability of the town centre;</li> <li>• promote a balanced mix and range of land uses within the town centre that will contribute to its vitality and local character;</li> <li>• generate employment opportunities and housing for the benefit of the local community;</li> <li>• enhance the environment of the town centre by promoting and conserving the historic character and layout of the town, achieving good quality design and improving public spaces;</li> <li>• actively promote the weekly chartered street market and ensure it continues to operate successfully;</li> </ul>	<p>The accompanying Action Plan document contains a series of actions and outputs but these are directly related to the aims of the Strategy and are not of general relevance to the plan and SA.</p>	<p>This strategy and the LDF should be mutually supportive, with this strategy providing local expression of the LDF Core Strategy.</p>	<p>Many of the issues raised are considered in the SA framework, particularly in respect of the built environment, town centres and accessibility.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• provide a safe and secure environment;</li> <li>• encourage development to the highest quality achievable which complements and enhances the historic character of the town;</li> <li>• promote a town centre accessible to all by encouraging a choice of transport modes;</li> <li>• improve access for pedestrians and other non-car users to and within the town centre;</li> <li>• improve and replace existing community facilities;</li> <li>• ensure the long term management and maintenance of the town centre as a whole, for the benefit of shoppers, businesses and residents;</li> <li>• improve tourism and inward investment to the town;</li> <li>• encourage greater community involvement in the life of the town centre;</li> <li>• retain the local identity/charm and cultural heritage of the town centre; and</li> <li>• make the most efficient use of land, buildings, energy, and materials.</li> </ul> <p>The strategy includes policy guidance for the town centre under the following themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Built Environment</li> <li>• Public Spaces</li> <li>• The Street Scene</li> <li>• Enhancement Opportunities</li> <li>• Land Use Activities</li> <li>• Community Facilities</li> <li>• Transport &amp; Access</li> <li>• Community Safety</li> <li>• Promotion &amp; Marketing</li> </ul>			
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<b>Letchworth Garden City Town Centre Strategy (Jan 2007)</b>		Status: Adopted as Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) in January 2007	
Source: <a href="http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/planning/planning_policy_and_projects/planning_for_town_centres/letchworth_town_centre_strategy.htm">http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/planning/planning_policy_and_projects/planning_for_town_centres/letchworth_town_centre_strategy.htm</a>			
<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"> <li>• Built &amp; historic environment</li> <li>• Public spaces</li> <li>• The Street Scene</li> <li>• Enhancement Opportunities</li> <li>• Land Use Activities</li> <li>• Community Facilities</li> <li>• Transport and Access</li> <li>• Community Safety</li> <li>• Promotion and Marketing</li> </ul>	<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>
<b>Royston Conservation Area Review (2007)</b>		Status: Adopted 2007	
Source: <a href="http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/planning/planning_control_and_conservation/the_conservation_and_heritage_team/royston_conservation_area_review.htm">http://www.north-herts.gov.uk/index/planning/planning_control_and_conservation/the_conservation_and_heritage_team/royston_conservation_area_review.htm</a>			
<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</p>	<p>No specific quantified targets.</p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>Many of the issues raised should be considered in the SA , particularly in respect of the historic built and environment.</p>

character or appearance.			
<b>North Hertfordshire Urban Design Assessment – District Assessment/North Hertfordshire Urban Design Assessment – Royston (Draft Reports June 2007)</b>		Status: Draft document	
Source:			
<p>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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making places;</li> <li>• Continuity and enclosure;</li> <li>• Making connections;</li> <li>• Quality of the public realm;</li> <li>• Settlement-wide criteria.</li> </ul>	Not applicable.	<p>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.</p>	<p>Many of the issues raised should be considered in the SA , particularly in respect of the historic built and environment.</p>

