

Three Rivers District Council

Three Rivers Site Allocations LDD
Proposed Submission Sustainability Appraisal
November 2012

Appendix 1- Plans, Policies and Programmes
Review

**Halcrow Group Limited, CH2MHill
Company, in association with TRL**

Review of Other Related Policies, Plans and Programmes

International

Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance Especially as Waterfowl Habitat (1971)	
<p>The Ramsar Convention provides a framework for the conservation of wetlands and their resources. 146 parties signed the convention with 1469 wetland sites, totalling 128.9 million hectares, designated for inclusion in the Ramsar List of Wetlands of International Importance.</p> <p>Mission Statement: "The Convention's mission is the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local, regional and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world"</p>	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Contracting Parties make a commitment to:</p> <p>Designate at least one site that meets the Ramsar criteria for inclusion in the List of Wetlands of International Importance</p> <p>Protect the ecological character of listed sites Include wetland conservation within their national land-use planning</p> <p>Establish nature reserves on wetlands and promote wetland training</p> <p>Consult with other Contracting Parties about the implementation of the Convention</p>	<p>To support this convention the LDD should aim to reduce the impact on wetlands and enhance and restore wetland habitats where possible.</p>
Bonn Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (1979)	
<p>The Bonn Convention aims to improve the status of all threatened migratory species through national action and international Agreements between range states of particular groups of species.</p>	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>To conserve/restore habitats and control other factors that might endanger the listed migratory birds</p>	<p>The LDD should try to avoid or minimise impacts on migratory species and their habitats.</p>

Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (1979)	
<p>The convention aims:</p> <p>To conserve wild flora, fauna and natural habitats</p> <p>To promote co-operation between states</p> <p>To give particular attention to endangered and vulnerable species, including endangered and vulnerable migratory species</p> <p>Appendices provide detailed information on species and habitats protected under the convention.</p>	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Obligations for contracting parties: conservation of wild flora and fauna and all natural habitats in general, by</p> <p>Promoting national conservation policies</p> <p>Taking conservation into account in regional planning policies and pollution abatement</p> <p>Promoting education and information</p>	<p>Specific reference to regional planning. Hence, the LDD should take the conservation of biodiversity into account.</p>
The Convention on Biological Diversity, Rio de Janeiro (1992)	
<p>The convention is designed to conserve biological diversity, ensure the sustainable use of this diversity and share the benefits generated by the use of genetic resources.</p>	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Each contracting party should (article 6a)</p> <p>Develop national strategies for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity</p> <p>Integrate the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity into relevant sectoral and cross-sectoral plans, programmes and policies</p>	<p>The LDD should aim to facilitate the protection and enhancement of biodiversity.</p>
Kyoto Protocol on Climate Change (UN, 1997)	
<p>The Kyoto Protocol supports the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change which sets an overall framework for intergovernmental efforts to tackle the challenge posed by climate change.</p>	

Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Articles 2(a-vii) & Article 3: Applies the Protocol to reduction of ozone-depleting gases produced by the transport sector not covered by the Montreal Protocol (CFCs and fluorocarbons). Article 3 contains the key obligation requiring reduction in anthropogenic CO₂ levels to at least 5% below 1990 levels by 2012.</p> <p>Article 10(b-1): Requires signatories to implement and publish regular plans detailed how reduction targets will be met in specific sectors, including transport. It might be argued that sustainable transport policies RTSs and LTPs might contribute to this commitment.</p>	<p>Ensure all reasonable opportunities are taken forward to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and promote renewable energy and higher energy efficiency.</p>
<p>The UN Millennium Declaration and Millennium Development Goals (2002)</p>	
<p>All 191 UN member states set out eight millennium development goals which should be met by 2015.</p>	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>‘We must tackle, issues of climate change, preserving biodiversity, managing our forests and water resources, and reducing the impacts of natural and man-made disasters.’</p>	<p>Regional planning contributions can help in achieving those objectives.</p>
<p>World Summit on Sustainable Development - Earth Summit (2002)</p>	
<p>The Johannesburg Summit 2002 – the World Summit on Sustainable Development – aimed to address difficult challenges, including improving people's lives and conserving our natural resources in a world that is growing in population, with ever-increasing demands for food, water, shelter, sanitation, energy, health services and economic security.</p>	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Greater resource efficiency</p> <p>Waste reduction</p> <p>Promotion of renewable energy</p> <p>Significantly reduce loss of biodiversity by 2010</p>	<p>National and regional planning documents can have significant impacts on the issues mentioned and should try to contribute towards their achievement locally.</p>

European

EU Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds (79/409/EEC)	
Directive 79/409/EEC and its amending acts aim at providing long-term protection and conservation of all bird species naturally living in the wild within the European territory of the Member States (except Greenland).	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
Imposes duty on Member States to sustain populations of naturally occurring wild birds by sustaining areas of habitats in order to maintain populations at ecologically and scientifically sound levels.	The LDD should promote this aim by, for example, promoting biodiversity and avoiding/reducing habitat fragmentation.
EU Nitrates Directive (91/676/EEC)	
The Directive addresses water pollution by nitrates from agriculture. It seeks to reduce or prevent the pollution of water caused by the application and storage of inorganic fertiliser and manure on farmland. It is designed both to safeguard drinking water supplies and to prevent wider ecological damage in the form of the eutrophication of freshwater and marine waters generally.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Every four years Member States shall report on polluted or likely to be polluted waters and designed vulnerable zones, and measures and actions taken to reduce the pollution from nitrates.</p> <p>Polluted waters are:</p> <p>Surface freshwaters, in particular those used or intended for the abstraction of drinking water, that contain or could contain, than the concentration of nitrates laid down in accordance with Directive 75/440/EEC;</p> <p>Groundwaters containing or that could contain more than 50 mg/l nitrates;</p> <p>Natural freshwater lakes, other freshwater bodies, estuaries, coastal waters and marine waters found or likely to be eutrophic.</p>	SA should include objectives on water quality.
EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC)	
The aim of this Directive is to contribute towards ensuring biodiversity through the conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora in the European territory of the Member States to which the Treaty applies. Measures taken pursuant to this Directive are be designed to maintain or restore, at favourable	

conservation status, natural habitats and species of wild fauna and flora of Community interest.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Article 3.1: Maintain or restore in a favourable condition designated natural habitat types, and habitats of designated species listed in Annexes I and II respectively of the Directive.</p> <p>Article 6.2: Take appropriate steps to avoid degrading or destroying natural habitats within SACs, and avoid disturbance of designated species insofar as this would result in further decline in numbers or the loss of habitat that maintains the species.</p> <p>Article 6.3: Any plan or project not directly concerned with the management of a designated site (SAC/SPA), but which is likely to have a significant impact on it (individually or in combination with other projects), should undergo assessment of its implications for the conservation objectives of the site.</p> <p>Article 6.4: If the project must proceed in the public interest and in spite of negative conservation impacts, including social or economic reasons, compensatory measures must be provided for. The Article provides limited scope for development in designated areas. It is only acceptable on grounds of human health and safety (but not economic development) if it affects habitats supporting protected species.</p> <p>Article 10: Linear structures such as rivers/streams, hedgerows, field boundaries, ponds, etc., that enable movement and migration of species should be preserved.</p>	<p>Accept the primacy of nature conservation objectives, and clearly take note of these designations in setting SEA objectives and defining options in the LDD.</p> <p>Ensure the location of designated areas is clear and taken into account in any options (e.g. those affecting the strategic transport network).</p> <p>Prioritise policies that avoid or result in minimal damage to designated areas. Ensure assessment reviews impact on SACs/SPAs from non-adjacent sites.</p> <p>Review the extent to which policy options would damage or destroy these features, or sever habitats over a wide area or long distance, and use less damaging options or appropriate mitigation measures.</p>
EU Directive on Ambient Air Quality and Management (1996/62/EC)	
Introduces new air quality standards for previously unregulated pollutants, setting the timetable for the development of daughter directives on a range of pollutants. The list of atmospheric pollutants to be considered includes sulphur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter, lead and ozone – pollutants governed by already existing ambient air quality objectives- and benzene, carbon monoxide, poly-aromatic hydrocarbons, cadmium, arsenic, nickel and mercury.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
Establishes mandatory standards for air quality and sets limits and guides values for sulphur and nitrogen dioxide, suspended particulates and lead in air.	The strategy should aim to improve air quality.

European Spatial Development Perspective (1999)	
<p>By adopting the ESDP, the Member States and the Commission reached agreement on common objectives and concepts for the future development of the territory of the European Union. The aim of spatial development policies is to work towards a balanced and sustainable development of the territory of the European Union. The ESPD aims to ensure that the three fundamental goals of European policy are achieved equally in all the regions of the EU:</p> <p>Economic and social cohesion;</p> <p>Conservation and management of natural resources and the cultural heritage;</p> <p>More balanced competitiveness of the European territory.</p>	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>European cultural landscapes, cities and towns, as well as a variety of natural and historic monuments are part of the European Heritage. Its fostering should be an important part of modern architecture, urban and landscape planning in all regions of the EU.</p> <p>A big challenge for spatial development policy is to contribute to the objectives, announced by the EU during international conferences concerning the environment and climate, of reducing emissions into the global ecological system.</p>	<p>The LDD and other plans could influence the historic environment in several ways, including impacts upon townscape, historic structures and features.</p> <p>The SA should include objectives for Conservation Areas and reducing Carbon Dioxide emissions. The contribution of all plans, but especially the LDD and future LTPs, to the form and function of the district should be viewed positively and the plan's objectives should reflect this.</p>
EU Waste to Landfill Directive (99/31/EC)	
<p>The Directive aims at reducing the amount of waste landfilled, to promote recycling and recovery and to establish high standards of landfill practice across the EU and, through the harmonisation of standards, to prevent the shipping of waste from one Country to another. The objective of the Directive is to prevent or reduce as far as possible negative effects on the environment from the landfilling of waste, by introducing stringent technical requirements for waste and landfills.</p> <p>The Directive also intends to prevent or reduce the adverse effects of the landfill of waste on the environment, in particular on surface water, groundwater, soil, air and human health. It defines the different categories of waste (municipal waste, hazardous waste, non-hazardous waste and inert waste) and applies to all landfills, defined as waste disposal sites for the deposit of waste onto or into land.</p>	

Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
Reduction of the amount of biodegradable municipal waste sent to landfill to 75% of the total generated in 1995 by 2006, 50% by 2009 and 35% by 2016.	The LDD should take into account the reduction targets, in particular when considering the management of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW). The SA of the LDD should include objectives on reduction of BMW sent to landfill.
EU Directive Establishing a Framework for the Community Action in the Field of Water Policy (2000/60/EC) – The Water Framework Directive	
Requires all Member States to achieve ‘good ecological status’ of inland water bodies by 2015, and limits the quantity of groundwater abstraction to that portion of overall recharge not needed by ecology.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
To achieve ‘good ecological status’ of inland water bodies by 2015	The LDD should aim to reduce negative impacts on water bodies.
European Commission White Paper on the European Transport Policy (EC, 2001)	
<p>With its Transport Policy White Paper, the Commission proposed an Action Plan aimed at bringing about substantial improvements in the quality and efficiency of transport in Europe. It also proposed a strategy designed to gradually break the link between constant transport growth and economic growth in order to reduce the pressure on the environment and prevent congestion while maintaining the EU’s economic competitiveness.</p> <p>Approximately 60 measures are set out to develop a transport policy for Europe’s citizens. Amongst others 'towards sustainable mobility': Transport in Europe must, as a matter of priority, be compatible with environmental protection. To this end, the Commission proposed a wide range of measures to develop fair infrastructure charging which takes into account external costs and encourages the use of the least polluting modes of transport, to define sensitive areas, in particular in the Alps and Pyrenees, which should be eligible for additional funding for alternative transport, and to promote clean fuels .</p>	

Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>The principal measures suggested in the White Paper include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Revitalising the railways Improving quality in the road transport sector Striking a balance between growth in air transport and the environment Transport and the environment Turning inter modality into reality Improving road safety Adopting a policy on effective charging for transport Recognising the rights and obligations of users Developing high-quality urban transport Developing medium and long-term environmental objectives for a sustainable transport system. 	<p>The LDD should aim to contribute to these aims by setting appropriate objectives and measures.</p>
Åarhus Convention (2001)	
<p>The Åarhus Convention establishes a number of rights of the public (citizens and their associations) with regard to the environment. Public authorities (at national, regional or local level) are to contribute to allowing these rights to become effective. The Convention provides for:</p> <p>The right of everyone to receive environmental information that is held by public authorities. This can include information on the state of the environment, but also on policies or measures taken, or on the state of human health and safety where this can be affected by the state of the environment. Public authorities are obliged, under the Convention, to actively disseminate environmental information in their possession;</p> <p>The right to participate from an early stage in environmental decision-making. Arrangements are to be made by public authorities to enable citizens and environmental organisations to comment on, for example, proposals for projects affecting the environment, or plans and programmes relating to the environment</p> <p>The right to challenge, in a court of law, public decisions that have been made without respecting the two aforementioned rights or environmental law in general.</p>	

Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>The Convention creates obligations in three fields or 'pillars':</p> <p>Public access to environmental information</p> <p>Public participation in decision-making on matters related to the environment: provision</p> <p>Access to justice (i.e. administrative or judicial review proceedings) in environmental matters</p>	<p>Public consultation and access to information supporting the decision-making process must be introduced in the procedures for the drawing up of the Plan in respects of matters covered by the legislation and Directives mentioned. The SEA Directive requires that public consultation is carried out on the Draft Plan and its accompanying Environmental Report.</p>
EU Directive to promote Electricity from Renewable Energy (2001/77/EEC)	
<p>The Renewables Directive aims to promote a substantial increase in the proportion of electricity generated from renewable energy sources across the European Union by 2010. Individual Member States have all been required to take appropriate steps to encourage greater consumption of electricity from renewables, in order that the overall EU target. These national indicative targets should also be consistent with any national commitment made as part of the climate change commitments accepted by the Community under the Kyoto Protocol. Where they use waste as an energy source, Member States must comply with current Community legislation on waste management.</p>	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>National targets on use of electricity from renewable sources should be consistent with the indicative target of 12% of gross domestic energy consumption ((22.1% of electricity) by 2010. Members States are required to implement a scheme for the guarantee of origin of electricity from renewable sources (REGOs).</p>	<p>The LDD and other plans should take into account the targets on electricity from renewable resources in particular where considering the development of necessary infrastructure. The SA should include objectives on production/use of electricity from renewable resources taken from regional or local targets.</p>

Environment 2010: Our Future, Our Choice - EU Sixth Environment Action Programme (2002)

The latest Environment Action Programme gives a strategic direction to the Commission’s environmental policy over the next decade, as the Community prepares to expand its boundaries.

The new programme identifies four environmental areas to be tackled for improvements:

Climate Change

Nature and Biodiversity

Environment and Health and Quality of Life

Natural Resources and Waste

Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
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Recognises that land use planning and management decisions in the Member States can have a major influence on the environment, leading to fragmentation of the countryside and pressures in urban areas and the coast. Also includes objectives on stabilising greenhouse gases, halting biodiversity loss, reducing pollution and resource use. Under the EAP framework, Thematic Strategies are being developed on:

Air quality

Soil Protection

Sustainable use of Pesticides

Marine Environment

Waste Prevention and Recycling

Sustainable Use of Natural Resources

Urban Environment

In developing policies for the LDD the plan makers need to be aware of these strategies and consider how their plan can influence positively issues such as air quality, the urban environment, natural resource use and waste prevention and recycling.

EU Directive for the Promotion of Bio-fuels for Transport (2003/30/EC)	
The directive aims to promote the use of bio fuels or other renewable fuels for transport purposes.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
Member states should aim to provide 2% of all petrol in the form of bio fuels by 2005 increasing to 5.75% by 2010.	Consider the role of bio fuels in the region and its potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
EU Sustainable Development Strategy (2006)	
In June 2001, the European Council at Göteborg discussed a strategy for Sustainable Development proposed by the European Commission (“A sustainable Europe for a better world: A European strategy for Sustainable Development”). The Renewed EU Sustainable Development Strategy was adopted by the European Council in June 2006. It is an overarching strategy for all EU policies which sets out how we can meet the needs of present generations without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. This strategy proposed measures to deal with important threats to our well being, such as climate change, poverty, and emerging health risks, which had been identified in a consultation paper in March 2001.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Combating poverty and social exclusion</p> <p>Dealing with the economic and social implications of an ageing society</p> <p>Limit climate change and increase the use of clean energy</p> <p>Address threats to public health</p> <p>Manage natural resources responsibly</p> <p>Improve the transport system and land use management</p>	Provides European context for the promotion of sustainable development.
EU Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC)	
<p>The revised Directive 2008/98/EC sets the basic concepts and definitions related to waste management and lays down waste management principles such as the “polluter pays principle” or the “waste hierarchy”. The WFD must be fully implemented into UK law by December 2010. Changes to this WFD can be broadly separated into substantive and ‘tidying up’ measures. The substantive changes are aimed at encouraging the greater reuse and recycling of waste, whilst the tidying-up measures are aimed at simplifying the fragmented legal framework that has regulated the waste sector to date.</p> <p>An important objective of the WFD is to ensure the recovery of waste or its disposal without endangering human health and the environment. Greater emphasis is also placed on the prevention, reduction, re-use and recycling of waste.</p>	

Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Article 4: Member States shall take the necessary measures to ensure that waste is recovered or disposed of without endangering human health and without using processes or methods which could harm the environment, and in particular:</p> <p>Without risk to water, air, soil and plants and animals</p> <p>Without causing a nuisance through noise or odours</p> <p>Without adversely affecting the countryside or places of special interest</p>	<p>LDD should consider these impacts when deciding on locations and policy context for waste disposal or processing. This would feed into SA objectives for noise, air, landscape, and biodiversity.</p> <p>The Waste Management Strategy needs to consider these requirements within its own objectives and be carefully integrated with the LDD.</p>

National

National Planning Policy Framework (2012)

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out the Government's economic, environmental and social planning policies for England. Taken together these policies articulate the Government's vision for sustainable development, which should be interpreted and applied locally to meet local aspirations. The framework replaces all existing Planning Policy Statements, Planning Policy Guidance Notes and some circulars.

The NPPF recognises that the purpose of the planning system is to achieve sustainable development, which can be achieved when economic, social and environmental gains are sought jointly. In this, contributing to protecting and enhancing our natural, built and historic environment; and, as part of this, helping to improve biodiversity, use natural resources prudently, minimise waste and pollution, and mitigate and adapt to climate change including moving to a low carbon economy.

A presumption in favour of sustainable development is a core aim of the NPPF, which should be seen as a golden thread running through both plan-making and decision-taking.

For plan-making this means that:

Local planning authorities should positively seek opportunities to meet the development needs of their area;

Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs, with sufficient flexibility to adapt to rapid change, unless:

Any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole; or

Specific policies in this Framework indicate development should be restricted.

For decision-taking this means:

Approving development proposals that accord with the development plan without delay; and,

Where the development plan is absent, silent or relevant policies are out-of-date, granting permission unless:

Any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole; or

Specific policies in this Framework indicate development should be restricted

The NPPF contains a set of 12 core planning principles that should underpin both plan-making and decision-taking.

The bulk of the NPPF provides the policy in 13 topic areas for “Achieving Sustainable Development”.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>The NPPF provides policy detail for the 13 topics listed below. It does not include specific objectives for these topic areas.</p> <p>The following provides a selective and high-level summary of what is included under each topic. It will be necessary to refer to the NPPF itself to obtain the full picture of the NPPF’s requirements.</p> <p>Deliver safe and attractive places to live, which respect the character of the area, promote health and wellbeing, and reduce social inequalities by ensuring that people have access to high quality open spaces, green infrastructure and sports, recreational and play spaces and facilities which are safely and easily accessible by walking, cycling or public transport</p> <p>Provide access and appropriate recreational opportunities in rural and coastal areas to enable urban and rural dwellers to enjoy the wider countryside.</p> <p>1. Building a strong, competitive economy</p> <p>Local Plans should set out a clear economic vision and strategy for their area which positively and proactively encourages sustainable economic growth.</p> <p>2. Ensuring the vitality of town centres</p> <p>Local Plans should recognise town centres as the heart of their communities and pursue policies to support their viability and vitality.</p> <p>3. Supporting a prosperous rural economy</p> <p>Plans should support the sustainable growth and expansion of all types of business and enterprise in rural areas.</p> <p>4. Promoting sustainable transport</p> <p>Local Plans should support a pattern of development which, where reasonable to do so, facilitates the use of sustainable modes of transport.</p> <p>5. Supporting high quality communications infrastructure</p> <p>Local Plans should support the expansion of electronic communications networks, including</p>	<p>The Sites Allocation LDD and all subsequent development plans will need to comply with the requirements of the NPPF and any amendments to previous national policy contained within it.</p> <p>The NPPF has implications for all of the objectives in the Three Rivers SA Framework.</p>

telecommunications and high speed broadband. They should aim to keep the numbers of radio and telecommunications masts and the sites for such installations to a minimum consistent with the efficient operation of the network. Existing masts, buildings and other structures should be used, unless the need for a new site has been justified. Where new sites are required, equipment should be sympathetically designed and camouflaged where appropriate.

6. Delivering a wide choice of high quality homes

Local planning authorities should use their evidence base to ensure that their Local Plan meets the full, objectively assessed needs for market and affordable housing in the housing market area, as far as is consistent with the policies set out in this Framework, including identifying key sites which are critical to the delivery of the housing strategy over the plan period.

7. Requiring good design

Local and neighbourhood plans should develop robust and comprehensive policies that set out the quality of development that will be expected for the area. Such policies should be based on stated objectives for the future of the area and an understanding and evaluation of its defining characteristics.

8. Promoting healthy communities

Through meeting community needs; providing safe and accessible environments and developments; delivering the social, recreational and cultural facilities and services the community needs; providing a sufficient choice of school places; and providing access to open spaces and green spaces.

9. Protecting Green Belt land

Local planning authorities should plan positively to enhance the beneficial use of the Green Belt. When considering any planning application, local planning authorities should ensure that substantial weight is given to any harm to the Green Belt.

10. Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change

Local planning authorities should adopt proactive strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change, taking full account of flood risk, coastal change and water supply and demand considerations. Inappropriate development in areas at risk of flooding should be avoided by directing development away from areas at highest risk, but where development is necessary, making it safe without increasing flood risk elsewhere.

11. Conserving and enhancing the natural environment

In preparing plans to meet development needs, the aim should be to minimise pollution; encourage the effective use of land by re-using land that has been previously developed; plan positively for the creation, protection, enhancement and management of networks of biodiversity and green infrastructure; great weight should be given to conserving landscape and scenic beauty in National Parks, the Broads and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty; the presumption in favour of sustainable development does not apply where development requiring appropriate assessment under the Birds or Habitats Directives is being considered, planned or determined.

12. Conserving and enhancing the historic environment

Local planning authorities should set out in their Local Plan a positive strategy for the conservation and enjoyment of the historic environment.

13. Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals

Local Plans should identify and include policies for extraction of mineral resource of local and national importance in their area, but should not identify new sites or extensions to existing sites for peat extraction.

Technical Guidance to the National Planning Policy Framework 2012

This document provides additional guidance to local planning authorities to ensure the effective implementation of the planning policy set out in the National Planning Policy Framework on development in areas at risk of flooding and in relation to mineral extraction.

This guidance retains key elements of *Planning Policy Statement 25* and of the existing Minerals Policy Statements and Minerals Planning Guidance Notes which are considered necessary and helpful in relation to these policy areas. The retention of this guidance is an interim measure pending a wider review of guidance to support planning policy.

Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>The guidance provides detailed technical guidance on flood risk and minerals policy for local planning authorities and key stakeholders.</p> <p>Flood risk:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Adopt a Sequential Test in order to steer new development to areas with the lowest probability of flooding. - The overall aim should be to steer new development to Flood Zone 1. - Properly prepared assessments of flood risk should inform the decision-making process at all stages of development planning. - As set out in the National Planning Policy Framework, Local Plans should be supported by Strategic Flood Risk Assessment. - SFRA and site specific flood risk assessments should fully consider the impacts of climate change. - Options for managing residual flood risk and developing flood resilience after applying the sequential test should be considered. <p>Minerals policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Impacts on residents in close proximity to minerals works should be fully considered. - Dust assessment studies must be considered as part of the development of minerals policies - Noise emissions study must be undertaken as party of minerals policies - The legacy of mineral extraction areas needs to be fully considered at the planning policy stage, as well as throughout the use of the site. 	<p>The LDD should have full regard of the points set out within this technical guidance, with particular regard to residual impacts and location of development.</p>

<i>Planning Policies for Traveller Sites 2012</i>	
This document sets out the Government's planning policy for traveller sites. The policy must be taken into account in the preparation of development plans, and is a material consideration in planning decisions.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Government's aims in respect of traveller sites are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - that local planning authorities should make their own assessment of need for the purposes of planning - to ensure that local planning authorities, working collaboratively, develop fair and effective strategies to meet need through the identification of land for sites - to encourage local planning authorities to plan for sites over a reasonable timescale - that plan-making and decision-taking should protect Green Belt from inappropriate development - to promote more private traveller site provision while recognising that there will always be those travellers who cannot provide their own sites - that plan-making and decision-taking should aim to reduce the number of unauthorised developments and encampments and make enforcement more effective 	<p>The LDD should have full regard of the points set out within this policy note.</p>

Documents that the NPPF replaces

The following documents have been replaced by the NPPF. Therefore, for those documents that have been included in previous SA reviews of other plans, policies and programmes, that earlier assessment is no longer valid.

1. Planning Policy Statement: Delivering Sustainable Development (31 January 2005)
2. Planning Policy Statement: Planning and Climate Change – Supplement to Planning Policy Statement 1 (17 December 2007)
3. Planning Policy Guidance 2: Green Belts (24 January 1995)
4. Planning Policy Statement 3: Housing (9 June 2011)

5. Planning Policy Statement 4: Planning for Sustainable Economic Growth (29 December 2009)
6. Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment (23 March 2010)
7. Planning Policy Statement 7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas (3 August 2004)
8. Planning Policy Guidance 8: Telecommunications (23 August 2001)
9. Planning Policy Statement 9: Biodiversity and Geological Conservation (16 August 2005)
10. Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Spatial Planning (4 June 2008)
11. Planning Policy Guidance 13: Transport (3 January 2011)
12. Planning Policy Guidance 14: Development on Unstable Land (30 April 1990)
13. Planning Policy Guidance 17: Planning for Open Space, Sport and Recreation (24 July 2002)
14. Planning Policy Guidance 18: Enforcing Planning Control (20 December 1991)
15. Planning Policy Guidance 19: Outdoor Advertisement Control (23 March 1992)
16. Planning Policy Guidance 20: Coastal Planning (1 October 1992)
17. Planning Policy Statement 22: Renewable Energy (10 August 2004)
18. Planning Policy Statement 23: Planning and Pollution Control (3 November 2004)
19. Planning Policy Guidance 24: Planning and Noise (3 October 1994)
20. Planning Policy Statement 25: Development and Flood Risk (29 March 2010)
21. Planning Policy Statement 25 Supplement: Development and Coastal Change (9 March 2010)
22. Minerals Policy Statement 1: Planning and Minerals (13 November 2006)
23. Minerals Policy Statement 2: Controlling and Mitigating the Environmental Effects of Minerals Extraction in England. This includes its Annex 1: Dust and Annex 2: Noise (23 March 2005 - Annex 1: 23 March 2005 and Annex 2: 23 May 2005)
24. Minerals Planning Guidance 2: Applications, permissions and conditions (10 July 1998)
25. Minerals Planning Guidance 3: Coal Mining and Colliery Spoil Disposal (30 March 1999)
26. Minerals Planning Guidance 5: Stability in surface mineral workings and tips (28 January 2000)

27. Minerals Planning Guidance 7: Reclamation of minerals workings (29 November 1996)
28. Minerals Planning Guidance 10: Provision of raw material for the cement industry (20 November 1991)
29. Minerals Planning Guidance 13: Guidance for peat provision in England (13 July 1995)
30. Minerals Planning Guidance 15: Provision of silica sand in England (23 September 1996)
31. Circular 05/2005: Planning Obligations (18 July 2005)
32. Government Office London Circular 1/2008: Strategic Planning in London (4 April 2008)
33. Letter to Chief Planning Officers: Town and Country Planning (Electronic Communications) (England) Order 2003 (2 April 2003)
34. Letter to Chief Planning Officers: Planning Obligations and Planning Registers (3 April 2002)
35. Letter to Chief Planning Officers: Model Planning Conditions for development on land affected by contamination (30 May 2008)
36. Letter to Chief Planning Officers: Planning for Housing and Economic Recovery (12 May 2009)
37. Letter to Chief Planning Officers: Development and Flood Risk – Update to the Practice Guide to Planning Policy Statement 25 (14 December 2009)
38. Letter to Chief Planning Officers: Implementation of Planning Policy Statement 25 (PPS25) – Development and Flood Risk (7 May 2009)
39. Letter to Chief Planning Officers: The Planning Bill – delivering well designed homes and high quality places (23 February 2009)
40. Letter to Chief Planning Officers: Planning and Climate Change – Update (20 January 2009)
41. Letter to Chief Planning Officers: New powers for local authorities to stop “garden- grabbing” (15 June 2010)
42. Letter to Chief Planning Officer: Area Based Grant: Climate Change New Burdens (14 January 2010)
43. Letter to Chief Planning Officers: The Localism Bill (15 December 2010)
44. Letter to Chief Planning Officers: Planning policy on residential parking standards, parking charges, and electric vehicle charging infrastructure (14 January 2011)

Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 and the Localism Act 2011

The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (the Regulations) sets out how local councils should prepare and consult on their local plans.

Following the adoption of the Localism Act 2011 (the Act) the Government is proposing to abolish top-down regional strategies, subject to an environmental assessment which is currently underway. To promote local joint working between public authorities, the Act has introduced a legal duty to cooperate between local authorities, and the powers to specify in the Regulations which bodies are bound. The Regulations and Act ensure that the bodies responsible for developing local plans have a duty to take regard of the views of the local enterprise partnerships in relation to strategic planning matters.

Objectives, Targets, Indicators

Implications for Plan and SA

The Regulations aim to strengthen the objectives of localism set out within the Act by putting councils back in control of the preparation and examination of their local plans. The Regulations set out the preparation and adoption process for local plans and supplementary planning documents (SPD).

The Regulations specifically stipulate that:

Local plans should set out a reasoned justification for the policies contained within it

SPD and local plans must not conflict with adopted development plan

Local planning authorities must consult specified stakeholders, as well as any further specific affected individuals or groups, during the preparation of a local plan

The LDD should have full regard of the regulations put forward in the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

The regional strategies remain part of the development plan until they are abolished by Order using powers taken in the Localism Act. However, as identified in the NPPF, it is the government's clear policy intention to revoke the regional strategies outside of London, subject to the outcome of the environmental assessments that are currently being undertaken.

Provisions should be made in the LDD to adapt to this planned change in the development plan to ensure that policy is robust enough to deliver local and national aims and objectives.

The LDD should make adequate provision to facilitate the development of neighbourhood plans

Communities and Local Government: 'Lighting in the Countryside: Towards Good Practice (1997)	
This guidance gives advice, which is also relevant in towns, on good lighting types and installations for street, sports and security lighting. It describes how to avoid light pollution of the night sky, glare hazards to drivers and nuisance to neighbours.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>This document aims to provide practical advice on the prevention and control of lighting impacts through appropriate action by all those involved with lighting in the countryside and towns. Specific objectives are to:</p> <p>identify good practice in the planning and design of lighting in rural and urban areas; and</p> <p>advise on how it can be achieved, using case study examples.</p>	The LDD should recognise the cumulative impacts of lighting on countryside and town character and should consider the need for policies on lighting.
The Institution of Lighting Engineers: Guidance Notes for the Reduction of Obtrusive Light (2005)	
This document aims to provide guidance on the prevention and minimising of light pollution.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
To prevent and minimise light pollution.	The guidance advises the Local Planning Authorities specify environmental zones as shown in the guidance.
Climate Change Act 2008	
<p>The UK has passed legislation which introduces the world's first long-term legally binding framework to tackle the dangers of climate change. The Climate Change Bill was introduced into Parliament on 14 November 2007 and became law on 26 November 2008. The Climate Change Act creates a new approach to managing and responding to climate change in the UK, by:</p> <p>Setting ambitious, legally binding targets;</p> <p>Taking powers to help meet those targets;</p> <p>Strengthening the institutional framework;</p> <p>Enhancing the UK's ability to adapt to the impact of climate change; and</p> <p>Establishing clear and regular accountability to the UK Parliament and to the devolved legislatures.</p>	

Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Two key aims of the Act:</p> <p>To improve carbon management, helping the transition towards a low-carbon economy in the UK; and</p> <p>To demonstrate UK leadership internationally, signalling that we are committed to taking our share of responsibility for reducing global emissions in the context of developing negotiations on a post-2012 global agreement at Copenhagen in December 2009.</p> <p>The Act also sets a legally binding target of at least an 80 percent cut in greenhouse gas emissions by 2050, to be achieved through action in the UK and abroad. Also a reduction in emissions of at least 34 percent by 2020. Both these targets are against a 1990 baseline.</p>	<p>The LDD should aim reduce greenhouse gas emissions and help to create a low carbon economy.</p>
Good Practice Guide on Planning for Tourism (2006)	
<p>This guide acknowledges that tourism, in all its forms, is of crucial importance to the economic, social and environmental well-being of the whole country. It explains that the planning system has a vital role to play in terms of facilitating the development and improvement of tourism in appropriate locations.</p>	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>There are three main objectives:</p> <p>Ensure that the importance of tourism is understood and take this fully into account when preparing development plans and taking planning decisions;</p> <p>Ensure that those involved in the tourism industry understand the principles of national planning policy as they apply to tourism and how these can be applied when preparing individual planning applications and;</p> <p>Ensure that planners and the tourism industry work together effectively to facilitate, promote and deliver new tourism development in a sustainable way.</p>	<p>Promoting tourism would increase prosperity and employment, however it is important to recognise the potential conflicts between tourist developments and other environmental objectives.</p>
Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended)	
<p>The act implements the Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats (the 'Bern Convention') and the European Union Directives on the Conservation of Wild Birds and Natural Habitats. The Act is concerned with the protection of wildlife and their habitat (countryside, national parks and designated protected areas).</p>	

Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
Addresses the problem of species protection and habitat loss by setting out the protection that is afforded to wild animals and plants in Britain.	There is significant interaction between wildlife and different types of land use. The SA should consider the effects of the plans on biodiversity.
Planning for a Sustainable Future: White Paper 2007	
<p>The White Paper sets out detailed proposals for reform of the planning system, building on Kate Barker's recommendations for improving the speed, responsiveness and efficiency in land use planning, and taking forward Kate Barker's and Rod Eddington's proposals for reform of major infrastructure planning.</p> <p>It proposes reforms on how we take decisions on nationally significant infrastructure projects including energy, waste, waste-water and transport - responding to the challenges of economic globalisation and climate change.</p> <p>It also proposes further reforms to the Town and Country Planning system, building on the recent improvements to make it more efficient and more responsive.</p>	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Five core principles underpin our proposals:</p> <p>Planning must be responsive, particularly to longer term challenges such as increasing globalisation and climate change, and properly integrate our economic, social and environmental objectives to deliver sustainable development;</p> <p>The planning system should be streamlined, efficient and predictable;</p> <p>There must be full and fair opportunities for public consultation and community engagement;</p> <p>The planning system should be transparent and accountable; and</p> <p>Planning should be undertaken at the right level of government – national, regional and local.</p>	The LDD should ensure it supports the core principles of this policy.
Sustainable Communities: People, Places and Prosperity (ODPM 2005)	
<p>This five year strategy accompanies the strategy for housing. It shows the Government commitment to sustainable communities, which is underpinned by the belief that everyone, in every region, deserves a share in the nation's prosperity, and a pleasant, safe clean and green place to live, with excellent local services. Creating sustainable communities needs every part of Government to be involved. Sustainable communities need good schools, good health services, good parks, good transport, flourishing businesses and vibrant communities as well as houses.</p> <p>This five years plan sets out how the Government is going to realise is vision</p>	

Objectives, Targets and Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>One of the key challenges is to put more control in the hands of local people to help make services better, and to make communities cleaner, safer and greener.</p> <p>Social: decent affordable homes; to put more control in the hands of local people to help make services better, and to make communities cleaner, safer and greener; to assure strong local leadership, excellent public services and fair reasonable cost; to assure that public service serve everyone well; strong, visible and accountable local leadership for areas and communities;</p> <p>Environment: to narrow the gap between the average and the worst off areas;</p> <p>Economic: to promote strong economies in all regions, narrowing the economic divide and boosting the economy as a whole;</p>	<p>The LRDPD to consider how this plan of action will influence the delivery and management of recreational space for the community.</p>
Water Act 2003	
<p>The Water Act 2003 will significantly change how water abstraction and impoundment is regulated. It aims to improve protection of the environment and to provide a more flexible process of regulation. The changes will be implemented over a number of years. Between now and 2012, we need to resolve significant problem areas and achieve sustainable water resources management. Responsible abstractors who are committed to the sustainable use of precious water resources will want to achieve these changes too and work with us to deliver a better environment for future generations.</p>	
Objectives, Targets and Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>It will change the licensing system in six key areas:</p> <p>All small abstractions, generally under 20 cubic metres per day (m³/d), will not need a licence;</p> <p>Dewatering of mines, quarries and engineering works, water transfers into canals and internal drainage districts, use of water for trickle irrigation and abstractions in some areas which are currently exempt will now need a licence to make sure that they are managed appropriately and that any impact on the environment can be dealt with;</p> <p>Administration for making applications, transferring and renewing licences will be made simpler. This will also reduce barriers to the trading of water rights;</p> <p>The status of licences has changed significantly, as all abstractors now have a responsibility not to let their abstraction cause damage to others. From 2012, the Environment Agency will be able to amend or take away someone's permanent licence without compensation if they are causing serious damage to the</p>	<p>The LDD should be aware of the changes in the licensing system and of the focus on water conservation.</p>

<p>environment;</p> <p>There will be an increased focus on water conservation. Water companies will have new duties to conserve water and all public bodies will need to consider how to conserve water supplied to premises. The Government has new responsibilities for monitoring and reporting progress in this area;</p> <p>Water companies will need to develop and publish water resources management and drought plans. The Environment Agency will be able to encourage transfer of water resources between water companies and recover costs associated with drought orders and permits.</p>	
<p><i>Flood and Water Management Act, 2010 (amended 2011)</i></p>	
<p>The Flood and Water Management Act provides for better, more comprehensive management of flood risk for people, homes and businesses, helps safeguard community groups from unaffordable rises in surface water drainage charges and protects water supplies to the consumer. The Act implements Sir Michael Pitt's recommendations requiring urgent legislation, following his review of the 2007 floods. The Act recognises that serious flooding can happen any time. Climate projections suggest extreme weather will happen more frequently in the future.</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>The overall aim of the Act is reducing the flood risk associated with extreme weather.</p>	<p>LPA's will have new duties and powers under the Act to manage flood risk. Both the LDD and SA should consider the importance of managing water resources.</p>
<p>Water for People and the Environment: Water Resources Strategy for England and Wales (2009)</p>	
<p>This strategy sets out how the Environment Agency believe water resources should be managed throughout England and Wales to 2050 and beyond to ensure that there will be enough water for people and the environment. It identifies the actions the Environment Agency believe are necessary, and in particular those that are needed to deal with the serious challenges of growth and climate change.</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>Adapting to and mitigating climate change: The Environment Agency is able to manage water resources and protect the water environment in the face of climate change.</p> <p>A better water environment: Species and habitats that depend on water are restored, protected, improved and valued.</p> <p>Sustainable planning and management of water resources: Good water management contributes to</p>	<p>Both the LDD and SA should consider the importance of managing water resources.</p>

<p>sustainable development by supporting people and the economy in an improved environment.</p> <p>Water and the water environment are valued: People value water and enjoy their water environment and understand how it contributes to their quality of life.</p>	
<p>Heritage Protection for the 21st Century: White Paper (DCMS, 2007)</p>	
<p>This White Paper sets out the Government's vision for a new heritage protection system. The proposals are focussed on opening up heritage protection to greater public scrutiny and involvement, whilst recognising that heritage protection needs to be an integral part of a planning system that can deliver sustainable communities.</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developing a unified approach to the historic environment; • Maximising opportunities for inclusion and involvement; and • Supporting sustainable communities by putting the historic environment at the heart of an effective planning system. 	<p>Both the LDD and SA should consider the importance of heritage protection.</p>
<p>UK Biodiversity Action Plan - UK BAP (Defra, 1994)</p>	
<p>The UK BAP is the UK Government's response to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) signed in 1992, describes the UK's biological resources, and commits a detailed plan for the protection of these resources. It contains of 391 Species Action Plans, 45 Habitat Action Plans and 162 Local Biodiversity Action Plans with targeted actions.</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets, Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>To maintain, promote and enhance biodiversity</p>	<p>The LDD should aim not to destroy or negatively affect any priority habitats listed.</p>
<p>England Forestry Strategy (2007)</p>	
<p>The most comprehensive statement of Government policy on all aspects of forestry. The Strategy was launched on 20th June 2007 and replaces the 1998 England Forestry Strategy, A New Focus for England's Woodlands, and sets out the Government's vision for England's tree and woodland resource, in both rural and urban areas, over the next fifty years. It considers how England's trees, woods and forests can yield environmental, social and economic benefits for future generations.</p>	

Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>There are five strategic aims:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> to secure trees and woodlands for future generations; to ensure resilience to climate change; to protect and enhance natural resources; to increase the contribution that trees, woods and forests make to our quality of life; and to improve the competitiveness of woodland businesses and products. 	<p>LDD should seize upon opportunities to expand existing woodland or create new woodland areas.</p>
<p>UK Air Quality Strategy (ODPM, 2007)</p>	
<p>This Strategy sets out a way forward for work and planning on air quality issues; work and planning on air quality issues; introduces a new policy framework for tackling fine particles and identifies potential new national policy measures which modelling indicates could give further health benefits and move closer towards meeting the Strategy's objectives.</p>	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>The overall aim of the strategy is to further improve air quality in the UK from today into the long term. As well as direct benefits to public health, these options are intended to provide important benefits to quality of life and help to protect our environment.</p>	<p>Objectives and measures set out in the LDD should aim to contribute to the achievement of the objectives set out in the UK Air Quality Strategy.</p>
<p>Countryside and Rights of Way Act – CRoW (ODPM, 2000)</p>	
<p>CRoW extends the public's ability to enjoy the countryside whilst also providing safeguards for landowners and occupiers. It creates a new statutory right of access to open country and registered common land, modernise the rights of way system, give greater protection to Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), provide better management arrangements for Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs), and strengthen wildlife enforcement legislation. Emphasises the public's right of access to open country and common land, and gives additional protection to Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).</p>	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Part I of the Act creates a new right of access to open country and registered common land</p> <p>Part II of the Act modernises the law on public rights of way</p> <p>Part III of the Act gives greater protection to sites of special scientific interest (SSSIs), and strengthens</p>	<p>The LDD should aim to maintain, improve and enhance biodiversity and should pay attention that public rights of ways are respected.</p>

<p>wildlife protection</p> <p>Part IV of the Act provides new powers to set up Conservation Boards for the better management of areas of outstanding natural beauty (AONBs), and requires certain bodies to have regard for AONBs when doing anything which would affect the land in those areas</p>	
<p>Government Urban White Paper: Our Towns, Our Cities, the Future. Delivering an urban renaissance (DETR, 2000)</p>	
<p>Sustainable economic growth is based on thriving towns and cities, which are the economic hubs of large areas.</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets, Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>To arrest urban decline by taking a joined approach to policies on housing, planning, transport and education in and for cities and town.</p>	<p>The plans should take into account the overarching aims of this document and consider the PSA targets this White paper refers to.</p>
<p>UK Waste Strategy (2007)</p>	
<p>This strategy sets out targets and plans to divert waste from landfill in England, as required by the Landfill Directive. The strategy is a review of the Waste Strategy 2000 (WS2000) and builds on the progress made from WS2000. It also addresses key areas for managing waste into the future.</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets, Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>The Government is seeking to introduce Site Waste Management Plans, a mandatory requirement for projects over a certain value.</p> <p>Government is proposing a possible new target of halving the amount of construction , demolition & excavation waste going to landfill by 2012 as a result of waste reduction, re-use and recycling.</p> <p>The Government will shortly be setting a new national target for the reduction of commercial and industrial waste going to landfill</p> <p>The Government will soon release the Sustainable Construction Strategy to help improve resource efficiency. The main objectives will be to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - change the way we manage waste - tackle the amount of waste produced (decouple waste generation from economic growth) - promote re-use, recycling, composting and recovering energy 	<p>SA should incorporate objectives that promote waste hierarchy method, including recycling and re-use.</p> <p>Waste reduction, recycling and others means to move up the waste hierarchy can lead to greater resource efficiency and should be addressed and promoted in the LDD. Reducing waste, increasing recycling and improving resource efficiency should be included as SA/SEA objective.</p>

- to recycle and compost at least 30% of household waste by 2010	
Government Rural White Paper: Our Countryside, the future – A deal for rural England (DETR, 2000)	
To maintain and protect a living and vibrant countryside, the government has identified a number of key actions, all informed by the principles of sustainable development.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>There are five objectives, which will be transposed into the PSA and Service Delivery Agreements:</p> <p>Facilitate sustainable economies</p> <p>Maintain and stimulate communities ensuring fair access to services</p> <p>Conserve rural landscape and wildlife</p> <p>Increase opportunities to enjoy the countryside</p> <p>Promote collaboration amongst all Government tiers to ensure responsiveness to local communities' requests.</p>	All plans and their SAs should reflect the priorities and actions of the white paper and include SA objectives regarding access to services and landscape and biodiversity issues.
Climate Change: The UK Programme (2006)	
The UK's climate change programme sets out the Government's and the devolved administrations' approaches to the challenge of climate change. It sets out policies and priorities for action in the UK and internationally, such as the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions by 20 per cent below 1990 levels by 2010. The Programme sets out the intention that the UK will strive to secure global action on the scale needed to tackle it and will also take further action at home, to meet UK commitments and demonstrate that climate change can be tackled without damaging the UK economy.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
Cutting UK Carbon Dioxide emissions by 60% by 2050.	The LDD should aim to minimise CO ₂ and other greenhouse gas emissions.
The Historic Environment: A Force for Our Future (2001)	
This statement sets out the intention of the Government to protect the historic environment recognising its major contribution to the economy in rural and deprived communities as well as in traditional economic centres. It also states the need for the development of new policies to further realise economic and educational potential.	

Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
The historic environment should be protected and sustained for the benefit of our own and future generations.	The LDD and other plans could influence the historic environment in several ways, including impacts upon townscape, historic structures and features. The contribution of all plan to the form and function of the district should be viewed positively and the plan's objectives should reflect this.
UK Fuel Poverty Strategy (2001)	
The strategy identifies the main causes of fuel poverty in the UK (a combination of poor energy efficiency in homes and low incomes) and outlines its effects on quality of life and health.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
The strategy aims to reduce fuel poverty especially of vulnerable members of society, such as children and the elderly.	Health equalities should be considered in both the LDD and the SA/SEA.
'Working with the Grain of Nature': A Biodiversity Strategy for England (2002)	
The Strategy seeks to ensure biodiversity considerations become embedded in all main sectors of public policy and sets out a programme for the next five years to make the changes necessary to conserve, enhance and work with the grain of nature and ecosystems rather than against them.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
Ensures biodiversity considerations are embedded in all main sectors of economic activity. (It is the principal means by which the government will comply with duties under section 74 of the CRoW Act).	The SA should aim to protect all levels of biodiversity not just the most valued sites and the SA objectives should reflect this.
Our Energy Future - Creating a Low Carbon Economy' - UK white paper on energy (2003)	
The white paper defines a long-term strategic vision for energy policy combining our environmental, security of supply, competitiveness and social goals. The implementation of the White Paper is being taken forward via the Sustainable Energy Policy Network (SEPN).	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
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 with real progress by 2020.	The LDD should aim to minimise CO ₂ and other greenhouse gas emissions.

Towards a Sustainable Transport System: Supporting Economic Growth in a Low Carbon Worlds (DfT, 2007)	
TaSTS describes how the Government is responding to the recommendations made in the Eddington study to improve transport's contribution to economic growth and productivity, and how it is ensuring that transport will play its part in delivering the overall level of reductions in carbon emissions recommended by the Stern Review. It also sets out the DfT's policy and investment plans for the period to 2013-14 and proposes a new approach to longer term transport strategy.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Goal 1: Maximising the overall competitiveness and productivity of the national economy, so as to achieve a sustained high level of GDP growth.</p> <p>Goal 2: Reducing transport's emissions of CO₂ and other greenhouse gas emissions, with the desired outcome of avoiding dangerous climate change.</p> <p>Goal 3: Contributing to better health and longer life expectancy through reducing the risk of death, injury or illness arising from transport, and promoting travel modes that are beneficial to health.</p> <p>Goal 4: Improving quality of life for transport users and non-transport users, including through a healthy natural environment, with the desired outcomes of improved well-being for all.</p> <p>Goal 5: Promoting greater equality of opportunity for all citizens, with the desired outcome of achieving a fairer society.</p>	The LDD should consider how (alongside Local Transport Plans) it can contribute to achieving these national transport goals.
Delivering a Sustainable Transport System (DfT, 2008)	
DaSTS explains how the proposed approach to long term transport planning, outlined in TaSTS, is to be put into action to both tackle immediate problems and also longer-term challenges. The document outlines the five national transport goals, focusing on the challenge of delivering strong economic growth while at the same time reducing greenhouse gas emissions.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Our five goals for transport are:</p> <p>To support national economic competitiveness and growth, by delivering reliable and efficient transport networks;</p> <p>To reduce transport's emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases, with the desired outcome of tackling climate change;</p> <p>To contribute to better safety, security and health and longer life-expectancy by reducing the risk of</p>	The LDD should consider how (alongside Local Transport Plans) it can contribute to achieving these national transport goals.

<p>death, injury or illness arising from transport and by promoting travel modes that are beneficial to health;</p> <p>To promote greater equality of opportunity for all citizens, with the desired outcome of achieving a fairer society; and</p> <p>To improve quality of life for transport users and non-transport users, and to promote a healthy natural environment.</p>	
The Future of Transport – UK white paper on transport (2004)	
Sets out a long term strategy for a modern, efficient and sustainable transport system over the next 15 years.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
To ensure that transport makes its full contribution to reducing CO ₂ emissions cost effectively	The LDD should aim to minimise CO ₂ and other greenhouse gas emissions and promote more environmentally friendly travel choices.
UK Climate Change Programme Review: Consultation (Defra, 2004)	
Transport: The Government is committed to sustained investment in public transport, providing the public with more environmentally friendly travel choices and to encouraging its use through, for example, workplace travel plans and promoting alternatives to the school run. It is vigorously seeking the inclusion of intra-EU aviation in the EU TENS and it is considering the feasibility of road-pricing, as well as the scope for including surface transport into a phase of the EU ETS.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
The devolved administrations are committed to making an equitable contribution to efforts aimed at meeting the UK's Kyoto target, moving towards the UK's national goal and putting the UK on a path towards a 60 per cent reduction in carbon dioxide emissions by 2050.	The LDD should aim to promote more environmentally friendly travel choices.
England Rural Strategy (2004)	
The Rural Strategy 2004 sets out the Government's new approach to policy and delivery of the rural white paper.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>It identifies three key priorities for rural policy.</p> <p>Economic and Social Regeneration – supporting enterprise across rural England, but targeting greater resources at areas of greatest need</p>	Rural issues should be taken into account in relevant parts of the LDD and SA/SEA.

<p>Social Justice for All – tackling rural social exclusion wherever it occurs and providing fair access to services and opportunities for all rural people</p> <p>Enhancing the Value of our countryside - protecting the natural environment for this and future generations</p>	
<p>Choosing Health: making Healthier Choices Easier - Health White Paper (2004)</p>	
<p>This White Paper sets out the key principles for supporting the public to make healthier and more informed choices in regards to their health. The Government will provide information and practical support to get people motivated and improve emotional wellbeing and access to services so that healthy choices are easier to make. This strategy has 3 underpinning principles: informed choice, personalisation and working together.</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets, Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>Set out priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reducing the numbers of people who smoke Reducing obesity and improving diet and nutrition Increasing exercise Encouraging sensible drinking Improving sexual health Improving mental health 	<p>Promoting healthier lifestyles should be one of the objectives of LDD and SA/SEA.</p>
<p>Securing the Future – UK Government Sustainable Development Strategy (2005)</p>	
<p>This strategy aims to promote sustainable development. It contains</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five principles (with a more explicit focus on environmental limits) Four agreed priorities (sustainable consumption and production, climate change, natural resource production and sustainable communities) A new indicator set with new indicators such as on well being 	
<p>Objectives, Targets, Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>The new objectives included within the strategy are:</p>	<p>To implement the new strategy the LDD should aim to promote sustainable development wherever</p>

<p>Living within environmental limits</p> <p>Promoting good governance</p> <p>Using sound science responsibly</p>	<p>possible.</p>
<p>Sustainable Communities: Building for the Future - Communities Plan (2003)</p>	
<p>The Plan sets out a long-term programme of action for delivering sustainable communities in both urban and rural areas. It aims to tackle housing supply issues in the South East, low demand in other parts of the country, and the quality of our public spaces.</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets, Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>To translate Regional Planning Guidance in a way that increases delivery and targets for brown field development; affordable housing issues; in rolling forward annual new housing provision; identifies strategic employment locations; clearly defines transport priorities; addresses waste and renewable energy and reinforces urban and rural renaissance.</p>	<p>Regional aspirations should feed directly into the LDD and other plans, issues such as brownfield development should be tackled within the LDD.</p> <p>The SA topics concerned with these issues are human health, population, accessibility (which increases housing demand) and townscape.</p>
<p>Homes for the Future: More Affordable, More Sustainable – Housing Green Paper (CLG, July 2007)</p>	
<p>The Housing Green Paper sets out the Government’s plans for delivering more affordable housing to contribute to their target of 3 million new homes by 2020. It looks at issues such as identifying and using land for development, social housing, sustainable homes and affordability.</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets and Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>Vision:</p> <p>“We want everyone to have access to a decent home at a price they can afford, in a place where they want to live and work. Good quality, affordable housing enables stable and secure family lives: we are all healthier, happier and wealthier when we have decent homes close to schools, healthcare and transport links.”</p> <p>Objectives and Targets:</p> <p>The strategy has 3 overarching objectives within which are set out targets and sub-objectives:</p> <p>More homes to meet growing demand;</p>	<p>The LDD will need to ensure housing development planned for the Borough meets affordable homes and sustainable community objectives.</p>

<p>3 million new homes by 2020, 2 million of which by 2016</p> <p>more social and shared ownership homes to be delivered in rural areas/villages</p> <p>direct extra resources to those councils who are delivering high levels of housing and to those councils who have identified at least 5 years worth of sites ready for development</p> <p>200,000 new homes to be delivered on surplus public sector land by 2016</p> <p>Well-designed and greener homes, linked to good schools, transport and healthcare;</p> <p>New procedures for councils and Government departments to plan for new schools, new health facilities and improved transport facilities</p> <p>Proposed Planning-gain Supplement Bill – to ensure that local communities benefit from new developments</p> <p>Increase protection of the environment by cutting carbon emissions and all new homes to be zero carbon from 2016</p> <p>Strengthen building regulations by 25% in 2010 and by 44% in 2013 to set the standards for greener homes</p> <p>Set new minimum standards for water use in new homes cutting average water use by almost 20%.</p> <p>Eliminate poorly-designed new housing, and make good and very good new development the norm</p> <p>More affordable homes to buy or rent.</p> <p>Develop more affordable homes both to rent and to buy, including increasing provision of family housing</p> <p>£8 billion programme for affordable housing in 2008-11</p> <p>At least 70,000 more affordable homes a year by 2010–11</p> <p>At least 45,000 new social homes a year by 2010-11</p> <p>Over 25,000 shared ownership and shared equity homes a year</p>	
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The First Soil Action Plan for England, 2004-2006 (DEFRA, 2004)	
The Action Plan contains 52 actions on issues ranging from soil management on farms to soils in the planning system, soils and biodiversity, contamination of soils and the role of soils in conserving cultural heritage and landscape. All of the actions make a step towards more sustainable soil use and protection.	
Objectives, Targets and Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>The actions proposed in this plan work towards a common vision that recognises the several vital functions that soils perform for society.</p> <p>The vision is to ensure that England's soils will be protected and managed to optimize the varied functions that soils perform for society (e.g. supporting agriculture and forestry, protecting cultural heritage, supporting biodiversity, as a platform for construction), in keeping with the principles of sustainable development and on the basis of sound evidence.</p> <p>In order to achieve this vision, the aims are to ensure:</p> <p>Soil managers will look after their soils with a view both to their own and society's short-term needs and to the interests of future generations;</p> <p>The regulatory, legislative and political framework will provide appropriate protection of soil as an irreplaceable natural resource and empower and encourage people with soil to manage it properly;</p> <p>A better understanding of, and access to, information on the state of our soils and the physical, chemical and biological processes which operate on and within them.</p>	<p>The LDD should ensure that consideration is given to the Government's objectives and measures for soil protection. Where appropriate these plans can contain policies for the sustainable use of soils. Soil is also important for the SA and it is specifically referred to in the SEA Directive.</p>
Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act (2006)	
The Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act is designed to help achieve a rich and diverse natural environment and thriving rural communities. The Act also created the Natural England to act as a champion for the natural environment. Section 40 of which places a Biodiversity Duty on all public bodies (including the Council), to have due regard for conserving biodiversity. This includes restoring or enhancing a population or habitat.	
Objectives, Targets and Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
No objectives or targets	The LDD should ensure that Local Biodiversity species and habitats are considered in planning.

Regional

Sustainable Development Framework for the East of England (2001)	
This strategy aims to improve the quality of life for the people of the East of England which is sustainable for the long-term future.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Achieve economic growth in a balanced way</p> <p>Spread the benefits of growth more equally</p> <p>Protect and enhance the quality of the region's natural and built environment</p> <p>Manage the use of resources sustainably and innovatively</p> <p>The framework identifies the 21 key sustainability issues for the region. It sets out key objectives, together with context, regional strengths and challenges for each issue.</p> <p>The framework does not contain quantified targets, but does include 84 indicators.</p>	<p>The outlined regional issues and objectives should inform the development of the LDD SA Framework.</p> <p>The indicators proposed should be used as LDD SA indicators.</p>
Our Environment, Our Future – The Regional Environmental Strategy for the East of England (2003)	
The document sets out the Environment Strategy for the East of England and provides a description of the current state of the following topics: landscape and natural environment, biodiversity, historic environment, built environment.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>It identifies 5 key environmental challenges for the region and suggests strategic aims for each of those:</p> <p>Delivering sustainable patterns and forms of development</p> <p>Meeting the challenges and opportunities of climate change</p> <p>Ensuring environmental sustainability in the economy</p> <p>Enhancing environmental capital</p> <p>Achieving sustainable lifestyles</p> <p>The strategy does not contain quantified targets, but does suggest an indicator for each key action within</p>	<p>The LDD and SA should take notice of the outlined challenges and strategic aims by incorporating them as objectives and setting out appropriate measures.</p> <p>The suggested indicators could be adopted as SA indicators.</p>

each strategic aim.	
The East of England Regional Woodland Strategy – ‘Woodland for Life’ (2003)	
This strategy sets out a long term strategy for the planting and management of forests.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>The vision for woodland and forestry in the East of England is that “trees and woodland are recognised as bringing high quality sustainable benefits to all who live and work in the East of England”</p> <p>Objectives</p> <p>The Strategy sets out 6 themes and identifies aims and actions under each one:</p> <p>Quality of Life: improved health and well-being for all the people of the East of England, through supporting recreation and access, raising health awareness, enhancing landscape and supporting community engagement.</p> <p>Spatial Planning: make the East of England a sustainable, well-designed and attractive place in which people will choose to live and work, by addressing site restoration, design of urban environments, green road corridors, and flooding issues.</p> <p>Economic Development: make the East of England a creative and competitive economy, using resources sustainably, including addressing the tourism industry, and sustainable timber production.</p> <p>Renewable Energy: increasing the proportion of regional energy that comes from renewable sources by promoting the use of wood for heat generation.</p> <p>Education and Learning: improve opportunities for lifelong learning and skills development for everyone in the East of England.</p> <p>Natural Environment: aim for a high quality environment that is protected and enhanced, by adapting to climate change, protecting soils, water supply and quality, and enhancing biodiversity.</p>	<p>The LDD should include policies that aim to protect and enhance woodland and ensure development would not adversely affect the quantity or quality of woodland.</p>
Regional Social Strategy: A strategy to achieve a fair and inclusive society in the East of England (launched in May 2004)	
The Regional Social Strategy sets out the vision, objectives and means for achieving a fair and inclusive society in the East of England. It identifies regional priorities, policies and actions to support local activity and provides a framework for tackling social exclusion in the region.	

Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>The Regional Social Strategy identifies 6 strategic objectives as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To tackle poverty and reduce income inequalities To promote access to work, tackle low pay and improve conditions of work To improve the life chances of children from disadvantaged families To improve the life chances of adults through learning and skills development To promote active ageing and reduce social exclusion of older people To support the development of sustainable communities To improve access to services, especially for disadvantaged groups To develop social networks, community assets and promote community cohesion <p>The strategy contains many quantified targets based on existing PSA targets.</p>	<p>The LDD and SA should incorporate those objectives and set out appropriate measures.</p>
A Shared Vision: The regional economic strategy of the East of England (formally released on 1 December 2004)	
<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 pockets of our people, in order to improve the quality of life of all who live and work here.’</p>	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>It identifies some key challenges which need to be addressed in order to achieve this vision. In addition, some key strategic goals are set out, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improving skills base Improving competitiveness, productivity and entrepreneurship Providing high quality places to live, work and visit Tackling social exclusion Promote efficient resource use 	<p>The LDD should aim implement this strategy locally whilst avoiding adverse environmental impacts. Some of strategic goals could be adopted as SA/SEA objectives.</p>

The London Plan (Draft Published for Consultation 2010)	
Although Hertfordshire is located in the East of England region, parts of it is adjunct to both the South East and the London Region. The London Plan forms the spatial development strategy for Greater London.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
Amongst others the London Plan aims to accommodate London's growth within its boundaries.	The SA should investigate potential indirect and/or cumulative impacts which stem from the neighbouring regions.
Sustainable Futures: The Integrated Regional Strategy for the East of England (2005)	
The Integrated Regional Strategy (IRS) is an EERA led strategic initiative, the vision for which is: 'to improve the quality of life for everyone who lives or works in the East of England'. It aims to promote greater regional integration.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Amongst others the strategy states the following outcomes:</p> <p>Strong, inclusive, healthy and culturally rich communities</p> <p>A high quality and diverse natural and built environment</p> <p>A more resource-efficient region</p> <p>Some priorities are identified for the region:</p> <p>Achieve high quality and sustainable solutions in growth and other areas</p> <p>Address the causes and implications of persistent deprivation and social exclusion</p> <p>Increase efficiency of resource use and the management of the region's distinctive natural and built environmental assets</p> <p>The IRS includes no specific targets.</p>	The LDD and accompanying the SA/SEA should try to contribute to these outcomes.

Creating Sustainable Communities in the East of England (2005)	
This document implements the national Sustainable Communities Strategy.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Key issues for the region are identified as:</p> <p>Addressing problems of high and rapidly rising house prices</p> <p>Improving transport infrastructure</p> <p>Ensuring that the benefits of economic growth are spread across the region</p> <p>Addressing the problem of scarce water resources and sea level rise</p> <p>The document does not set new targets or indicators.</p>	Both the LDD and SA should take these objectives into account when setting out plan objectives and the SA framework.
Towns and Cities – Strategy and Action Plan: Urban Renaissance in the East of England (2003)	
This strategy and action plan aims to implement the Government’s Urban White Paper and Sustainable Communities Plan in the East of England.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>It has the same objectives as the urban White Paper, supplemented by the objective that people and organisations should possess the right skills to deliver an urban renaissance.</p> <p>The strategy contains no specific targets but it suggests some indicators.</p>	The LDD should aim to help delivering an urban renaissance by setting out appropriate measures. Promoting an urban renaissance could have beneficial environmental impacts, such as less development on previously underdeveloped sites, which could be investigated as part of the SA.
Chilterns ANOB Management Strategy: The Framework for Action 2002-2007	
Management and policy framework for protecting and enhancing the Chilterns AONB. Contains policies and actions which need to be reflected in LDDs.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
Measures to safeguard, protect and enhance the Chilterns.	Due to the close proximity to the ANOB special regards should be paid to possible indirect impacts stemming from surrounding areas.

A Housing Strategy for the London Commuter Belt Sub-Region 2005-2008	
The London Commuter Belt Sub- Region (LCBSR) is the largest of the nine sub-regions in the East region, and includes parts of Hertfordshire.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>This sub regional housing strategy sets out the following vision</p> <p>To enable growth, to provide for the needs of homeless people and those who require affordable housing, whilst protecting the environment</p> <p>To create and maintain sustainable communities and achieve social inclusion</p>	The LDD should aim to contribute to this vision.
River Basin Management Plan: Thames River Basin District (2009)	
This plan considers the pressures facing the water environment in the Thames Basin district and actions that will address them. It has been prepared under the Water Framework Directive and is the first of a series of six year planning cycles.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
By 2015, 22% of surface waters (i.e. 123 water bodies) will show an improvement for one or more of the elements measured. This translates to 1,737 kilometres of river or canal improved.	The LDD should aim to contribute to this target.

Local (County)

Hertfordshire Structure Plan 1991-2011	
The Hertfordshire Structure Plan sets out the broad directions in which Hertfordshire should change and develop in the future. It covers the period to 2011 and the Council has undertaken technical work to decide what changes (termed 'alterations') may be needed to roll the plan forward another five years to 2016.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Some of the general aims of the plan are:</p> <p>Encourage economic growth consistent with environmental constraints</p> <p>Make provision for the housing and social needs of people in ways which minimise the need to travel</p> <p>Improve people's quality of life</p> <p>Avoid pollution in all its forms, in particular pollution of ground and surface water resources</p> <p>Contain road traffic growth and encourage walking, cycling and greater use of passenger transport</p> <p>Conserve the County's critical capital and other important environmental assets, including its landscape, ecological, built and archaeological heritage, and safeguard the County's area of Green Belt</p> <p>Conserve natural resources, in particular the County's best and most versatile agricultural land</p> <p>Minimise resource depletion and make the most efficient use of land, minerals, buildings, energy, water and waste</p>	The LDD and the SA should take these objectives into account e.g. in the form of plan or SA/SEA objectives.
A 50 Year Vision for the Wildlife and Natural Habitats of Hertfordshire (1998)	
The Hertfordshire BAP was drawn up in response to the UK Biodiversity Action Plan which sets out detailed action plans for threatened habitats and species nationwide. It evaluates the status of habitats and species in the county and identifies key habitats and species of national and local significance and areas of high biodiversity.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Amongst others the following objectives are set out:</p> <p>To produce an overview of the present knowledge of the biodiversity resource in the county</p>	Biodiversity is a key aspect which has to be considered in the LDD and SA process. Relevant objectives and indicators should be defined and appropriate baseline

<p>To prepare a series of prioritised habitat action plans</p> <p>To identify a list of priority species for the preparation of action plans</p>	<p>data collated.</p>
<p>Hertfordshire Waste Local Plan 1995-2005 (1999)</p>	
<p>This plan sets out the waste strategy for Hertfordshire until 2005 with a possible extension to 2007.</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets, Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>Some of the aims and objectives of the Waste Local Plan are:</p> <p>To facilitate the provision of sufficient waste management facilities</p> <p>To locate waste recycling, handling and reduction facilities as close as practicable to the origin of waste</p> <p>To reduce the overall demand for resources (including land)</p> <p>To facilitate the increased use of recycled waste materials as aggregate in Hertfordshire</p> <p>To minimise the impact of waste management development on the natural and built environment</p> <p>To maximise the recovery of value (including energy) from waste, where this represents the Best Practicable Environmental Option</p> <p>To adopt the Best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO) when considering alternative forms of waste management development</p>	<p>Waste reduction, recycling and others means to move up the waste hierarchy can lead to greater resource efficiency and should be addressed and promoted in the LDD. Reducing waste, increasing recycling and improving resource efficiency should be included as SA/SEA objective.</p>
<p>Hertfordshire Economic Development Strategy 2009 – 2021</p>	
<p>The strategy outlines how the county will build on its strengths and opportunities, and meet the challenges it faces. It recognises the need to market Hertfordshire's advantages to businesses and inward investors. It charts the course by which partners will work together to create more jobs, greater prosperity and increased opportunity for the people of Hertfordshire. It will direct the activities and investment of key partners, regional and national agencies, particularly in areas such as transport and skills that are key drivers of regional productivity growth. It will identify and promote opportunities for collaboration between public, private and third sector organisations in order to promote learning and skills opportunities, and identify and address gaps in provision, especially for those with low level skills.</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets, Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>The five key economic objectives are;</p>	<p>The Sites Allocation LDD can play an important role in helping to deliver the objectives of this strategy by</p>

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Creating a vibrant, low carbon economy 2. Stimulating enterprise, innovation and inward investment 3. Developing a well-skilled workforce 4. Providing quality locations and infrastructure 5. Creating Vibrant Towns and Vibrant Communities 	<p>ensuring policy guides and facilitates development required to support economic growth which can be delivered in the most sustainable way.</p>
<p>The Hertfordshire Environmental Strategy (2001)</p>	
<p>This document demonstrates what the principles are that underpin the term sustainability development in Hertfordshire and the process through which these principles are arrived at. It also demonstrates how these principles relate to the everyday actions, practices, and management of public sector organisations within the County.</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets, Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>The strategy sets out six generic sustainability principles which a supplemented with more specific objectives</p> <p>A better quality of life</p> <p>Social progress which recognises the needs of everyone</p> <p>Effective protection of the environment</p> <p>Prudent use of natural resources</p> <p>Maintenance of high levels of economic growth and employment so that everyone can share in high living standards and greater job opportunities</p>	<p>The LDD and its supporting documents should aim to contribute to the achievements of these principles.</p> <p>The SA/SEA process should adopt them as objectives and considering supplementing them with sub objectives, relevant indicators and baseline information.</p>
<p>Hertfordshire Minerals Local Plan Review (2001)</p>	
<p>The Hertfordshire Minerals Local Plan has now been through several stages of review and public consultation. A public inquiry was held in November and December 2004 to hear unresolved objections made to the First and Second Deposit Drafts.</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets, Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>So far, work on the Review of the Plan has included, amongst others) adopting a Framework for a site selection strategy and testing resource blocks against an initial series of environmental and other</p>	<p>Minerals extraction can potentially have a wide range of social, economic and environmental impacts and</p>

constraints (known as “sieving”) to identify areas suitable for further investigation as potential sites for mineral extraction.	should be addressed and evaluated in relevant parts for the LDD and SA/SEA.
Rural Hertfordshire – an agenda for action 2001	
The Hertfordshire Rural Forum (HRF) is a large informal grouping of organisations from the public, private and voluntary sectors which share a common interest in the wellbeing and future of the county’s rural communities and environment. This document sets out the Forum’s rural agenda to be addressed over the 4 year period from 2001-2005.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
The agenda identifies key issues within 9 ‘Rural Strands’: housing, transport/traffic, rural economy, social exclusion, biodiversity/landscape, access to services, community identity and involvement, needs of young people, recreational pressures and opportunities.	Rural issues should be taken into account in relevant parts of the LDD and SA/SEA.
Enjoy! A Cultural Strategy for Hertfordshire (2002)	
This strategy provides the plan for development in the areas defined as ‘culture’ by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport over the next five years.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
The aim of Hertfordshire’s cultural strategy is to offer everyone the opportunity to improve the quality of their lives by being able to access high-quality cultural and leisure activities.	Access to leisure and culture can contribute significantly to the overall quality of life and therefore to sustainable development. Improving access (in a sustainable manner) to these facilities should therefore be an aim of relevant parts of the LDD and SA/SEA.
‘Building Futures: A Hertfordshire guide to promoting sustainability in development’	
This guide sets out the way in which we design places and the buildings within them is fundamental not only to creating environments that communities value, but also to ensuring we reduce our use of resources and the environmental impact of new development.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
The aim of the guide is to help planners, developers and designers realise the full potential of development schemes and provide a resource to support the delivery of high quality, sustainable design for those bringing forward development proposals.	Each design issue should be taken into account in relevant parts of the LDD and SA/SEA.

<p>The document gives guidance and solutions for the following topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Air Climate Change Adaptation Design Energy and Climate Change Landscape and Biodiversity Materials Noise Safety Waste Water 	
Hertfordshire Town Renaissance Campaign	
This report documents the consultation exercise on urban development issues in Hertfordshire, and particularly attitudes and issues associated with brownfield development.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
No objects or targets were set.	The expressed views of the public could be taken into account as part of the LDD and SA/SEA process.
Hertfordshire Waste Strategy 2002-2024	
This joint municipal waste management strategy for Hertfordshire sets out how waste problems are to be addressed over the next 2 decades.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
The strategy includes objectives and targets, such as to minimise waste and to recycle and/or compost 50% of the county's household waste by 2012.	Waste reduction and recycling can lead to greater resource efficiency and should be addressed and promoted in the LDD. Reducing waste, increasing

	recycling and improving resource efficiency should be included as SA/SEA objective.
Hertfordshire Sustainability Guide (2003)	
The main purpose of the guide is to provide advice and guidance on the ways in which development can be made more sustainable . It will be an important document for developers in preparing development proposals, for local authorities and other agencies in assessing those proposals and by other agencies and individuals with an interest in development in the County. The guide is set out under 3 key themes: Sustainable communities, economic vitality and Healthy environment.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Each theme is divided into a number of topics with more detailed aims, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring that everyone has a Decent Home Tackling the Causes of Poverty and Social Exclusion Creating Safe Communities Promoting Healthier Lifestyles Improving Access to Culture and the Arts Making Travel and Access more Sustainable Engaging the Community Enhancing Town Centre and Market Town Vitality Sustaining a Vibrant Local Economy Ensuring Employment and Lifelong Learning Supplying and Using Energy Sustainably educing Pollution Dealing with Resources more Sustainably Safeguarding Water Resources and Minimising Flood Risk 	<p>These aims are key aspects of sustainable development and should be taken into account when drawing up the LDD. Furthermore, they should be adopted as SA/SEA objectives.</p>

Protecting and Enhancing Biodiversity Protecting, Providing and Improving Open Spaces Making Efficient Use of Land, Buildings and Materials Protecting and Enhancing Landscape and Townscape Character and Cultural Heritage	
The Hertfordshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework and Scheme (2005)	
This document sets out the core strategy and planning policies for minerals and waste in the county. It will consist of a number of documents and is effectively a folder of documents which will comprise: Development Plan Documents (DPDs), Supplementary Planning Documents (SPDs), A Statement of Community Involvement (SCI), the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme (MWDS) and the Annual Monitoring Report.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
To ensure that there is a smooth transition from the old planning system to the new, the existing policies in the Hertfordshire Structure Plan will still apply until September 2007 or until the new East of England Plan is formally adopted (whichever is first).	Waste and resource issues are key aspects of sustainable development and should be considered in the LDD and SA/SEA process.
Hertfordshire LTP 2006/07 – 2010/11	
The LTP sets out a transport strategy for Hertfordshire for the next 5 years. It currently undergoes public consultation.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
The key objectives of the LTP are: To improve safety for all To obtain the best use of the existing network To manage the growth of transport To develop an efficient, safe, affordable and enhanced transport system which is attractive, reliable, integrated and makes best use of resources 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	Improving accessibility and reducing the need for travel are main themes and should be considered as part of the LDD and SA process.

<p>To ensure that the transport system contributes towards sustainable economic development</p> <p>To mitigate the effect of the transport system on the built and natural environment and on personal health</p> <p>To raise awareness and encourage use of more sustainable modes of transport</p> <p>To reduce the need for the movement of people and goods through integrated land use planning</p>	
<p>London Arc Employment Land Study (2009)</p>	
<p>This study will form part of the evidence base for the Three Rivers Local Development Document. Its purpose is to provide a sub-regional overview of future requirements for employment land, comprising factories, warehouses and offices, in the plan period 2021.</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets, Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>This study partially updates the Three Rivers employment land study and provides a broad overview across the study area as a whole.</p> <p>This study, like any employment land study, addresses four main questions:</p> <p>How much land will be required for employment land uses, comprising factories, warehouses and offices, in the plan period to 2021 and beyond?</p> <p>What new land, if any, should the planning authorities provide for these uses</p> <p>What existing employment sites, if any, should be allowed to transfer to other uses</p> <p>What other policy interventions, if any, are needed to bring forward employment land.</p> <p>The spatial strategy for the London Arc has two emphases:</p> <p>Retention of the Green Belt;</p> <p>Urban regeneration and greater sustainability, particularly through use of non-car modes of transport.</p> <p>An important question for Three Rivers is the surplus of office space and how to deal with this. There is also high demand for small business units.</p>	<p>The SA needs to take these questions and issues on board as they effect economic development within the study area.</p>
<p>Veolia Water Central Water Resources Management Plan (2010)</p>	
<p>Document presents Veolia's update following their draft Management Plan of 2009. It presents ideas for resource management- both demand side and supply</p>	

side interventions. The report indicates that due to a recent price review, the metering and leakage plans have been deferred.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>To make the best use of our resources through improving and enhancing their performance and to continue to reduce leakage;</p> <p>To meter systematically after 2014 to reduce installation costs and to minimise disruption to local communities to achieve about 90% meter penetration by 2030 to minimise environmental impacts;</p> <p>To offer water efficiency advice and water saving devices to our customers;</p> <p>To investigate new methods of charging for water in the future so as to encourage more efficient use of water.</p> <p>To maintain a comprehensive programme of studies, working with other water companies to ensure we can bring forward investment in new resources should the need arise.</p>	<p>The SA should take into account the implications of the Plan on the Sites Allocation LDD and the wider LDD.</p>
Hertfordshire Sustainable Communities Strategy – Hertfordshire 2021: A Brighter Future	
This Sustainable Community Strategy is about Hertfordshire; its people and its places, and what it means to live and work in the County.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>The community strategy identified the following as key areas of concern for improvement:</p> <p>Jobs, Prosperity and Skills</p> <p>Safer and Stronger Communities</p> <p>Children and Young People</p> <p>An Ageing Population</p> <p>Health and Wellbeing</p> <p>Housing, Affordable Housing and Quality Neighbourhoods</p> <p>Transport and Access ; Sustaining Hertfordshire's Unique Character and Quality of Life</p> <p>Promoting Sustainable Development</p>	<p>The Sites Allocation LDD should consider how it can help to rectify these areas of concern.</p>

Thames Region Catchment Flood Management Plan (CFMP) (2007)	
The Catchment Flood Management Plan sets out a sustainable direction for managing fluvial flood risk within the Thames region for the next 50 to 100 years. It provides details on the physical characteristics of the region; details on the hydrology of the region and flooding history; an assessment of flood risk across the region; and an assessment of how this flood risk could change in the future.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>The CFMP involves new approaches to flood risk management and will be used to guide future investment, policies and flood risk management.</p> <p>The CFMP's action plan highlights work necessary to manage flood risk in the Thames Region and is based on the different types of catchments present in the region.</p>	The SA and LDD should have regard to the CFMP and take into consideration the issues associated with flood risk.
The Colne Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy (2007)	
This strategy sets out how the Environment Agency will manage water resources in the catchment until 2014 and provides information about how they will manage existing abstraction licences and the availability of water for further abstraction.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
Aim to reduce the level of abstraction by the equivalent of 5 Ml/d over the six year CAM cycle.	The LDD should aim to contribute this target.
Hertfordshire Infrastructure and Investment Strategy (2010)	
This study was to establish an evidence base for the LDD and to address the infrastructure implications of the RSS, as well as to develop an Infrastructure Funding Model for the County.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>The study has many objectives such as to inform the public sector agencies, and utility providers on future service planning; to establish an Infrastructure Funding Model; to provide a review of the infrastructure requirements at strategic growth locations and more.</p> <p>The study recommends in the short term, a need for discussion among number of key agencies on infrastructure provision, funding and management of the Infrastructure Levy revenue. In the longer term it recommends the infrastructure planning needs and the Infrastructure Levy needs to be built into the development plans.</p>	The SA should take into consideration infrastructure capacity implications as well as the possibility of realistic provision of appropriate infrastructure whilst assessing policies, particularly spatial plans/ policies.

Local (District) – Three Rivers DC

Level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment: Dacorum, St Albans, Three Rivers and Watford (2007)	
The risk of flooding posed to properties in the Three Rivers area arises from a number of sources including river, surface water, sewers and groundwater. The SFRA was carried out in accordance with Planning Policy Statement 25 and the Thames Catchment Flood Management Plan (2007)	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>The outputs of the SFRA will enable Three Rivers to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prepare appropriate policies for the management of flood risk; Inform the sustainability appraisal so that flood risk is taken into account of, when considering options and in the preparation of strategic land use policies; Identify the level of detail required for site-specific Flood Risk Assessments (FRAs), and Determine the acceptability of flood risk in relation to emergency planning capability. <p>Three Rivers Council needs to apply the Sequential Test to all sites within ‘high’ and ‘medium’ risk flood zones to demonstrate that there are no reasonably available sites in areas with less risk of flooding that would be appropriate to the type of development of land use proposed.</p> <p>Where the need to apply the Exceptional Test is identified, if the Council consider that there is an insufficient number of suitable sites for development, the scope of the SFRA could be widened to a Level2 assessment.</p>	<p>A Supplementary Planning Document should be developed in light of suggested policies and guidance note, outlining the minimum requirement of the Environment Agency in response to PPS25.</p>
<i>Level 2 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, Three Rivers District Council (January 2012)</i>	
The Level 2 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) provides detailed flood risk assessment in respect to 17 potential development sites that lie within flood risk areas. However, the report recognizes that due to data availability it was not possible to achieve all aspects of the level 2 assessment.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Principal purpose of L2 SFRA is to facilitate (and if possible avoid by effective allocation of land uses within a site) the application of the Exception Test. Due to the lack of data at the time of production of the SFRA it will be necessary for further modeling to be undertaken prior to or as part of the planning application process.</p>	<p>Findings of the SFRA will inform prediction of impacts of the proposals on the flood risk sustainability objective.</p>

<p>Analysis of the sites put forward throughout the SFRA indicated that all sites put forward within the site allocations LDD may be suitable for redevelopment based on the proposed land uses, provided that the allocations of land uses (based on different levels of vulnerability in relation to flood risk) within each site follow the recommendations put forward within the SFRA. Some sites are however recommended to be only provisionally allocated pending further assessment undertaken.</p>	
<p><i>Three Rivers Core Strategy 2011-2026</i></p>	
<p>The Core Strategy sets out in broad terms how the Council will plan for, and deal with, future development in Three Rivers. It contains important policies to help address the pressing need for affordable housing and sufficient services such as schooling in the area as well as promoting more sustainable development in general.</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets, Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>The spatial objectives for the Core Strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To ensure that development in Three Rivers recognises and safeguards the • District’s distinctive character of small towns and villages interspersed with attractive countryside and Green Belt, through sustainable patterns of development • To make efficient use of previously developed land • To reduce impacts on the environment by reducing waste, pollution and energy consumption, by promoting the use of renewable energy, and the conservation of water resources and by designing development to take into account future changes to the climate • To balance the community’s need for future homes and jobs by providing sufficient land to meet a range of local housing needs and to maintain a prosperous local economy • To increase levels of affordable housing in the District, prioritising the provision of social rented and larger family-sized homes • To facilitate the provision of services and infrastructure to meet the needs of existing development and new development by working on cross-boundary issues with adjoining authorities, service providers and the development industry To deliver improved and more integrated transport systems and reduce the need to travel by locating development in accessible locations • To maintain and enhance the viability, vitality and variety of shops and services within the Principal Town and Key Centres and retain shops and services in other smaller settlements 	<p>The Sites Allocation LDD should fully consider the policies and aims of the Core Strategy and ensure there is no conflict between the LDDs.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To conserve and enhance the countryside and the diversity of landscapes, wildlife and habitats in the District within a coherent network of Green Infrastructure to support the natural environment and human health • To conserve and enhance the historic environment by resisting the loss of, or damage to, heritage assets including important buildings and to ensure that new development respects the unique character and identity of the towns and villages in the District • To provide accessible and varied opportunities for leisure, arts, sport and recreational activities in order to promote healthy lifestyles • To promote safety and security as a high priority in the design of new developments in order to create attractive and safe places in which to live, work and play <p>Policy CP1 – Overarching Sustainable Development Policy All development in Three Rivers will contribute to the sustainability of the District. This means taking into account the need to:</p> <p>a) Tackle climate change by reducing carbon emissions, increasing energy and water efficiency of buildings, promoting the use of renewable energy systems, and using other natural resources wisely, including through the use of sustainable building materials</p> <p>b) Avoid development in areas at risk from flooding</p>	
<p>Three Rivers Local Plan 1996-2011</p>	
<p>The strategy of this Local Plan is to make provision for the needs of those living and working in the district, to protect and enhance the District’s towns and countryside, and to provide for development whilst taking into account local and wider impacts.</p> <p>The Core Strategy, adopted in 2011 has partially replaced the Local Plan. The majority of policies were saved following the Secretary of State's Direction in September 2007 with the exception of 12 policies and a further 25 policies have now been superseded by the adoption of the Core Strategy on the 17 October 2011.</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets, Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>The Sustainability Aims of this plan relevant to the District:</p> <p>Spatial Aims:</p> <p>Maintain the existing settlement pattern and the Green Belt.</p> <p>Concentrate development in the main towns (in so far as the quality of the urban environment can be</p>	<p>Land use and the physical environment will be key components within the LDD, and as the Local Plan will run till 2011, LDD should seek to integrate the Local Plan aims within it where relevant.</p> <p>The Local Plan has a strong sustainability element,</p>

<p>maintained and improved).</p> <p>General Aims for Development:</p> <p>Ensure that development does not adversely affect the environment.</p> <p>Discourage use of the private car.</p> <p>Encourage a high standard of design.</p> <p>Environmental Aims:</p> <p>Maintain and enhance the natural environment and avoid depletion and pollution of resources.</p> <p>Protect critical natural habitats and wildlife.</p> <p>Protect and provide open space within urban areas.</p> <p>Protect and enhance critical elements of the historic environment, such as Listed Buildings, historic landscapes and archaeological remains.</p> <p>Meeting Community Needs:</p> <p>Make provision for the new homes needed and associated community and leisure facilities.</p> <p>Ensure the provision of land for employment uses.</p> <p>Seek enhancement of towns and village centres.</p> <p>Increase accessibility by means other than the motor car.</p> <p>Maintain the character of the different settlements of the District.</p> <p>The policies were developed directly from these aims.</p>	<p>and the aims listed to the left are meant to support this aim. Bearing this in mind, these should be used as a key source when informing and populating the SA framework.</p> <p>The SA should ensure that the economic and social aims are not given precedence at the expense of the environmental aims, i.e. ensure that the aims are implemented in a sustainable way.</p>
<p>Strategic Plan Three Rivers District Council 2005-2008 (December 2004)</p>	
<p>The 2005/08 Strategic Plan brings together the high level, medium to long-term objectives which the Council considers its priorities for the District. They are informed by and support the priorities of the Three Rivers Community Plan, which was developed by a range of public and voluntary sector partners in order to bring about a whole range of improvements across the district. The TRDC plan focuses on those areas where the Council has a lead role, or can play a key part in delivering or influencing the outcomes.</p>	

Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>The plan outlines short, medium and long term actions to achieve the vision of: Making Three Rivers a vibrant place to live, work and prosper</p> <p>It identifies the following strategic objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sustainable Communities 2. Safer Communities 3. Healthier Communities 4. Prosperous Communities 	<p>Most of the actions under the objective of Sustainable Communities are directly relevant to the TRDC LDD.</p> <p>Many of the actions proposed are relevant to sustainable development. The SA framework should be checked against the plan to ensure that all relevant issues have been considered.</p>
Three Rivers Cultural Strategy 2002 - 2007	
<p>The DCMS (Department of Culture Media and Sport) launched guidelines in 2000 for local authorities on the development of local cultural strategies. This guidance takes advantage of the fact that local authorities, with their unique position as community leaders, are in the best position to develop cultural strategies. Three Rivers District Council has worked in partnership with Hertfordshire County Council and the local Parish Councils on the production and implementation of the strategy. Additionally, the possession of a local cultural strategy is one of the local authority key best value performance indicators.</p>	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Key policies in the Strategy include: -</p> <p>to ensure that all aspects of the cultural policies, services and facilities are delivered fairly;</p> <p>to create employment opportunities in the Cultural industries;</p> <p>to create attractive environments for people in which to live; and</p> <p>to attract visitors to the district through the promotion of cultural opportunities.</p>	<p>The Cultural Strategy is a very important and wide-ranging policy document which will influence the LDD, particularly in terms of the policies referred to and the following principal activities that it covers:</p> <p>Sport and Active Recreation.</p> <p>Arts and Entertainment.</p> <p>Tourism and Heritage.</p> <p>Informal Recreation (including Children’s Play, Parks, Public Open Spaces, Woodlands).</p> <p>Social Activities.</p> <p>The SA should embrace These activities, which will</p>

	influence the development of the Sites Allocation LDD.
Three Rivers Housing Needs Survey Update 2003 (See also Housing Stock Options Appraisal below)	
A survey informing the Housing Strategy for Three Rivers DC.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Key objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To meet the community's needs for affordable housing. 2. To improve the quality and choice of homes available to those in need of affordable housing. 3. To prevent homelessness by ensuring clear and effective housing advice and to provide good quality services and support to homeless households. 4. To ensure that all housing in the District is of a decent standard and contributes to the good health of the community. 5. To ensure that high quality supported housing is available for those who need it most and where it is needed most within Three Rivers. 6. To deliver services that reflect the diversity of the local community 	<p>Directly relevant to LDD.</p> <p>The provision of decent, affordable housing is an essential element of sustainability that needs to be considered in the SA</p>
Three Rivers Housing Stock Options Appraisal (2005)	
Three Rivers DC has undergone the first phase of the Stock Options Appraisal process, which conclude that the Council is unable to generate the level of investment needed from the current resources to meet the standard.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>The Council has to consider which options will give the required level of investment to meet the Decent Homes Standard, and sustain the properties beyond the final target date of 2010. The recommendation is that this council should further consider the transfer of it's housing stock to either a specially created Housing Association, or consider becoming a subsidiary of an existing Housing Association as the only option that meets and maintains the Standard.</p> <p>The Council has resolved that it should investigate further the option of transferring it's stock to a</p>	<p>Outcomes need to be reflected in LDD.</p> <p>Implications of the final decision will need to be considered as part of the SA.</p>

housing association.	
Planning for Gypsy and Traveller Sites (2005)	
The Council commissioned this research in response to the emerging new legislation on the need to provide sites for gypsies and travellers.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
No specific objectives set.	The LDD will need to consider provision for Gypsy's and Travellers. The SA will assess the suitability of sites.
Home Energy Conservation Act (H.E.C.A) Progress Report (June 2001)	
A Report detailing Three Rivers DC progress towards implementing the requirements of the Act – and providing a strategy for addressing it.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Aims of the strategy are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To create housing conditions which provide affordable warmth. To reduce air pollution caused by the production and consumption of energy. To reduce the consumption of non-renewable fuel resources. To increase public awareness of energy use and its effect on the environment. To foster and facilitate the installation of energy efficiency measures in private sector properties. To operate positive policies for improving the energy efficiency of the Council's own housing stock. To promote changes in behaviour to reduce unnecessary energy consumption. To encourage the incorporation of energy efficiency measures in new build and refurbishment projects. To develop corporate working arrangements within the council, with landlords and other agencies to implement the strategy. To take account of financial and other personal circumstances when implementing this strategy and, 	<p>Mainly relevant to LDD for new build only.</p> <p>Improvement in the efficiency of energy use is fundamental to sustainability. Needs to be considered in the SA.</p>

further, by the creation of a Fuel Poverty Strategy.	
Three Rivers Biodiversity Action Plan (2003)	
<p>This local Biodiversity Action Plan is aimed at promoting integrated approaches towards effective biodiversity conservation and planning for sustainable development both within TRDC 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>	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>The Plan 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>'Local Biodiversity Action Plans link to the statutory planning process in two ways. Information generated by the local biodiversity plans can provide detailed information for revision of development plans, for example, the identification of High Biodiversity Areas. In addition, the statutory planning process can make a major contribution to achievement of the Local Biodiversity Action Plan targets, in particular through policies for site protection and enhancement and the creation of new habitats in appropriate locations.' <i>A 50 Year Vision for the Wildlife and Natural Habitats of Hertfordshire: BAP (April 1998)</i></p> <p>Biodiversity is a key aspect of sustainable development that needs to be included within the SA framework. The baseline review should include indicators of biodiversity.</p>
Water Cycle Study: Scoping Study (Dacorum Borough Council, St Albans City and District Council, Three Rivers District Council, Watford Borough Council, Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council 2010)	
<p>This WCS Scoping report has been conducted for the Local Planning Authority areas (LPA) of Dacorum Borough Council (DBC), St Albans City and District Council (SADC), Three Rivers District Council (TRDC), Watford Borough Council (WBC) and Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council (WHBC), located in the southwest of Hertfordshire in the East of England. A Water Cycle Study (WCS) is required to inform the preparation of Core Strategy and Site Allocation Documents, and ideally provide evidence to support any policies included in the Local Development Framework (LDD) that relate to water resources, supply</p>	

and sewerage, wastewater treatment, flood risk, water quality and the wider water environment.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Key objectives of the WCS Scoping phase are to:</p> <p>Define the study area and steering group;</p> <p>Identify existing and planned levels of water supply, taking account of available resources and consumption targets, to accommodate the planned levels of growth;</p> <p>Identify the capacity of existing trunk sewers and wastewater treatment works to handle wastewater over the period to 2031 whilst highlighting pinch points and other critical issues associated with wastewater treatment;</p> <p>Identify the likely ecological and water quality impacts of planned growth on receiving watercourses at the wastewater treatment works, against existing discharge consents, whilst taking account of the Water Framework Directive;</p> <p>Identify any significant impacts on river flows, hydrology and the quality of watercourses and aquifers in the strategy area whilst considering the potential impacts of climate change;</p> <p>Consider existing and potential flood risk, by linking into Strategic Flood Risk Assessment work already undertaken, whilst considering future work that needs to be undertaken by SADC and WBC regarding a Surface Water Management Plan;</p> <p>Identify any gaps in evidence in relation to proposed development, water drainage, water infrastructure, flood risk, water quality, water resource and ecological issues; and</p> <p>Recommend any further WCS work required, and provide the scope for such work.</p>	<p>The SA should take into account the implications of the Plan on the Water Cycle in Three Rivers and its neighbouring areas.</p>
Three Rivers Open Space. Sport and Recreation study (2005)	
<p>The purpose of the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study is to form a strategic and holistic plan for the provision of the full range of sport and recreation facilities in Three Rivers and for the use and management of open spaces.</p>	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>No specific objectives set.</p>	<p>Adequate long-term provision of sport and recreation facilities and open space needs to be considered in the</p>

	LDD. Access to sports and recreation facilities and to open spaces is an important QoL issue, both as a leisure activity and for health benefits. This should be considered in the SA framework.
Three Rivers District Council Playing Pitches Assessment Update, 2010	
Provides an update of the playing pitches in the borough in line with the PPG17.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
The specific objectives of this audit and assessment are to: _ Update the existing audit of outdoor sports facilities. _ Update the assessment of supply and demand for the facilities through targeted consultation. _ Reassess deficiencies and surpluses in provision through the Sport England Playing Pitch Model (PPM). _ Update sports by sport recommendations.	The SA should consider distribution and quality of these provisions while assessing the Sites Allocation LDD policies i.e., how the policies respond to the assessment results.
Community Strategy for Three Rivers 2006 – 2012 (Refreshed in 2008)	
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 Preparation of the TRCS involved an extensive consultation process. It is implemented via Three Rivers Local Strategic Partnership (TRLSP) which comprises the County and District Councils, the Police, the Primary Care Trust and the Council for Voluntary Services.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
The Strategy sets down priorities and targets based on the four key themes of ensuring Healthy, Prosperous, Safer and Sustainable Communities. Implementation is taking place over a five year period.	A number of action points are directly relevant to the LDD, under all four themes of the Community Strategy.

<p>The priorities identified in the strategy are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Anti-social behaviour, crime and fear of crime 2. Reducing inequalities (in health, poverty, access to services, prosperity and employment) 3. Improving the environment 4. Children and young people's access to education, skills and training 5. Access to affordable housing 	<p>The SA should consider issues raised in the strategy.</p>
<p>Community Safety Strategy April 2005 – March 2008</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 Community Safety Partnerships are required to develop three year community safety strategies.</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets, Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>. The strategy is put together following an audit of crime and disorder that provides a picture of the major issues within the district. The Three Rivers Community Safety Strategy is based on the following key objectives: -</p> <p>Tackling and reducing the fear of crime;</p> <p>Improving safety in public places;</p> <p>Working with young people.</p>	<p>The LDD will include design policies to tackle crime and to mitigate against certain types such as street crime, graffiti, or antisocial behaviour. It will address deprivation and exclusion as part of a holistic approach to tackling the causes of crime.</p> <p>Crime and fear of crime are important QoL issues that need to be considered in the SA.</p>
<p>Three Rivers Corporate Anti-Social Behaviour Policy (2005)</p>	
<p>Sets out the framework and procedures to support the reduction of anti-social behaviour.</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets, Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>It proposes preventative measures for tackling the issue of anti-social behaviour including Designing out Crime, the provision of play and leisure facilities, and covers issues such as graffiti and fly-tipping, noisy</p>	<p>Policies on design for tackling crime, the provision of play and leisure facilities and measures for tackling</p>

premises and high hedges.	nuisance issues such as graffiti, fly-tipping, noise nuisance and high hedges are all relevant matters for the LDDR. Crime and fear of crime are important QoL issues that need to be considered in the SA.
Three Rivers Economic Development Strategy 2005 - 2007	
The Strategy identifies trends and key issues in the Three Rivers economy including parts of the District at Ward and Sub Ward experiencing deprivation and social exclusion. The regional programme Investing in Communities provides opportunities to tackle these issues and the Council is working with other agencies to maximise the benefits.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>The Strategy has the following objectives: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working with Local businesses Improving skills Fostering new enterprises to tackle unemployment Carrying out shopping centre enhancements. <p>The Strategy sets down a yearly programme which includes measures for enhancing local shopping parades, funding of training schemes and grants towards business start-up, and funding for the joint SW Herts Economic Development Service with Hertsmere and Watford Councils.</p>	<p>These initiatives must be reflected in the policies of the LDD which will seek to maintain a healthy local economy and tackle social exclusion.</p> <p>Sustainable patterns of development require a balance between homes and jobs, together with measures to safeguard the environment. These are important issues for the SA.</p>
Watford and Three Rivers Primary Care Trust Public Health Online Report (2005)	
Two local strategies - <i>Investing in Your Health</i> and <i>Investing in Your Mental Health</i> (under consultation between 9 May and 12 September 2005) underpin the future delivery of high quality health services in the area. The PCT's Public Health Report sets down targets for reducing obesity, getting people active, encouraging healthy eating, helping people to give up smoking, improving sexual health services, and improving people's mental health.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>Priorities for the PCT include: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tackling killer diseases 	<p>Ensure that the LDD includes policies to improve public health (e.g. through walking and cycling initiatives and better homes) and combat social</p>

<p>Tackle smoking, obesity and other major causes of disease</p> <p>Developing and implementing plans for tackling infectious diseases</p> <p>Reducing death rates from suicide and undetermined injury</p> <p>Continue to reduce inequalities in health</p> <p>Involving local communities</p> <p>Improve care for people with long term conditions</p>	<p>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>
<p>Contaminated Land Inspection Strategy (March 2002)</p>	
<p>The Strategy sets out how the Council will endeavour to deal with the legacy of contaminated land over the next four years, and includes amendments and submissions of the Statutory Consultees.</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets, Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>Three Rivers District is described in terms of its development and industrial history, geography, geology and hydrogeology. Due emphasis placed upon the importance of natural resources, rivers and lakes, agricultural land, and other important features such as quarries and landfill sites. The local significance of aquifers and groundwater resources is also emphasised, as much of the District lies within a Groundwater Protection Zone. The Environment Agency, the Council’s key partner in the Strategy, enforces the Zone as it is concerned with any potential threat to the water environment, especially public water supplies.</p> <p>A risk assessment process is detailed that will first identify, and then rank all potentially contaminated land. The riskiest sites will be dealt with first. The priority are those that may have been redeveloped without due regard to their history and where people may live, work or pursue leisure activities. Sites, which also have the potential to seriously contaminate water resources, will also be a priority. This process has already started – approximately 270 locations in the District require investigation as a result of a recently undertaken <i>historic map analysis</i>.</p> <p>The resultant enforcement regime is intended to be fair, transparent, accountable, thorough, cost effective, measured, and above all complementary to principles of public health protection and environmental sustainability.</p>	<p>The results of the Study will be an important basis particularly for the Housing Allocations DPD, but is also an important consideration when developing issues and policies for the Sites Allocation LDD .</p> <p>The SA will need to consider the relevant issues for the Sites Allocation LDD , as will the SA for other LDD documents.</p>

Three Rivers DC Urban Capacity Study (2005)	
Indicates the potential for new housing development within the urban areas of Three Rivers	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
The strategy forms a basis for ensuring that the RSS allocation for Three Rivers (3600 between 2001 and 2021) can be met without the need to take green belt land outside the urban areas. This will be an important consideration in the preparation of the Core Strategy and will influence where development can be located.	<p>The results of the Study will be an important basis particularly for the Housing Allocations DPD, but is also an important consideration when developing issues and policies for the Sites Allocation LDD.</p> <p>The SA will need to consider the relevant issues for the Sites Allocation LDD, as will the SA for other LDD documents.</p>
South West Hertfordshire Employment Space Study (2005)	
This study sets down broad recommendations for the retention of employment land rather than specific targets.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
Provides an important basis for retaining a balanced provision of employment and housing sites over the period covered by the LDD, which will ensure sustainable patterns of development in South West Hertfordshire..	<p>The Study is an important back ground study which will help in the development of key issues for the Sites Allocation LDD, particularly those relating to achieving a sustainable balance of housing and employment in the District.</p> <p>The SA will address issues related to the provision of sustainable employment and housing development.</p>
Three Rivers District Council Parking Scheme	
No written parking strategy, just an agreed approach implemented through this scheme.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
Although there is no written strategy, the Council's agreed approach to parking issues is to meet relevant national, regional and County policies. As such this approach covers all aspects of parking, including on-street, off-street (both charged for and free), standards for town centres, for residential and	Car parking needs to be considered in the LDD, particularly with regard to new development. Issues for consideration include: -

<p>other areas, and enforcement and monitoring. The Council's work on parking standards also proposes a zonal approach for new development in accordance with guidance from the County Council and in line with a number of other Hertfordshire authorities.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • determining what developer contributions should be sought • how parking standards should be applied • how to incorporate travel plans <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>Conservation Area Appraisals/town and local centre refurbishment.</p>	
<p>The preparation of Conservation Area Appraisals and town/local shopping centre enhancement schemes are important priorities for the Council in line with PPG 15 and PPS 6 respectively.</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets, Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>The Council's programme of appraisals is designed both to safeguard and enhance the special quality of Conservation Areas. The programme of town and local centre enhancement schemes is designed to ensure their vitality and viability.</p>	<p>Many of the issues and policies are relevant to the LDD and should be considered. Conservation Appraisals and town/local centre refurbishments have been developed in the context of current planning policies and future schemes will need to be compatible with the LDD once adopted.</p> <p>Many of the issues raised should be considered in the SA framework, particularly in respect of the historic built environment, town centres and accessibility.</p>
<p>Grand Union Canal: - Abbots Langley to Rickmansworth Corridor Study (2001)</p>	
<p>Analysis, recommendations and action plan to enhance the canal corridor, through partnership initiatives between agencies, volunteers and the private sector.</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets, Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>Measures to enhance the area, promote recreation and encourage wildlife habitats.</p>	<p>Will need to be reflected through policies in the LDD.</p>

	Relevant factors for the SA include measures for habitat enhancement and encouragement of sustainable recreation.
Three Rivers Open Space, Amenity and Children's Play Space SPD (2007)	
The SPD provides guidance on open space contribution, design and maintenance and provision in new developments within TDC.	
Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>The SPD provides the following objectives on design:</p> <p>To execute joined-up design through a combination of landscape environment, art and play structures by developing multi-disciplinary partnerships at earliest concept stages.</p> <p>To provide an innovative and sustainable play environment that encourages cross-generational (and species) interaction, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Encouraging family activity, rather than segregated child activity; - Incorporating habitats for species other than humans through the use of considered planting, so that children and other users will have contact with nature, helping to make connections between issues beyond human activity. <p>To consider the whole park as a stimulating and playful environment. This will avoid creating single purpose-built, segregated areas and encourage consistent design across the park, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shifting focus from a single user profile to a multi-user profile throughout the design; - Considering all elements of park design from pathways to landscape to be related to play structures and equipment; - Broadening notions of play to include visual and sensorial experiences alongside physical activity. 	Document is part of the LDD. Recommendations must be considered in developing policy criteria for developments.

<p>To combine landscape, sculptural and architectural interventions alongside traditional play equipment, by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Integrating play structures into park design and designing stock play and landscape environment. - Integrating all street furniture, signage and lighting into the play and landscape environment. 	
<p>Three Rivers Sustainable Communities SPD (2007)</p>	
<p>This adopted LDD document provides guidelines on sustainable development in communities and expands on the saved Local Plan ‘sustainability’ policies</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets, Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>The objectives of this SPD are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> minimise waste and maximise opportunities for recycling exceed recycling targets and reduce waste sent to landfill minimise energy consumption and reduce CO2 emissions increase the use of renewable energy implement and monitor the Carbon Management Plan protect the character of the district and minimise the impact of the built environment increase the number of accredited open spaces, parks and woodland areas 	<p>Document is part of the LDD. Recommendations must be considered in developing policy criteria for developments. New developments should fully meet the objectives.</p>
<p>Three Rivers Open Space Update (2010)</p>	
<p>Provides an update of open space, outdoor sport and recreation in the borough in line with the PPG17.</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets, Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>The specific objectives of this audit and assessment are to:</p> <p>A comprehensive audit of existing provision of different types of open space detailing quantity, quality, accessibility and wider value to the community.</p>	<p>Document is part of the LDD. Recommendations must be considered in developing policy criteria for developments.</p>

<p>An accurate assessment of supply and demand for open space provision.</p> <p>A robust evidence base to enable TRDC to develop planning policies as part of the Local Development Framework (LDD) and other local development documents.</p>	
<p>Review of the Community Strategy 2006-12</p>	
<p>Outlines the key findings from the indices of multiple deprivation 2010 for Three Rivers along with other key data sources. It also recommends a process for the review of the Community Strategy 2006-12.</p>	
<p>Objectives, Targets, Indicators</p>	<p>Implications for Plan and SA</p>
<p>The initial analysis suggest that of the domains covered by the Indices of Multiple Deprivation the following descending priorities should be considered on the basis of the extent of deprivation across the District:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wider barriers to services Outdoors living environment Income deprivation affecting children and young people Children and young people's education Adult skills Indoor living environment Income deprivation affecting older people Geographical barriers Crime Employment Health and Disability 	<p>Priorities should be considered as part of the LDD.</p>
<p>The Infrastructure Delivery Plan (2010)</p>	
<p>Document seeks to establish what additional infrastructure is required to support the planned increase in new homes and jobs, and the projected population growth within the District up to 2026.</p>	

Objectives, Targets, Indicators	Implications for Plan and SA
<p>In order to meet the demand for infrastructure created by new development the Council will work with providers and developers to ensure that the demand is met in the right locations and at the right time. The main objectives are to:</p> <p>continue with a partnership approach to infrastructure delivery that involves key stakeholders</p> <p>ensure the Infrastructure & Obligations Supplementary Planning Document is able to ensure contributions from developers to help address the gaps in infrastructure provision</p> <p>maintain and review an Infrastructure Delivery Schedule which outlines the planned infrastructure, the organisations responsible for provision, costs, timings and funding.</p>	<p>LDD plays a key role in coordinating the level of infrastructure and services in a local area to ensure that it meets current and future demands in amount and distribution.</p> <p>In order to achieve this Local Planning Authorities are required to set out within their LDD to identify and control the infrastructure that is needed to support the level of development being proposed.</p>